

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met Tuesday, April 21, 2026, inside the Council Chambers

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

Staff present: Terry Sararas, CAO, Cheryl Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer, Allyson Pedwell, Deputy-Clerk/Deputy-Treasurer, Jason Newman, Bylaw Enforcement Manager, Ryan McFarland, Fire Chief and, Neil Hellam, Public Works Superintendent.

Audience: Laura Alward, Roberta Toner, Roslind Nelles

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7pm

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting:

2.1 Council – April 7, 2026

2.2 Recreation Committee – April 14, 2026

2.3 Strategic Planning Committee – April 15, 2026

3. List of proposed resolutions for the meeting:

4. Declaration of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof:

There were no declarations made by members of council at this time.

5. Delegations:

5.1 Council reviewed staff report from the Bylaw Enforcement Manager regarding the 1st Quarter 2026 activities. It was noted that the report will be corrected and the text relating to proactive patrols will be removed.

5.2 Council reviewed and discussed the 2025 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Report prepared by Greenstone Engineering. Council directed that quotes be received to install additional monitoring wells as suggested by Greenstone Engineering.

5.3 Council reviewed and discussed the staff report regarding a Recreation Committee resolution re: permission to donate proceeds of a Family Night event to community member attending National Barrel Racing Association's World Championship. Council passed a resolution approving the recommendation included in the report.

5.4 Council reviewed and discussed the staff report from the Fire Chief regarding Request for Proposal – 2026-01 - 1500 Series Pickup Truck or SUV. Council passed a resolution approving the recommendation included in the report.

5.5 Council reviewed and discussed the staff report from the Public Works Superintendent regarding Tender 2026-02 – Supply and Apply Crushed Granite. Council passed a resolution approving the recommendation included in the report.

6. Business Arising From a Previous Meeting:

None

7. Quotes, Tenders, RFP's:

None

8. Accounts for Approval:

None

9. Applications:

None

10. Bylaws:

10.1 24-2026 To confirm Council Meeting – April 7, 2026

11. Council Reports:

None

12. Correspondence:

12.1 Council reviewed the minutes from the meeting of the Belvedere Heights Home for the Aged.

12.2 Council reviewed the letter from the Ministry of Northern Economic Development and Growth with an invitation to showcase our community. Member Roeder-Martin will bring this topic to the next ACED meeting – Thursday, April 26th.

12.3 Council reviewed the agenda package for the Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board.

12.4 Council reviewed the information regarding the FONOM – 2026 Conference. No members will attend.

12.5 Council reviewed and discussed the letter received from R. Alward and neighbours relating to proposed modifications to Taylor Road. Staff was directed to gather three quotes to survey the 66 foot road allowance and bring back to a future meeting.

12.6 Council reviewed the minutes of the AH Health Centre meeting held March 5, 2026.

12.7 Council reviewed the agenda for the DPS Municipal Association Meeting being held Friday, May 29th at the Town of Kearney Community Centre. Three members are able to attend.

12.8 Council reviewed the letter from FONOM urging Ontario to act as Manitoba advances compassionate intervention legislation

12.9 Council reviewed and discussed the information from MMAH & AMCTO relating to Ontario introducing Legislation to strengthen Regional Governance. Council passed a resolution objecting to this legislation.

13. New Business:

None

14. Closed Session: Section 239 (2)

None

Mayor Robinson asked if there were any concerns to discuss. Members discussed: Horn Lake development agreements and timelines, Landfill Bag Limit program, Building Code restrictions/limitations, and proposed zoning bylaw amendment to permit food service uses. Member Roeder-Martin declared a conflict and left the meeting when the topic of a proposed zoning bylaw was discussed.

15. Adjournment: Council adjourned this meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Resolutions:

2026-84 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council approves the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held April 7, 2026. **Carried**

2026-85 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council receives the minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting held April 14, 2026. **Carried**

2026-86 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council receives the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held April 15, 2026. **Carried**

2026-87 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council receives the Bylaw Enforcement report dated April 21, 2026. **Carried**

2026-88 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council receives the 2025 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Report as prepared by Greenstone Engineering dated March 31, 2026. **Carried**

2026-89 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council approves the recommendation of the Recreation Committee meeting that the Family Fun night held in September will be a fundraiser for a community resident who will be representing our township and country at the National Barrel Racing Association's World Championship in Perry, Georgia USA in October, 2026. **Carried**

2026-90 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives the report from Ryan McFarland, Fire Chief regarding RFP 2026-01 (1500 Series Pickup Truck or SUV) and directs staff to proceed with direct sourcing a command vehicle, with a maximum expenditure not to exceed the approved budgeted amount and to report back to Council within 90 days with the selected vehicle details, final cost and funding breakdown prior to final purchase. **Carried**

2026-91 Roeder-Martin/Currie

Be It Resolved that Council receives the report from Neil Hellam, Public Works Superintendent regarding Tender 2026-02 (Crushed Granite) and accepts the tender package from Muskoka Truck and Equipment Sales, O/A Green's Haulage in the amount of \$433,834.00 plus HST. **Carried**

2026-92 Roeder-Martin/Currie

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 24-2026 to confirm the council meeting held April 7, 2026. **Carried**

2026-93 Currie/Roeder-Martin

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced and/or enacted legislation that permits the appointment, rather than election, of Regional Chairs in certain upper-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS Regional Chairs hold significant decision-making authority affecting land use planning, infrastructure, policing, and financial matters that directly impact residents and lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the appointment of Regional Chairs removes the opportunity for voters to directly elect individuals to these influential roles, thereby reducing democratic accountability and transparency;

AND WHEREAS the Township of McMurrich–Monteith supports the principle that those who exercise governmental authority should be directly accountable to the electorate through a fair and open democratic process;

AND WHEREAS municipal governments across Ontario have previously passed resolutions opposing similar legislative actions that undermine local democratic processes and concentrate authority without direct public mandate;

AND WHEREAS such legislative changes set a concerning precedent for further erosion of municipal autonomy and democratic representation across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of McMurrich–Monteith formally opposes any provincial legislation that enables the appointment of Regional Chairs in place of their election by the public;

AND FURTHER THAT Council calls upon the Province of Ontario to respect and uphold democratic principles by maintaining the direct election of Regional Chairs or, at minimum, ensuring meaningful local input and accountability mechanisms;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT the Township of McMurrich–Monteith encourages other municipalities, particularly regional municipalities, to pass similar resolutions expressing opposition to this legislation and to collectively advocate for the preservation of democratic governance at the municipal level. **Carried**

2026-94 Currie/Roeder-Martin

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

2026-95 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council adjourns this meeting at 8:30pm until Tuesday, May 5th, 2026 at 7pm. **Carried**

Original Signed by: _____
Mayor, Glynn Robinson

Original Signed by: _____
Clerk, Cheryl Marshall