



## CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

**Present:** Mayor David Moore  
Councillors Morley Haskim, Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland, Debbie Zulak  
**Staff:** Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton

### DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**Moved by: Councillor Zulak**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**24-598** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council, as amended to Move Item 17.1 & 17.2 to precede Item 14.1 Adoption of Minutes.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Ryeland**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Haskim**

**24-599** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar, pursuant to the Ontario Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, as amended, move into closed session at 5:01 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- 5.1 Minutes of Closed Session – November 5, 2024 & November 8, 2024
- 5.2 Personal matters about an identifiable individual; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(b) – Resignation from the Fire Department
- 5.3 Labour relations or employee negotiations; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(d) – Employee Employment Contracts & By-law Enforcement Recruitment
- 5.4 Acquisition or disposition of land; pursuant to Municipal Act Section 239(2)(c) - Post Office Lease Agreement

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Zulak**

**24-600** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby reconvene into open session of Council at 6:32 p.m.

**Carried**

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

**Present:** Mayor David Moore  
Councillors Morley Haskim, Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland, Debbie Zulak  
**Staff:** Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton  
Fire Chief, Robert Morrison *for his respective items on the agenda*



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### RESPECT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DECLARATION

In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.

### DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**Moved by: Councillor Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland**

**24-601** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby accept the reports, recommendations and directions arising from the closed session held November 19, 2024.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Zulak**

**24-602** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the deputation from Lou Vaillancourt of the Canadian Red Cross to present the Canadian Red Cross Response Services and Volunteer Recruitment Opportunities.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Ryeland**

**Seconded by: Councillor Haskim**

**24-603** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report FD-2024-22 Month End Status Update for October 2024 from Fire Chief, Robert Morrison, for information purposes.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**24-604** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report FD-2024-23 Emergency Plan Changes November 2024 from Fire Chief, Robert Morrison; and

**FURTHER THAT** the changes made by the Fire Chief in the Emergency Management Plan are approved.

**Carried**

Fire Chief, Robert Morrison left the meeting.

**Moved by: Councillor Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland**

**24-605** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Minutes of the November 5, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council; and the November 8, 2024 Special Meeting of Council, as circulated.

**Carried**



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Moved by: Councillor Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

**24-606** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby acknowledges receipt of the application submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the purchase of Crown Shore Road Allowance fronting 127 Brownley Road, McKellar; and

**FURTHER THAT** staff be directed to complete the Municipal Comment Form indicating that the Township has no objections to the application.

**Carried**

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

**24-607** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the October 24, 2024 meeting of the Township of McKellar Recreation Committee.

**Carried**

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

**24-608** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the September 23, 2024 meeting of the Parry Sound Area Planning Board.

**Carried**

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

**24-609** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Accounts Payable Preliminary Cheque Run Report for October 2024 from Treasurer, Roshan Kantiya, for information purposes.

**Carried**

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

**24-610** **WHEREAS** the Township of McKellar has received its 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement, indicating a significant 20% increase in policing costs compared to the previous year; and

**WHEREAS** this rise in expenses places an additional financial burden on our community, impacting our Municipal budget and the services we provide to residents; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of McKellar values the essential services provided by the OPP but is concerned about the sustainability of continuous cost increases of this magnitude;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar respectfully requests that the Ministry of the Solicitor General review the current billing model for OPP services to seek ways to mitigate the impact on small, rural Municipalities like McKellar; and

**FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General; the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Association of Municipalities of



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Ontario; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and all West Parry Sound Area Municipalities.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Ryeland**

**Seconded by: Councillor Haskim**

**24-611**

**WHEREAS** the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health are conducting a review of the funding approach for local public health agencies in Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** Northern Ontario faces unique challenges due to its vast geography, dispersed populations, and limited infrastructure, which drive up the costs and complexity of providing essential public health services; and

**WHEREAS** residents of Northern Ontario experience poorer health outcomes than their Southern Ontario counterparts, with significantly higher rates of avoidable mortality and opioid-related deaths; and

**WHEREAS** the "Perspectives from Northern Ontario on the Public Health Funding Review" letter outlines critical equity considerations, emphasizing the need for an equitable, rather than equal, funding model that addresses these unique challenges in the North;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby supports and endorses the contents of the "Perspectives from Northern Ontario on the Public Health Funding Review" letter; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** copies of this resolution, along with the endorsed letter, be sent to Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore; the Ontario Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; Executive Lead Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Elizabeth Walker; Boards of Health of Ontario; Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli; Parry Sound Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; Timiskaming Cochrane MPP, John Vanthof; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**24-612**

**WHEREAS** oral health is essential to overall health, yet many equity-seeking populations in Ontario face challenges accessing basic dental care due to low reimbursement rates that discourage private providers from accepting publicly funded benefits such as Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works (OW); and

**WHEREAS** the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit has recommended a provincial oral health strategy with a remuneration model that ensures equitable access to preventive and treatment dental services, especially for underserved communities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby support the Board of Health's recommendation for a provincial oral health strategy, including an evaluation of the funding model to better serve vulnerable populations across Ontario; and

**FURTHER THAT** this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier); the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Ontario Minister of Health); Dr. Kieran Moore (Chief



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Medical Officer of Health); Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing); Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka); John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane); Michael Sherar (President and CEO of Public Health Ontario); Ontario Boards of Health and the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-613

**WHEREAS** Municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

**WHEREAS** the current sources of Municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in Municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with Municipalities; and

**WHEREAS** the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to Municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

**WHEREAS** redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

**WHEREAS** a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow Municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to Municipalities; and

**FURTHER** calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and

**FURTHER THAT** this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to Municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and

**FURTHER THAT** copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Carried



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**Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Zulak**

**24-614** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Aquatic Environmental Report – Lake Manitouwabing prepared by Generations Effect, a social enterprise of the Georgian Bay Biosphere, for information purposes.

**Deferred**

**Moved by: Councillor Ryeland**

**Seconded by: Councillor Haskim**

**24-615** **WHEREAS** no formal agreement has been established, and no start date has been scheduled for the work; and

**WHEREAS** the Township intends to solicit quotations from other qualified agencies to complete the work;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby rescind Resolution No. 2024-544 awarding the painting of the St. Stephen's Church roof to David Winter.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**24-616** **WHEREAS** Resolution No. 2024-562 was deferred at the October 15, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby authorize the Treasurer to remit payment to Belvedere Heights in the amount of \$47,399.00, as requested in their letter dated October 7, 2024 to offset the cost of engineering and architectural services incurred in 2024 to support the addition of 22 new private rooms; and

**FURTHER THAT** Resolution No. 2024-562 is hereby rescinded.

**Deferred**

**Moved by: Councillor Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland**

**24-617** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby direct the Public Works Superintendent to post "No Hunting" signs at each entrance to the Balsam Wilderness Trail.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland**

**24-618** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the consent agenda for correspondence.

**Carried**

**QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD (RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)**

There were no questions from the in-person audience or via Zoom.



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**Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Zulak**

**24-619**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give By-law No. 2024-80, Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council, a First and Second reading;

**And further Read a Third time and Passed** in Open Council this 19th day of November, 2024.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Ryeland**

**Seconded by: Councillor Haskim**

**24-620**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar adjourn this meeting at 8:07 p.m. to meet again on November 22, 2024 for a Special Open Meeting of Council to discuss the 2025 Capital Budget; or at the call of the Mayor.

**Carried**

  
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David Moore, Mayor

  
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Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator