



MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillor Blair Flowers, Councillor Pearl Ivens, Councillor Neil Scarlett, and Clerk Administrator Angela Loney, Treasurer Jadah Wierenga and Administrative Assistant Senior/Planning Taylor Boden.

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Township of Machar acknowledges the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties on the land of the Anishinabek that we meet today. We seek to work respectfully with Indigenous people, and are thankful for their teachings and stewardship of the land.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof; Councillor Blair Flowers in item 2.1 as he has done work for them on the property.

2. Public Meeting/Guests and Delegations

2.1 6:30 Graham Wheeler re: 272-Leighton Rd. Proposed Subdivision

Flowers declared a conflict on this item. (Has done work for them on this property.)
Mr. Wheeler's presentation focused primarily on the results of the flood plain assessment of the South River in support of a proposed 29-lot subdivision located at 272 Leighton Road, specifically to confirm the extent of the flooding hazard within the proposed subdivision lands and to confirm safe ingress and egress exists to and from the (proposed) subdivision. Mr. Wheeler proceeded to suggest that Council waive the requirement for extended offsets to the floodplain as identified on Official Plan Sch B or exterior side yard set back and instead accept a side yard setback on the unopened road allowance boundary line.
Mr. Wheeler was thanked for his presentation at 6:50pm.

2.2 6:45 Bray Lake Residents Association re: Riding Ranch Rd. Draft Plan of Subdivision

Ms. Rantz and Ms. Zimmer spoke to results received from Near North Lab Inc. that day of Phosphorus testing completed May 12, 2026 on samples collected from 3 locations on Bray Lake May 6, 2026.
Hard copy provided to the Mayor and Clerk Administrator at the start of the presentation.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1 Adoption of Minutes, Resolution

072-2026
Moved By Flowers
Seconded By McLaren
THAT we adopt Apr 27, 2026 minutes.
Carried

4. Business

4.1 2026 Budget Package, Articles and Notice

Budget amounts have been input, several are outside of the Township's control and are levied/mandated by external entities (Eastholme, DSSAB, Land Ambulance, Police, etc). Revenue Highlights and Expenditure Highlights provided. Total Revenues = \$1,751,723 and Total Expenditures = \$4,676,528. Net Deficit = \$2,924,805. Net Deficit represents the amount to be raised from taxation. Overall Levy Change, Dollar Tax Change and Percentage Tax Change calculated in the Province's OPTA program (Online Property Tax Analysis). Estimated Levy of \$2,770,136 = 0% Overall Levy Change. Estimated Levy of \$2,930,101 per draft Budget = 5.00% Overall Levy Change (\$159,965). Comparison of 2025 Residential Tax Rates to Option 2 potential 2026 Machar Tax Rate at the 4.83% Overall Levy Change were reviewed.

The 2026 Tax Impact on Median/Typical Property - Single Family Home at 4.83% Overall Levy Change - \$ Tax Change is \$89.88.

It was noted that Machar is lower than our immediate neighbouring comparator municipalities (Strong, Joly, Sundridge, South River) by \$177.01-\$2,216.87 in 2025 and even at our 2026 potential tax rate to their 2025 tax rates is still lower by \$57.91-\$2,097.77.

073-2026

Moved By McLaren

Seconded By Ivens

THAT we receive the 2026 Draft Budget Report dated May 14, 2026, and

THAT we approve Option 2, and

THAT Council instruct Administration to proceed with 2026 tax levy of \$2,924,805 at a 4.834470% overall levy change.

Carried

4.2 By-Law to Establish a Joint Compliance Audit Committee and Appoint Committee Members for the 2026 Municipal Election Period, Resolution

The Committee ensures that the provisions relating to election campaign finances under the Municipal Elections Act are not contravened, and shall follow the necessary procedures to ensure compliance. The Committee is put together by the Almaguin Clerks Group and 12 municipalities.

074-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By Ivens

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to By-Law No. 7-26 to establish a Joint Compliance Audit Committee and appoint Committee members for the 2026 municipal election period.

Carried

4.3 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Stormwater Fees Regulations - Agricultural properties

Reviewed.

4.4 Ministry of Northern Economic Development and Growth - Tourism campaign - Northern Ontario municipalities

Reviewed.

4.5 Letter from the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth

Letter speaks to the extension of Northern Ontario Resource Development (NORDS), funding that made the Municipal Rd North large culvert replacement possible.

4.6 Eagle Lake Retaining Wall Project - Almaguin News Article

Acknowledged.

4.7 Eagle Lake Retaining Wall Project - Correspondence, Draft response, Draft Statement

Clerk Administrator spoke to the Almaguin News inquiry resulting from a social media post; reminding the public that social media is not a recognized avenue for seeking factual information on Township operations or capital projects, compliments and concerns are both welcome at the Township office.

The project was introduced during the previous Council Term, the lengthy permit process started in 2021. Former Council members and staff provided inspiration photos, guiding the design to be a retaining wall that would leave both the park and the beach with as much usable space as possible. For more details Admin has drafted a statement for Council's approval, and an Engineers' Report is forthcoming. Both will be posted on the Township's website this week.

5. Accounts

5.1 List of Proposed Payments for Apr 2026, Resolution

075-2026

Moved By McLaren

Seconded By Ivens

THAT we approve List of Proposed Payments for Apr, 2026: \$324,077.85 Grand Total.

Carried

5.2 GHFB “Fill the Truck” fundraiser

\$100 approved.

5.3 Women's Own Resource Centre Donation Request

\$100 approved.

5.4 Council/Committee Remuneration and Expense Record

A reminder to submit at the end of May.

6. Boards and Committees

6.1 Shared Services Monthly Reports for Apr 2026, Fire, Arena, & Rec

Items provided: Fire Chief’s monthly report for Apr, 2026, Income Statement for Apr, 2026 (Revenue 29.31%, Expenses 25.51%), AP Ledger for Apr \$39,605.50 Total Expenditures. Arena Chief Operator report for Apr, 2026, Income Statement for Apr 2026 (Revenue 37.91% and Expenses 29.02%), AP Ledger for Apr \$29,312.35 Total Expenditures, and Rec Report for May, 2026.

6.2 Machar Public Works Apr 22 minutes, Resolution

076-2026

Moved By McLaren

Seconded By Ivens

THAT we accept Public Works minutes of Apr 22, 2026; including accept 2026 Landfill Budget in the net amount (expenses less revenues) \$139,525 representing a 11.6% increase, and 2026 Road Budget in the amount of \$2,005,750 total representing a 15.4% decrease, subject to overall Township budgetary requirements, also including awarding tenders as follows: Parks and Cemeteries tenders for the sub total price of \$24,000, Granular “A” to PD Brooks for the sub total price of \$155,250, Winter Sand to Miron Top Soil for the sub total price of \$76,400, Double-Surface Treatment to Miller Paving Limited for the sub total price of \$242,260, Heavy Duty 2500 Series Pickup to Bray Motors for the sub total price of \$91,709.33 and 2025/2026 Loader Backhoe to Brandt Tractor Ltd for the sub total price of \$173,200 per bid evaluation.

Carried

6.3 South River Machar Union Public Library Board Apr 23 minutes, Resolution

077-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we acknowledge Library minutes of Apr 23, 2026.

Carried

6.4 Joint Building Committee permit summaries for Apr 2026, Resolution

Reviewed permit fees and project values, permit totals 16 at the end of Apr, 2026 (35 in 2025) as follows: Machar & Ryerson 4, Strong & South River 3, and Sundridge 2.

078-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we accept Building Permit Summaries for Apr, 2026.

Carried

- 6.3 Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board Feb 11 adopted minutes, Apr 8 draft minutes, 2026 approved budget and Meal Allowance Policy.
- 6.4 DSSAB The Path Forward - Magnetawan - Follow-Up & Slides
- 6.5 FONOM Conference and Annual Business Meeting, May 10 - Timmins
- 6.6 North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Township of Machar 2025 FIR Letter
- 6.7 N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; Board of Health Feb 25, 2026 minutes & Medical Officer of Health Report (highlights attached)
[Medical Officer of Health Report](#)

8. In-Camera (Closed) Session, Resolution

079-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we proceed into Closed Session in order to address a matter pertaining to; personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; labour relations or employee negotiations. Time: 7:44pm.

Carried

080-2026

Moved By McLaren

Seconded By Ivens

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time: 8:25pm.

Carried

10. Adjournment

081-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By Flowers

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Jun 1, 2026.

Carried

Lynda Carleton, Mayor

Angela Loney, Clerk Administrator