



Township of Tehkummah Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of Council April 7, 2026 - 06:00 PM

Present

John Deforge (Mayor)
Lorie Leeson (Councillor)
Mike McKenzie (Councillor)
Perry Chatwell (Councillor)
Steve Wood (Deputy Mayor)

Leanne Crozier – Treasurer (electronically)
Susan Hart – Deputy Clerk
Dara Mussar – Deputy Treasurer
Jeff Wilson – Fire Chief
Andrew Wood Road Superintendent
Josh Young – E4m (electronically)
Peggy Young-Lovelace – Interim Clerk

1 Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2 Traditional Land Acknowledgement

To Be Developed

3 Recital of the Municipal Mission and Vision Statements - None

Currently being drafted.

4 Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No: 2026-046

Moved By: Steve Wood

Seconded By: Mike McKenzie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the Regular Meeting of April 7, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5 Declarations of Disqualifying Interest (Pecuniary) None

6 Mayor's Address - None

7 Approval of the Minutes of the Most Recent Meeting(s)

Resolution No: 2026-047

Moved By: Perry Chatwell

Seconded By: Lorie Leeson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 9, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

7.1 Minutes March 9, 2026

8 Delegations/Presentations

Seniors' Club President Brad Parkinson informed Council of maintenance requirements at the seniors' hall (water purification and A/C) He submitted quotes for these improvements for Council's consideration.

8.1 Brad Parkinson - AC Unit at the Senior Hall

Seniors' Club Brad Parkinson addressed Council regarding the malfunctioning water treatment system and malfunctioning A/C unit at the seniors' hall. He provided a quote for the supply and install of an outdoor heat pump and three wall units and a quote for the supply and install of a new water treatment system, noting that parts were no longer available for their current water treatment system which was installed in 2008. Councillor Steve Wood suggests Council should refer to the seniors' hall agreement with the Township regarding responsibilities.

9 Council Direction from the Previous Meeting(s)

9.1 2024 Bank Reconciliations

Council was advised that the November and December 2024 bank reconciliations were almost complete. There are a few outstanding issues that need to be resolved.

The 2023 bank reconciliations are almost done, then work will begin on 2024.

9.1.1 Request to Purchase Property - S. Williamson

Council was advised that no movement has been made on this matter and it will stay as part of the agenda until the matter is dealt with.

Nothing to report at this time.

9.1.2 Wifi Access for the Library outside Library Operating Hours

Council was advised that this request has not yet been fulfilled by the IT company.

9.2 2023 Audit

The 2023 audit is almost done, then work can begin on 2024 and then 2025.

9.3 Facebook Page

The Facebook page will be launched April 8, 2026.

9.4 Winter Control Bylaw

A winter control bylaw will be prepared to be put into force next winter season. This matter will stay on the agenda until it has been completed.

9.5 Concession 2 Bridge

A brief update was provided.

9.6 Sand Dome Lease

Council was advised that the lease document had been received and the matter would be dealt with later on the agenda.

The final details to the lease are in discussion.

10 Legislative Matters

10.1 Council Working Session

A recess was called from 6:47 to 6:50 pm.

10.1.1 Discussion with MPAC - Jeremy Cormier

Jeremy Cormier, Account Manager Sudbury, and Manitoulin districts Municipal & Stakeholder Relations, Public Affairs & Customer Experience provided a presentation on the role of MPAC.

A recess was called at 7:28 Council resumed at 7:35 pm.

10.1.2 Bowerman Trails Update

Council was given an update on work carried out to document the Bowerman Trail project including that funds allocated to the project from the two (2) funding sources were spent, according to collected documentation. A timeline including contractors involved will be provided at a later date.

10.1.3 Marina Operations 2026

An update on Marina operation was provided to Council. 2026 operations were discussed.

10.1.3.1 Business Proposal - Retail Space

Moved By: Steve Wood

Seconded By: Mike McKenzie

Council was advised that an individual was interested in renting the retail space at the marina. Council directed the retail space at the Marina be advertised on the website and Facebook page with a deadline of April 15th. Rate set at \$4200 for the season.

CARRIED

10.1.4 Potable Water at the Municipal Office/Fire Hall

Council was advised that the water in the municipal office is not potable and that staff would like to have the water tested to ascertain what would be necessary to have potable water at the office.

10.1.5 Levels of Service Community Feedback

Council reviewed the summary of feedback received regarding levels of service.

10.1.6 Continue Work on Vision and Mission Statements

Council reviewed and discussed the community vision and mission statements and directed that option A be brought to the next meeting for adoption.

10.1.7 2021-2031 Strategic Plan Review - Discussion

The 2021-2031 strategic plan was reviewed as a precursor to budget discussions to determine if the plan was still valid and if the activities in the plan needed to be considered when preparing the 2026 budget.

10.1.7.1 Changes to Plan & Implementation Strategy

10.1.8 Meeting to Recess and Resume April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Resolution No: 2026-048

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Steve Wood

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regular Meeting of Council April 7, 2026, be recessed until 6:00 P.M. Monday April 13, 2026.

CARRIED

Meeting recessed April 7, 2026, at 8:27 pm

On Monday April 13, 2026, Mayor John Deforge was absent; Deputy Mayor Steve Wood assumed the Chair; the meeting is called back to order at 6:11 pm.

10.1.9 Asset Management Plan Review

Council reviewed the asset management plan completed by PSD Citywide. It was explained that the asset inventory is critical to the asset management plan and that the current inventory is not accurate and it makes it difficult to use the plan to inform the budget process.

It was discussed that the Township redo the Asset Management Plan to ensure proper data.

10.1.10 2025 Expenditures

Council was advised that it is difficult to rely on the 2025 financial reports

because many of the expenses are not properly allocated to the correct department. To correct the records at this time would be time consuming and it would delay the preparation of the 2026 budget.

Council discussed that it would be better to work on the 2026 budget at this time.

A recess was called at 7:07 pm and the meeting resumed at 7:10 pm.

10.2 Consent Agenda

Resolution No: 2026-049

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the consent agenda be received as circulated and item 10.2.6 Town of Mattawa Resolution re: Support for Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity be brought forward to a future meeting.

CARRIED

10.3 Resolutions and Bylaws

10.3.1 Bylaw 2026-10 Being a Bylaw to Adopt the Municipal Election Accessibility Plan, the Use of Municipal Resources Policy and the Recount Policy and to Repeal Bylaw No. 2022-007 Being a Bylaw to Provide for and Authorize the Use of Vote By Mail as an Alternative Voting Method

Resolution No: 2026-050

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Bylaw 2026-10 being a bylaw to adopt the municipal Election Accessibility Plan, the Use of Municipal Resources Policy and the Recount Policy and to repeal Bylaw No. 2022-007 being a bylaw to provide for and authorize the use of vote by mail as an alternative voting method be read and adopted.

CARRIED

10.3.2 Sand Dome Lease

Resolution No: 2026-027

Moved By: Lorie Leeson

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Tehkummah does hereby authorize entering into an agreement with Infrastructure Ontario for the lease of the Sand Dome property and directs the Interim Clerk to execute the agreement.

CARRIED

10.4 Public Hearings

10.5 Committee/Local Board Reports

10.5.1 Library Board

Resolution No: 2026-051

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2025 Annual Statistical Report for the Library be hereby received.

CARRIED

11 Administrative Matters

11.1 New Business/Reports from Officers/Employees on Various Issues (including reports from departments which require Council approval)

11.1.1 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Training Date

Resolution No: 2026-052

Moved By: Perry Chatwell

Seconded By: Mike McKenzie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does hereby set April 23, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. for training from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

CARRIED

11.1.2 Fire Chief Report

11.1.2.1 Request to Authorize VFF Kristopher Purdy

Resolution No: 2026-053

Moved By: Lorie Leeson

Seconded By: Mike McKenzie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Kristopher Purdy be hereby appointed to the Volunteer Fire Department for the Township of Tehkummah.

CARRIED

11.1.2.2 Fire Agreement - Minister of Health

Resolution No: 2026-054

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Lorie Leeson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does hereby authorize the Fire Chief to enter into the Tehkummah Township Fire Agreement with the Minister of Health on behalf of the Township.

CARRIED

11.1.3 Emergency Management Report

Resolution No: 2026-055

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Emergency Management Committee Report be received as presented.

CARRIED

11.1.4 Road Superintendent Report

Resolution No: 2024-056

Moved By: Perry Chatwell

Seconded By: Mike McKenzie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Tehkummah does hereby declare the Komatsu loader surplus and directs the Road Superintendent proceed with a sale through a sealed tender process, with a reserved bid of \$40,000; AND THAT Proceeds from the sale be reinvested into higher-priority equipment, such as a pickup truck and other essential tools required for operations in 2026; AND THAT the 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 be declared surplus and be used as a trade in for the purchase of a new light-duty or mid-size pick up not to exceed \$30,000 plus HST. after 3 quotes.

CARRIED

11.1.5 Use of Township Property for Library Fundraiser

Resolution No: 2026-057

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Lorie Leeson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Library is hereby authorized to use Township property for the purposes of hosting fundraising activities and the Interim Clerk is hereby directed to prepare a policy for the use of municipal property for community fundraising activities.

CARRIED

11.2 Update on Capital Projects - None at this Time

11.3 Financial Update/Statement/Quarterly Variance Report - None Available At This Time

12 Leadership Issues

12.1 Update to Strategic Plan

12.2 Five-Year Financial Plan (including Asset Management Plan)

12.3 New Policy

12.4 Notice of Motion

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of Tehkummah does hereby direct the Interim Clerk to prepare a motion for the next Council meeting regarding Mayor Deforge's request to have the previous month bank statement

at the regular meeting of Council.

12.4.1 Request from Mayor Deforge re: Bank Statements

Resolution No: 2026-058

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Interim Clerk is hereby directed to add the Township's Monthly Bank Statement to the regular monthly meeting of Council.

DEFEATED

RECORDED VOTE:

Councillor Chatwell NO

Councillor Leeson NO

Councillor McKenzie NO

Councillor Wood NO

12.4.2 Request from Councillor Chatwell re: Statement of Previous Year Invoices & Copies of Litigation Fees to date

Resolution No: 2026-059

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT copies of litigation fees to date and what the estimated ongoing cost for these services from the hired firm be provided for the next regular meeting of Council and an update on where we are at.

CARRIED

13 Closed Session

13.1 Into Closed Session and Purpose

Resolution No: 2026-060

Moved By: Mike McKenzie

Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Tehkummah does hereby move into Closed session at 8:00 p.m. in accordance with section 239(2)(b), (d), (e) and (f) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, and Section 3.3 of the Township's *Procedure By-law 2019- 011*, to:

- a. Receive information related to the former Acting Clerk Administrator;
- b. Receive advice from regarding the failure of Mayor Deforge to carryout the direction of Council; and
- c. Receive an update regarding the Court Application under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* concerning Mayor Deforge.

CARRIED

13.2 Return to Open Session

Resolution No: 2026-061
Moved By: Perry Chatwell
Seconded By: Mike McKenzie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Tehkummah does hereby move back into open session at 8:53 p.m. and report that Interim Clerk Peggy Young-Lovelace carry out directives discussed in closed.

CARRIED

- 14 Confirmation of Proceedings**
Resolution No: 2026-062
Moved By: Lorie Leeson
Seconded By: Perry Chatwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2026-011 being a bylaw to confirm proceedings of Council at their Regular Meeting of April 7, 2026, be read and adopted.

CARRIED

- 15 Adjournment**

The Mayor Adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.