

MINUTES

TOWNSHIP OF NIPISSING

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

A regular meeting of the Township of Nipissing Council was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, starting at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held in person at the Township of Nipissing Community Centre, and livestreamed to the Township of Nipissing YouTube Channel.

Present: Mayor Dave Yemm and Councillors Stephen Kirkey, James Scott and Lisa Chalapenko.

Via Zoom: Councillor Shelly Foote.

Staff: Fire Chief-MLEO-CEMC Will Bateman; Operations Superintendent Dan MacInnis; Land Planning and Technology Administrator John-Paul Negrinotti; Deputy Clerk-Administrative Assistant Kristin Linklater and Municipal Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer Kris Croskery-Hodgins.

Disclosure of pecuniary interest: Councillor Shelly Foote for the Accounts Payable.

Committee Reports:

Councillor Stephen Kirkey: Powassan & District Union Public Library Board.

Mayor Dave Yemm: Golden Sunshine Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation.

John Paul Negrinotti, Land Planning & Technology Administrator: SNF Water Group report, written.

R2026-58 S. Kirkey, L. Chalanpenko:

THAT the minutes of the regular Council Meeting held March 3, 2026, be adopted as published.

Carried.

Public Session for questions or comments about the 2026 Municipal Budget, as proposed.

Presentation: 2026 Draft Municipal Budget –Proposed Tax Levy increase: 3.4%; Tax Rate increase 2.9%.

R2026-59 S. Kirkey, J. Scott:

That we pass By-Law Number 2026-10, being a By-Law to provide for the adoption of the current estimates and tax rates, and to further provide for penalty and interest in default payment thereof and for the levy of other charges in 2026.

Read a first, second and third time and passed this 17th day of March, 2026. **Carried.**

R2026-60 S. Foote, L. Chalapenko:

That we pass By-Law Number 2026-11, being a By-Law to set Tax Ratios for Municipal Purposes for the year 2026.

Read a first, second and third time and passed this 17th day of March, 2026. **Carried.**

R2026-61 L. Chalapenko, J. Scott:

WHEREAS the Township of Nipissing acknowledges the required need of large animal veterinary services in the north;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Township of Nipissing supports the Township of Papineau-Cameron Resolution Number 2026-50, requesting expanded enrollment capacity to programming at the Ontario Veterinary College for those pursuing certification as large animal veterinarians. **Carried.**

R2026-62 S. Kirkey, J. Scott:

WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Nipissing fully supports the statements provided in a letter from the OPP Detachment Board – James Bay East, dated February 20, 2026, regarding Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario agencies across the province and the development of a coordinated Provincial Bail Notification Program;

NOW THEREFORE we direct this Resolution of support be circulated to the Powassan Nipissing Callander OPP Detachment Board and FONOM for support. **Carried.**

R2026-63 S. Foote, L. Chalapenko:

WHEREAS Northern Ontario has limited health care resources, wide-spread throughout the North which require travel, wait times and residents struggling to obtain health care without the services of a Family Physician;

AND WHEREAS a critical role in healthcare is timely and reliable medical testing, which provide crucial information for medications and treatment schedules;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Nipissing supports the City of Greater Sudbury in the request that the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Health take action to ensure that essential medical laboratory services remain accessible within Northern Ontario;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province be urged to ensure reliable, timely, and medically appropriate laboratory turnaround times for Northern Ontario patients, recognizing the unique geographic and climatic challenges of the region;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province be requested to protect and support the valuable Northern Ontario health-care workforce, including medical laboratory technologists, by preventing further service centralization that disproportionately impacts Northern communities. **Carried.**

R2026-64 L. Chalapenko, S. Foote:

That we receive the correspondence report as presented. **Carried.**

Items from Correspondence:

R2026-65 S. Kirkey, J. Scott:

WHEREAS the Municipality of East Ferris is planning the construction of a new fire hall that will serve as a regional fire training centre for fire departments including from across the Nipissing, East Parry Sound and East Sudbury districts;

AND WHEREAS the closest accredited and operational training facilities are currently located in Huntsville, Haileybury, and Sault Ste. Marie, requiring significant travel, increased costs, and reduced training frequency for volunteer and composite departments in our region;

AND WHEREAS the summer 2025 storm in the Municipality of Calvin demonstrated the effectiveness of regional collaboration under a declared state of emergency, highlighting the value of joint training and coordinated emergency response;

AND WHEREAS a regional training centre in East Ferris would allow firefighters to train closer to home, reduce operational costs, foster inter-departmental collaboration, and improve readiness for future emergencies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Nipissing supports the Municipality of East Ferris in its application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for funding assistance to construct the East Ferris Regional Fire Training Centre;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of East Ferris to demonstrate our municipality's support for this important regional initiative. **Carried.**

R2026-66 S. Foote, J. Scott:

WHEREAS Council has received a request to waive tipping fees at the Wolfe Lake Landfill Site for items collected by volunteers cleaning the ice surface of Lake Nipissing after the closing of the annual ice fishing season;

NOW THEREFORE Council of the Township of Nipissing waives the Landfill Tipping Fees stated in User Fee By-Law Number 2024-33 for Bernie Morin with a Temporary Landfill Card dated March 17 to April 17, for the sole purpose of disposal of household garbage and waste items collected during the clean up of Lake Nipissing in the area of the Township of Nipissing;

AND THAT the group request the collection of recycling materials included in the clean up operation be forwarded to Circular Materials as this program is no longer under the management of the Township of Nipissing.

AND FURTHER THAT a Resolution be prepared requesting additional enforcement and action of the Ministry of Natural Resources at the end of the annual ice fishing season to assist with the proper disposal of waste resulting from ice fishing operations and individual ice fishing.

AND FURTHER THAT the Resolution be circulated to the Honourable Vic Fedeli, MPP; the City of North Bay; Municipality of Callander; and FONOM for support. **Carried.**

Councillor Shelly Foote declared pecuniary interest as her personally owned business is listed in the Accounts Payable.

Councillor Foote's video and microphone feed on Zoom were disabled.

R2026-67 J. Scott, S. Kirkey:

That the statement of accounts dated: February 28, March 6, and 11, 2026.

Totaling \$228,406.20 be approved. **Carried.**

Councillor Foote rejoined the meeting electronically.

R2026-68 L. Chalapenko, S. Foote:

THAT we pass By-Law No. 2026-12, being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on March 17, 2026.

Read the first, second and third time passed this 17th day of March, 2026. **Carried.**

R2026-69 S. Kirkey, J. Scott:

THAT the meeting be adjourned. Time: 7:20 p.m.

Next regular Council meeting to be held April 7, 2026. **Carried.**

Mayor:

Municipal Administrator: