

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 24, 2025**

6:30 pm Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Nil

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Blair Flowers, Neil Scarlett and Pearl Ivens. Staff present: Clerk Administrator Angela Loney and Deputy Clerk Teresa Coombs.

Guest Observing: Mark Smuck.

BUSINESS

Adoption of Mar 10, 2025 minutes, Resolution

40-25 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we adopt Mar 10, 2025 minutes. CARRIED

1. Adoption of Mar 19, 2025 Joint Council minutes, Resolution

41-25 Scarlett, Flowers

THAT we adopt Mar 19, 2025 Joint minutes. CARRIED

2. By-Law for Pound Agreement OSPCA, Resolution

42-25 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, and 2nd reading to By-Law No. 7-25 to authorize the entering into of a Pound Agreement with OSPCA. CARRIED

3. By-Law for Site Plan Agreement 1-016, Resolution

43-25 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, and 2nd reading to By-Law No. 8-25 to authorize the entering into of a Site Plan Agreement 1-016. CARRIED

4. By-Law for Consent Agreement 1-001, Resolution

44-25 Flowers, Scarlett

THAT we give 1st, and 2nd reading to By-Law No. 9-25 to authorize the entering into of a Consent Agreement 1-001. CARRIED

COMMITTEES

5. Shared Services; Monthly Reports for Feb, Arena and Fire, COW minutes of Feb 26

Items provided: Fire Chief's monthly report for Mar 2025, Income Statement for Feb 2025 (Revenue 46.75%, Expenses 6.58% without budget figures), AP Ledger for Feb \$49,021.17 Total Expenditures. Arena Chief Operator report for Feb 2025, Income Statement for Feb 2025 (Revenue 10.33% and Expenses 8.51% without budget figures), AP Ledger for Jan \$15,705.32 Total Expenditures, Committee of the Whole minutes of Feb 26, 2025.

6. Shared Services; 2025 Budget Worksheets for Arena and Fire, Resolutions

45-25 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we accept 2025 Budget for South River Machar Arena and Community Centre in the amount of \$428,563.00 our share, subject to joint approval by the Village of South River, subject to overall Township budget requirements and approval of overall Township budget. CARRIED

46-25 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we accept 2025 Budget for South River Machar Fire Department in the amount of \$236,155.00 our share, subject to joint approval by the Village of South River, subject to overall Township budget requirements and approval of overall Township budget. CARRIED

7. Shared Services; Committee reps & topics, Resolution

47-25 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we appoint Council representatives for the remainder of term 2022-2026 as follows: Blair Flowers and Pearl Ivens to Fire Department Committee. CARRIED

8. South River Machar Medical Centre minutes of Feb 18, Resolution

48-25 Flowers, Ivens

THAT we support motions in Medical Centre minutes of Feb 18, 2025 as follows: adopt the minutes, Pay Lists, Budgetary Controls, tenant rent increased to a 2.5% increase, adjourned until Mar 18, 2025... CARRIED

9. ARI (Almaguin Recycling Initiative) minutes of Mar 13, 2025 draft budget, Resolution

49-25 Ivens, Scarlett

THAT we acknowledge ARI minutes of Mar 13, 2025, including HAZMAT cost of \$5.27 per household = \$4,990.69 + HST for 2025, representing an increase of .31% over 2024. CARRIED

10. EMS (Emergency Medical Services) missed reports Feb 27

Councillor Ivens noted the Community Paramedicine Long Term Care (CPLTC) is entering its last year of funding. Extension of the program funding is expected however a timeline for any announcements is unknown currently.

11. Almaguin Highlands Health Council minutes of Mar 6

Concerns were expressed about the fate of the Burk's Falls centre and hope "exploring ways to expand community services rather than diminish those already established at 150 Huston Street" means they don't intend to close it.

12. North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority: Call for Applications – Committee Members

INFORMATION

13. Almaguin News, What's Going On Here? Community Hub in Strong to open this summer.

14. Village of Burk's Falls Resolution, indicating their firm opposition to this and any other battery storage or recycling facility situated so close to our homes and waterways.

15. Township of Amaranth Resolution, to "Buy Local and Canadian", to review current procurement practices and identify opportunities to enhance local purchasing in response to recent U.S. tariffs

16. Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Resolution, regarding Landlord Tenant Reforms

17. Municipality of Chatham-Kent Resolution, Township of Central Frontenac Resolution, regarding Impacts of Tariffs

18. Township of Selwyn Resolution, regarding U.S. Tariffs on Canada/Purchasing Policies

19. Township of Laird Resolution, supporting Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus (EOWC) resolution to support Canadian and Ontario Government's Negotiations with the United States Government on Trade Tariffs.

20. Township of North Dundas Resolution, regarding the rural road safety program

21. AMO Watchfile Mar 13, 2025 in this issue:

- Apply for AMO Board of Directors Large Urban Caucus.
- Progress in Asset Management: Risk Assessment webinar.
- AMO RFP to provide services creating a Municipal Civility & Anti-Harassment Strategy.
- Join the AMO-OMAA discussion on the importance of the Mayor-CAO relationship.
- Plan your stay in Ottawa for AMO 2025.
- Save the date for AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum - June 11, 2025.
- Book your AMO 2025 Conference hotel!

- Opportunity to showcase your products and services at AMO 2025 Conference.
- Be an equity informed leader.
- Register today for the OSUM 2025 Conference hosted by the Town of Collingwood.
- OSUM Sponsorship and Exhibit Hall opportunities - Take advantage today.
- Group benefits webinar April 1.
- Municipal series: Net Zero Planning & Low Carbon Initiatives webinar.
- Subscribe to the Canoe Trader Newsletter.
- BPS energy reporting season has begun.
- Flood safety.
- OBIAA launches Buy Local Toolkit.
- OPPI launches call for nominations for its Board of Directors.
- Seminar: Should municipalities be required to engage in heating planning?
- Careers.

22. AMO Watchfile Mar 20, 2025 in this issue:

- Progress in Asset Management: Risk Assessment webinar.
- AMO RFP to provide services creating a Municipal Civility & Anti-Harassment Strategy.
- New Statistics Canada podcast: What Does It Take to Exit Homelessness?
- Plan your stay in Ottawa for AMO 2025.
- Save the date for AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum - June 11, 2025.
- Book your AMO 2025 Conference hotel!
- Opportunity to showcase your products and services at AMO 2025 Conference.
- Be an equity informed leader.
- Register today for the OSUM 2025 Conference hosted by the Town of Collingwood.
- OSUM Sponsorship and Exhibit Hall opportunities - Take advantage today.
- Boost resilience with the All-Risk Municipal Grant.
- Enhance your road data in 2025.
- Blog: The Future of FOI: Smarter Compliance, Lower Costs, and Reduced Risk.
- Upcoming Net Zero Workshop registration now open.
- Free webinar - Impact a Claim with 10 days.
- Subscribe to the Canoe Trader newsletter.
- Equity Market Investment in Uncertain Economic and Political Times.
- Building Linkages in Emergency Management - June 3-4.
- Seminar: Should municipalities be required to engage in heating planning?
- Careers.

23. AMO Education Mar 11, Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official (NCR 1.0)

24. AMO Education Mar 10, Education Workshops: Strengthening Municipal Leadership

25. AMO Education Mar 7, Be an Equity Informed Leader in Your Municipality

26. AMO Education Mar 13, Inclusion Workshop and Panel Discussion

27. AMO Education Mar 19, Managing Communications Through Crisis Workshop

28. AMO Education Mar 18, Disability Inclusion Workshop and Panel Discussion

29. AMO Mar 17, Resources for Local Democratic Engagement

30. AMO Events Mar 13, Save the Date for the Inaugural AMO Rural Healthy Democracy Forum!

31. AMO Policy Update Mar 13, Continued AMO Action on Trade and Tariffs

32. AMO/LAS and the Ontario Public Buyers Association (OPBA) Announce Strategic Partnership

33. Ontario Small Urban Municipalities program Line-Up for OSUM 2025 Conference, Collingwood Apr 30-May 2

34. BAO Mar 18, LifeLine: Coroner's memo;

35. Invasive Species Centre Mar 13, Media, Research, and Events Scan: February 28 - March 13

36. Mathews Dinsdale Mar 13, Complimentary Webinar – Workers Compensation in 2025

37. Ontario Society of Professional Engineers, 2-Day Climate-Resilient Municipal communities Course

38. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada – invites you to save the date for this year's Welcoming Week, taking place from Sep 12-21, 2025!

With the knowledge that staff and Council has always endeavored to support local and that this does not change our current Procurement By-Law, Clerk Administrator prepared a Resolution aligning with the federal & provincial governments and many Ontario municipalities:

50-25 McLaren, Ivens

THAT a 'Buy Local and Buy Canadian' approach for municipal procurement be implemented where feasible and in line with best value principles;

THAT staff be directed to review current procurement practices and identify opportunities to enhance local purchasing in response to recent U.S. tariffs and economic pressures; and

THAT staff be directed to prohibit procurement of U.S. Goods and services where possible. CARRIED

ADJOURN

51-25 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Apr 14, 2025. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Angela Loney

AL/kk