



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 15, 2024**

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 4:30 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**

**24-549** **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 add Item 20.1 Leaf & Yard Waste Collection for Council to review a motion proposing a two-week extension of the free collection period.

**Carried**

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

**24-550** **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 4:32 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- 5.1 Minutes of Closed Session – October 1, 2024
- 5.2 Labour relations or employee negotiations; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(d) – Human Resources Policy, Employee Contract Negotiations and Staffing
- 5.3 Plans and instructions for negotiations; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(k) – Centre Road paving project contract dispute

**Carried**

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

**24-551** **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



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

**24-552** **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 October 15, 2024.

**Carried**

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

**24-553** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the deputation from Neil Brady, Strategic-Partner with Schooley Mitchell, presenting their Municipal Expense Reduction services.

**Carried**

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

**24-554** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Minutes of the October 1, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council, as circulated.

**Carried**

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

**24-555** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the August 26, 2024 Meeting of the Parry Sound Area Planning Board.

**Carried**

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

**24-556** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the September 26, 2024 Meeting of the Township of McKellar Recreation Committee.

**Carried**

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

**24-557** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the June 26, 2024 Meeting of the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Board of Health.



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Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim  
Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-558 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the August 28, 2024 Minutes of the District of Parry Sound West (Belvedere Heights) Board of Management Meeting.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Zulak  
Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-559 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report FD-2024-21 Month End Status Updates for September 2024 from Fire Chief, Robert Morrison, for information purposes.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland  
Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-560 **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 September 2024 from Treasurer, Roshan Kantiya, for information purposes.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen  
Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-561 **WHEREAS** the Municipality of Whitestone has passed Resolution No. 2024-332 requesting that the Near North District School Board (NND SB) halt their current kindergarten to grade 12 (K-12) build plan for the Parry Sound High School, citing that the build plan does not align with the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) recommendations from 2013; and

**WHEREAS** the ARC, which was established to review Nobel and McDougall elementary schools, did not recommend including Parry Sound High School within their scope, but the NND SB has proceeded with such plans; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities of West Parry Sound, including the Township of McKellar, have unanimously passed resolutions asking the NND SB to re-evaluate their plans to ensure that k-6 students remain at their respective elementary schools as per the ARC recommendations; and

**WHEREAS** concerns have been raised by stakeholders, school staff, and parents, yet they have not been adequately addressed by the NND SB; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of McKellar recognizes the significant population growth in West Parry Sound and the need for educational facilities that meet the needs of all students, in accordance with community expectations and growth;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar supports the Municipality of Whitestone's Resolution No. 2024-332 and urges the NND SB to halt their current K-12 plan and revise their elementary school strategy to allow students from McDougall Public School and Nobel Public School to remain in or transition to McDougall Public School; and



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**FURTHER THAT** the NNDSB should immediately engage with the Ministry of Education to secure funding for necessary repairs or the construction of a new McDougall Public School if the current facility is not viable; and

**FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Near North District School Board, the Municipality of Whitestone, and all relevant stakeholders as listed in Whitestone's Resolution No. 2024-332.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

**24-562** **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.

Deferred

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

**24-563** **WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby support the SolvethCrisis.ca Campaign and requests that the Provincial and Federal Governments take Action to Address the Growing Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness Crisis in Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding on the streets in our cities, large and small, urban and rural, across Ontario. The time for words is over, we need immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province of Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023 and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023; and

**WHEREAS** the province has provided additional funding and supports, such as the recent investment of \$378 million for HART Hubs and approximately 375 beds with wrap around supports, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and Regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and

**WHEREAS** this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and

**WHEREAS** there is no provincial lead focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby support the SolvethCrisis.ca Campaign; and



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**FURTHER** calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially; and

**FURTHER THAT** the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority; and

**FURTHER** appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports; and

**FURTHER THAT** the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan; and

**FURTHER THAT** this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis; and

**FURTHER THAT** the federal government is included in these conversations; and

**FURTHER THAT** both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted; and

**FURTHER THAT** this Council calls on the residents of the Township of McKellar to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolveTheCrisis.ca](https://SolveTheCrisis.ca) and showing your support; and

**FURTHER THAT** a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Local MPs
- Local MPPs; and
- Ontario's Big City Mayors

**Carried**



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Moved by: Councillor Ryeland  
Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-564 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby extend the free collection period of leaf and yard waste at the Transfer Station for a two-week period ending October 29, 2024.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Zulak  
Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-565 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give By-law No. 2024-76, Being a By-law to Appoint a Deputy Clerk, a First and Second reading;

**And further Read a Third time and Passed** in Open Council this 15th day of October, 2024.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim  
Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-566 **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.

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen  
Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-567 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give By-law No. 2024-77, 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim  
Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-568 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar adjourn this meeting at 7:35 p.m. to meet again on November 5, 2024; or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

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David Moore, Mayor

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Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator