

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met Tuesday, February 17, 2026, inside the Council Chambers

Present: Mayor: Glynn Robinson; Council Members: Daniel O'Halloran, Terry Currie, and Craig White.

Absent: Deputy-Mayor Vicky Roeder-Martin

Staff present: John Theriault, CAO; Cheryl Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer.

Audience: J.P. Gallagher, Adam Kozlowski, Joe Lumley, David Ryan, Jim Kiers, Paul Brown & Sylvia Leeder

- 1. Opening of the meeting by the Mayor;**  
The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM
- 2. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting;**  
**2.1** Council – February 3, 2026.
- 3. List of proposed resolutions for the meeting.**
- 4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the nature thereof;**  
There were no declarations made by members of council.

Council meeting was suspended to hold a public meeting for Zoning By-law Amendment Application A-01/26 – 69 Little Falls Road – 2187644 Ontario Inc.

- 5. Delegations;**
  - 5.1** Joe Lumley, representative for the Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board update Council of the work the Board is completing and presented their 2026 proposed budget. Council also reviewed the Board's minutes from November 12, 2025, and February 11, 2026.
  - 5.2** Adam Kozlowski, from Planscape, Municipal Planners, was present to answer any questions on the planning update that was presented to Council.
  - 5.3** Staff report – Local Business Partnership Opportunity – This was a preliminary report. A final report will be forwarded to the Recreation Committee who will recommend how to proceed with the project.
- 6. Business arising From a Previous Meeting;**  
None
- 7. Quotes, Tenders, RFP's;**  
None
- 8. Accounts for Approval;**  
None
- 9. Applications;**  
None

**10. By-laws;**

- 10.1 09-2026 – Zoning By-law Amendment for 69 Little Falls Road
- 10.2 10-2026 Confirm Council Meeting – February 3, 2026
- 10.3 11-2026 – Roadway transfer to Township – Bartlett Lake Road – Part 1, Plan 42R22853.

**11. Council Reports;**

None

**12. Correspondence;**

- 12.1 NBPS District Health Unit – 2026 Municipal levy Information package. The approved levy will be added to the 2026 budget.
- 12.2 FONOM – The Birth of Change – Prescription Drug Diversion Project. Council discussed the proposal and supported it.
- 12.3 Village of Sundridge – Road salt use and reduction – Council discussed the resolution from the Village and supported it.
- 12.4 Almaguin Highlands Health Centre – Council reviewed the agenda package of February 5, 2026.
- 12.5 Southeast Parry Sound District Planning Board - Council discussed the withdrawal request from the Town of Kearney and passed a resolution supporting the Board in requesting that the Town of Kearney remain with the Board.
- 12.6 Council reviewed the notice of special meeting from the Township of Ryerson for the update of their Official Plan and Zoning By-law.
- 12.7 NBPS District Health Unit – Council reviewed the information received on the food and housing affordability and passed a resolution supporting the recommendation from the Health Unit.
- 12.8 Belvedere Heights – 2026 municipal levy. The approved levy will be added to the 2026 budget.
- 12.9 Village of Burk's Falls – Request for support for the 2024 and 2025 deficit for the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre. Council discussed the request and passed a resolution approving the invoices.
- 12.10 A. Beilke – follow-up letter regarding Axe Lake Road closure.

**13. New Business**

None

**14. Closed session**

None

**15. Adjournment:** Council adjourned this meeting at 8:40 pm.

**Resolutions:**

**2026-35 O'Halloran/White**

**Be It Resolved** that Council approves the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on February 3, 2026. **Carried**

**2026-36 White/O'Halloran**

**Be It Resolved** that Council does now hereby adjourn from this Regular Council Meeting at 7:02 pm to convene a public meeting to consider zoning bylaw amendment application A-01/26 Consent Files B-035, 036 + 037/25. **Carried**

**2026-37 O'Halloran/White**

**Be It Resolved** that Council reconvenes this regular Council meeting at 7:23 pm.  
**Carried**

**2026-38 White/O'Halloran**

**Be It Resolved** that Council thanks Joe Lumley, area representative sitting on the Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board for attending this meeting and hereby supports the 2026 draft two budget with our municipality's share being one twelfth of the estimated budget total. **Carried**

**2026-39 O'Halloran /Currie**

**Be It Resolved** that Council accepts the bid from Jay Cushman in the amount of \$4,510.00 for the 1972 Cat Loader 950. **Defeated**

**2026-40 Currie/O'Halloran**

**Be It Resolved** that Council accepts the bid from Brian Winterbottom in the amount of \$200.00 for the 7 kW Generac generator and 100-amp switch.  
**Defeated**

**2026-41 O'Halloran /Currie**

**Be It Resolved** that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 09-2026 to rezone property at 69 Little Falls Road, Consent Files B-035, 036, 037/25.

**Carried**

**2026-42 Currie/O'Halloran**

**Be It Resolved** that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 10-2026 to confirm the council meeting held February 3, 2026.

**Carried**

**2026-43 Currie/White**

**Be It Resolved** that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 11-2026 to establish a public highway (Con 14, Pt Lot 17, Part 1, RP 42R-22853). **Carried**

**2026-44 Currie/White**

**WHEREAS** prescription drug diversion, particularly involving regulated opioids and other controlled medications, presents a serious and growing risk to public health, community safety, and vulnerable populations across Ontario, including Northern and rural communities;

**AND WHEREAS** evidence from law enforcement, health professionals, and community drug strategy partners demonstrates that diverted prescription medications are contributing to substance misuse, criminal activity, and increased strain on health, social, and enforcement systems throughout Northern Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** the Partnership and Collaboration Project, "The Birth of Change" (written by the North Bay Police Services and Community Drug Strategy of North Bay & Area), brings together law enforcement, addiction medicine specialists, pharmacists, public health partners, and community organizations to address prescription diversion through a collaborative, evidence-based, and multi-sector approach;

**AND WHEREAS** the project identifies practical regulatory, prescribing, dispensing, and prevention measures intended to reduce diversion while maintaining appropriate access to medically necessary pain management and addiction treatment services;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities across Northern Ontario are experiencing the downstream impacts of prescription diversion, including pressures on emergency services, policing, housing stability, and community well-being;

**THEREFORE, Be It Resolved** that the Township of McMurrich/Monteith formally supports the Partnership and Collaboration Project, “The Birth of Change” and its objectives to reduce prescription drug diversion through coordinated, evidence-based action; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Township of McMurrich/Monteith calls on the Province of Ontario, including the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, to review and give serious consideration to the project’s recommendations, including regulatory, prescribing, dispensing, and prevention strategies aimed at mitigating prescription diversion while protecting patient care; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Township of McMurrich/Monteith encourage continued provincial engagement with municipalities, law enforcement, health professionals, pharmacists, and community partners to ensure that solutions are practical, regionally appropriate, and responsive to the realities faced by Northern Ontario communities; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Health, the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Sgt. Brad Reaume, Northern Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, NOMA, AMO and ROMA.

**Carried**

**2026-45 O’Halloran/Currie**

**Be It Resolved** that Council supports resolution #2026-019 from the Village of Sundridge relating to road salt use. **Carried**

**2026-46 Currie/O’Halloran**

**Be It Resolved** that Council supports the resolution from the Southeast Parry Sound District Planning Board requesting the Town of Kearney to withdraw its request to cease its partnership with the Planning Board and work with the other members to address the concerns and implement further improvements. **Carried**

**2026-47 Currie/ O’Halloran**

**WHEREAS** improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute, and invest in their local economies and communities;

**AND WHEREAS** poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities, who are responsible for delivering necessary public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income;

**AND WHEREAS** poverty, homelessness and food insecurity have detrimental impacts on physical and mental health;

**AND WHEREAS** income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts a household’s ability to pay for the basic costs of living, including housing and food;

**AND WHEREAS** the 2025 North Bay Parry Sound food affordability results show that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living;

**NOW THEREFORE Be It Resolved** That the Township of McMurrich/Monteith support efforts to raise awareness about, and work to reduce poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity; and

**Be It Further Resolved** That the Township of McMurrich/Monteith endorse the recommendations from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to increase Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program rates to reflect the costs of living, and index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and

**Be It Further Resolved** That the Township of McMurrich/Monteith provide correspondence of these resolutions to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Michael Parsa (Minister of Children, Community and Social Services), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health), Pauline Rochefort, MP (Nipissing-Timiskaming), Scott Aitchison, MP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH). **Carried**

**2026-48 White/O'Halloran**

**Be It Resolved** that Council receives the correspondence from the Village of Burk's Falls relating to the annual deficits of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre for the years 2024 (\$33,376) and 2025 (83,527) and agrees to forward their share which is divided equally between ten municipalities. **Carried**

**2026-49 O'Halloran /White**

**Be It Resolved** that Council receives all correspondence listed on the agenda. **Carried**

**2026-50 O'Halloran /White**

**Be It Resolved** that Council adjourns this meeting at 8:40 pm until Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 pm. **Carried**

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Original Signed by:  
Mayor, Glynn Robinson

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Original Signed by:  
Clerk, Cheryl Marshall