

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met Tuesday, January 20, 2026 inside the Council Chambers

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

Absent: Terry Currie

Staff present: John Theriault, CAO; Cheryl Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer; Allyson Pedwell, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer; Jason Newman, Bylaw; Ryan McFarland, Fire Chief

Audience: Derek Martin, Kathryn Webster

- 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 – December 16, 2025 + Public Meeting minutes
- 3. List of proposed resolutions for the meeting;**
- 4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the nature thereof;**

Vicky Roeder-Martin declared a Pecuniary Interest with item 5.2 as she is the delegates spouse and lives on Little Falls Road.

Committee of Adjustment

Council adjourned the regular meeting for a Committee of Adjustment meeting for Joshua Webster, 2416 Highway 518 West, Pt Lot 14, Concession 11, McMurrich.

- 5. Delegations;**
 - 5.1** R. Hunter & A. Kozlowski, Planscape, Municipal Planners- deferred to February 3rd meeting.
 - 5.2** D. Martin – request winter maintenance on portion of Little Falls Road: Council discussed following a standard and precedent, the applicant can retain a qualified engineer to determine what is needed for the road to be upgraded to meet MTO standards.
 - 5.3** Staff Report: Bylaw Officer- No significant items to report. Bylaw Officers have been working on visiting properties that show buildings on them but are listed as vacant land to report to MPAC to achieve proper assessment. The Township is sitting in a good place with legislation.
 - 5.4** Staff Report: PW Superintendent - The roadway improvements to the portion of Second Avenue, west of Yearley Road have been completed by the landowner and have been approved by the Municipal Engineer. Therefore, Council can assume this portion for winter maintenance. Staff reviewed the proposed 2026 Public Works budget and made the recommendation to Council to pass the budget so that staff can get tenders out for the various projects.

Mayor Robinson excused himself and left the meeting (7:45pm)

5.5 Staff Report: Fire Chief – Discussed with Council an issue with the Tanker that has a slow leak.

5.6 Staff Report: Administration – Staff reported on a request to have the fees previously collected for the landfill gate access cards returned. The fees collected were to purchase the card. Staff reported on the Recreation Committee meeting where the recommendation is to replace the playground unit at the Doe Lake Beach by applying for a grant to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF).

6. Business arising From a Previous Meeting;

7. Quotes, Tenders, RFP's;

None

8. Accounts for Approval;

8.1 December, 2025

8.2 2025 Financial Report – not finalized, draft copy

9. Applications;

None

10. By-laws;

10.1 01-2026 Amendment to Employment Policy

10.2 02-2026 Interim Tax Levy

10.3 03-2026 Tax Ratios

10.4 04-2026 Confirm Council Meeting – December 16th, 2025

10.5 05-2026 Appoint an Integrity Commissioner

10.6 06-2026 Authorize the execution of the Fire Protection Grant Transfer Payment Agreement

10.7 07-2026 enter into an agreement for the provision of Regional Economic Development Services

11. Reports;

None

12. Correspondence;

12.1 AMO – Omers Governance Changes & Bill 68

12.2 North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority – Statistical report

12.3 Twp of Machar – Resolution re: proposed consolidation of Conservation Authorities

12.4 AH Health Centre – Agenda package – January 8, 2026 meeting

12.5 Belvedere Heights – Meeting Minutes – October 22 and November 26, 2025

12.6 DPS Social Services Board – Notification of Honourariums and Expenses

12.7 AH OPP Detachment Board – Agenda Package – January 14, 2026
Mayor Robinson returned at 8:45pm

12.8 Twp of Hornpayne – Proposed Small Northern New Residential Property Tax Class

12.9 Almaguin Highlands Special Olympics – Softball Team fundraising – donation

13. New Business

None

14. Closed session, section 239 2

(b.) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; and

(d.) Labour relations or employee negotiations;

Council instructed staff to proceed with posting the CAO position.

15. Council Concerns:

None

16. Adjournment:

Council adjourned this meeting at 9:31pm.

Resolutions:

2026-01 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council approves the minutes of the Regular Council meeting and Public Meeting held December 16, 2025. **Carried**

2026-02 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives the minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting held January 13, 2026. **Carried**

2026-03 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council does now hereby adjourn from this Regular Council Meeting at 7:04pm to convene a Committee of Adjustment meeting to consider minor variance application A-02/25 Webster. **Carried**

2026-04 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council reconvenes this regular Council meeting at 7:11pm. **Carried**

2026-05 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council accepts the proposed Public Works Budgets as presented, Operating in the amount of \$1,136, 002.00 and Capital in the amount of \$1,645,000.00. **Carried**

2026-06 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council amends Schedule "A" of Bylaw 10-2002 (Road Maintenance time periods) to now read – Second Avenue – The section from Buckvale Drive, west to turnaround at Lot 23 is maintained January 1 to December 31. **Carried**

2026-07 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council declares the following as surplus equipment and authorize disposal by way of accepting sealed bids:

Unit 1 – 1972 Cat Loader 950 and Unit 2 – 7kW Generac generator and 100-amp switch. **Carried**

2026-08 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council accepts the recommendation of the Recreation Committee and directs Staff to apply to Ontario Trillium Foundation for a replacement playground unit at the Doe Lake beach. **Carried**

2026-09 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council receives the Staff reports from the following:

- Bylaw Manager, Jason Newman
- Public Works Superintendent, Neil Hellam
- Fire Chief, Ryan McFarland
- Administration

Carried

2026-10 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 01-2026 to amend the Employment Policy. **Carried**

2026-11 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 02-2026 to provide for an Interim Tax Levy and the payment of Interim Taxes for the Year 2026. **Carried**

2026-12 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 03-2026 to set the 2026 tax ratios. **Carried**

2026-13 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 04-2026 to confirm the council meeting held December 16, 2025. **Carried**

2026-14 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 05-2026 to appoint an Integrity Commissioner (ADR Chambers Inc.). **Carried**

2026-15 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 06-2026 to authorize the execution of a Fire Protection Grant Transfer Payment Agreement. **Carried**

2026-16 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 07-2026 to enter into an agreement for the provision of Regional Economic Development Services. **Carried**

2026-17 White/O'Halloran

WHEREAS the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries,

police and fire departments, children's aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

WHEREAS the long-standing jointly-sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

WHEREAS these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

WHEREAS the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS municipalities are already under significant financial strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of McMurrich/Monteith does not support the legislative changes to the OMERS Act contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of McMurrich/Monteith Council supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to maintain the current OMERS governance model, with two corporate Boards, as the structure that would best deliver on the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers, and employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to:

- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs;
- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
- The Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka; and
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Carried

2026-18 O'Halloran/White

Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990 (the "Act"), originally enacted in 1946, was established to allow municipalities to form conservation authorities that are equipped to develop and deliver local, watershed-based conservation, restoration and natural resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities;

And Whereas there are thirty-six (36) conservation authorities in Ontario, each of which is distinct and reflects the unique environmental, geographic and community needs of its watershed;

And Whereas on October 31, 2025, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announced the Government's intention to introduce legislation which would amend the Act to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven (7) regional conservation authorities.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Corporation of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith wishes to formally state that it opposes the consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities without knowing the full financial and operational impact to municipalities and the conservation authorities. **Carried**

2026-19 White/O'Halloran

WHEREAS there is a visible disparity between the northern and southern population of Ontario; and

WHEREAS northern Ontario has an abundance of opportunity in the form of municipally serviced building lots for both Industry and population growth; and

WHEREAS high residential property taxes in northern Ontario discourage and prohibit the construction of new residential single family dwellings; and

WHEREAS the addition of a Small Northern New Residential property tax class and subclass would create an incentive for the building of new homes in small northern Ontario communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for Township of McMurrich/Monteith does hereby request that the Honorable Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Minister of Finance, amends the Assessment Act to include a Small Northern New Residential property tax class and subclass.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario; Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Honourable Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Minister George Pirie, Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth; the Honourable Minister Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; all northern Ontario Ministers; AMO; FONOM; NOMA; NEOMA; NESMG; and ROMA. **Defeated**

2026-20 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council supports Almaguin Special Olympics Softball Team with a donation of \$250.00 as they represent the area at the National Summer Games in Medicine Hat, Alberta. **Carried**

2026-21 White/O'Halloran

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

2026-22 Roeder-Martin/White

Be It Resolved that Council appoints John Theriault as Acting Deputy Clerk for the closed session held January 20th, 2025. **Carried**

2026-23 White/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council enters into a closed session at 8:55pm in order to discuss items as per Municipal Act, 2001, Sections 239 (b.) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; and (d.) Labour relations or employee negotiations. **Carried**

2026-24 Roeder-Martin/White

Be It Resolved that Council comes out of a closed session at 9:28pm. **Carried**

2026-25 White/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council accepts the directions given to Staff from the closed session held January 20, 2026. **Carried**

2026-26 Roeder-Martin/White

Be It Resolved that Council adjourns this meeting at 9:31pm until Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 7:00 pm. **Carried**

Original Signed by: _____
Mayor, Glynn Robinson

Original Signed by: _____
Clerk, Cheryl Marshall