

MINUTES - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday September 8, 2026 – 6:00 pm

PRESENT Mayor Sheila Maxwell

PRESENT VIRTUALLY Councillor David Maxwell
Councillor David Halvorsen

REGRETS Councillor Chris Kresack

ALSO PRESENT Karen Paisley, Clerk
Leanne Maxwell, Treasurer

PRESENT VIRTUALLY Olabisi Akinsanya-Hutka, HR Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
Mayor Maxwell provided a statement of land acknowledgement.
Council experienced intermittent internet and videoconferencing connectivity issues throughout the meeting. Despite several temporary disruptions affecting virtual participation, quorum was maintained and the meeting proceeded with all agenda items being considered.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No amendments requested.

Resolution 2026-168

Moved by: Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the Regular Council Meeting of September 8, 2026, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

4. TOWN HALL SEGMENT

No members of the public were present.

5. DEPUTATIONS

A deputation by Andrew Dubinsky from SASI water regarding a proposed water cistern system for fire protection and rink flooding was scheduled. Andrew advised the Clerk via email that he was delayed. Council stood the matter down for Andrew to attend.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

6.1 Minutes – Regular Council Meeting – August 11, 2026

Council reviewed the minutes of the August 11, 2026 Regular Council Meeting. No amendments were requested.

RESOLUTION 2026-169

Moved by: Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes for the open session of the regular council meeting of August 11, 2026, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

HF SM

6.1 Minutes – Special Council Meeting – August 26, 2026

Council reviewed the minutes of the August 26, 2026 Special Council Meeting. No amendments were requested.

RESOLUTION 2026–170

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes for the open session of the special council meeting of August 26, 2026, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

7. DISBURSEMENT LIST

7.1. Payroll Report

Council reviewed the payroll report as presented.

7.2. Payment Register

Council reviewed the payment register, including electronic bank payments and cheque disbursements. The Treasurer responded to Council's questions.

RESOLUTION 2026-171

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the disbursements represented by electronic bank payments and cheque numbers 7954 to 8027 totaling \$166,699.95.

CARRIED

DEPUTATION

Andrew Dubinsky of SASI Water provided Council with an overview of a proposed water cistern system to provide a year-round water source for the Volunteer Fire Department and assist with flooding the community rink. The proposal included two underground cisterns and associated infrastructure, with preliminary project costs estimated at approximately \$85,000 plus electrical work. Council received the information and thanked Mr. Dubinsky for his presentation.

8. REPORTS FROM MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

8.1. Clerk's Report

Council received a report from the Clerk regarding the 2026 Summer Recreation Program, annual road inspections, the GovDeals fire truck sale, the Enders Road Bridge project, transportation of radioactive materials through the Township, attendance at the AMCTO Zone 9 Fall Conference, and employee performance development plans. Council discussed scheduling the annual road inspection and participation in the AMCTO Zone 9 Fall Conference. Council approved temporary closure of the Municipal Office on September 17 and 18, 2026, to permit Administration to attend the conference.

8.2. Treasurer's Report

Council received a report from the Treasurer regarding final tax bill collection, grant applications submitted on behalf of the Fire Department, upcoming funding opportunities, information obtained at the AMO Conference, and progress on the Community Centre rink board replacement project. Council discussed the rink board installation and future grant opportunities.



8.3. Public Works Report

No report for this meeting.

8.4. Fire Chief's Report

Fire Chief Day was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written update to Council through the Clerk. Council was advised that the Volunteer Fire Department responded to seven calls during August, consisting of four medical responses and three fire-related incidents. The Chief further advised that the department currently has thirteen volunteer firefighters with strong participation in training and emergency responses and reiterated the need for a reliable winter water source for firefighting operations.

8.5. Council Member Reports

Mayor Maxwell provided a report regarding attendance at the 2026 AMO Conference, including delegations with the Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Solicitor General, and health care representatives. The Mayor advised that discussions included rural infrastructure funding, emergency services, volunteer firefighter training, healthcare access in rural communities, and potential infrastructure grant opportunities. The Mayor also provided an update regarding a planned Ministry of Transportation stakeholder session concerning the local weigh scale facility. The Mayor also advised that discussions regarding meetings with the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority would be deferred until after the 2026 Municipal Election.

Councillor Halvorsen reported attending the Special Council Meeting held August 26, 2026. Councillor Halvorsen raised concerns regarding staffing and operations at the Ministry of Transportation weigh scale facility. Council discussed challenges relating to staffing levels, enforcement coverage, and the operational effectiveness of the facility.

Councillor Maxwell reported attending the AMO Conference and the Special Council Meeting held August 26, 2026. Councillor Maxwell advised that he had attended the same conference sessions and delegations as Mayor Maxwell and declined to provide additional comments, noting that the Mayor had already summarized the conference discussions. Councillor Maxwell also suggested that unused Blink security cameras be made available for use by the Volunteer Fire Department. Council directed Administration to make the cameras available to the Fire Department.

8.6. Other Agencies' Reports

Council reviewed correspondence and reports received from other agencies as listed in the Clerk's Report, which were received for information.

RESOLUTION 2026-172

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the reports presented as listed in Section 8 of this evening's agenda, AND THAT Administration is authorized to proceed in accordance with Council's direction.

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Resident Request to Amend Open Air Burning Hours

Council received a report from the Clerk advising Council of a resident's request to amend By-law No. 2026-022 to permit brush burning beginning at 4:00 p.m. rather than two hours before



sunset. Council discussed volunteer firefighter availability, public safety considerations and comments received from the Fire Chief. Council agreed to maintain the current provisions of the by-law and took no further action.

9.2 Approval of Set Fines & Amendments to By-law No. 2026-022

Council reviewed a report from Administration regarding the approval of set fines for By-law No. 2026-022, being the Open Air Burning and Fireworks By-law. Council also received the approved Schedule of Set Fines, the Order of the Regional Justice, and the proposed amending by-law.

RESOLUTION 2026-173

Moved by: Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the report from the Clerk regarding the approval of set fines for By-law No. 2026-022, being the Open Air Burning and Fireworks By-law; AND THAT Council receive the approved Schedule of Set Fines, Order of the Regional Senior Justice, and proposed amending by-law; AND THAT Council proceed with consideration of the associated amending by-law.

CARRIED

9.3 Correspondence from Residents Regarding Wolfe Road

Council received correspondence from residents regarding Wolfe Road. Administration advised that portions of the roadway pass through privately owned lands and that the Township does not currently possess ownership of the affected lands. Council discussed the history of the roadway, the Township's limited historic maintenance of the area, access concerns, and planning implications associated with any future development. Council noted that further legal and property ownership issues would need to be addressed before any consideration could be given to future road improvements or assumption of the roadway. No action was taken.

9.4 Application for a Permit to Exceed Posted Maximum Registered Gross Vehicle Weights

Council received an application for a permit to exceed posted maximum registered gross weights on Mokomon Road, Holland Road, and Pokki Road.

RESOLUTION 2026-174

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the application from Dustin Blunt, operating as 686863 Ontario Ltd. for a Permit to Exceed Posted Maximum Registered Gross Vehicle Weights pursuant to Township of Conmee By-law No. 1272 for hauling operations on Mokomon Road, Holland Road and Pokki Road; AND THAT the Township retain the \$5,000 security deposit until completion of the haul and any required inspection of the affected Township roads.

CARRIED

9.5 Proposed Water Cistern System for Fire Protection and Rink Flooding

Council received a report from Administration and a presentation from Andrew Dubinsky of SASI Water regarding a proposed water cistern system that could provide a year-round water source for firefighting purposes and support flooding of the community rink. The proposed project would include two underground cisterns with an estimated cost of approximately \$85,000 plus electrical work. Council discussed potential grant opportunities and deferred consideration of the project to the incoming Council following the 2026 Municipal Election.

Handwritten signature: H. M.

10. BY-LAWS

10.1 By-law 2026-027 – By-law to Amend By-law No. 2026-022 – Open Air Burning and Fireworks Bylaw

Council reviewed the proposed amending by-law to update By-law No. 2026-022, the Open Air Burning and Fireworks By-law, to incorporate the approved Schedule of Set Fines and housekeeping amendments identified during the submission and approval process.

RESOLUTION 2026-175

Moved by: Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law No. 2026-027, being a by-law to amend By-law No. 2026-022, the Open Air Burning and Fireworks By-law, be passed this 8th day of September, 2026.

CARRIED

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Council reviewed correspondence from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan regarding proposed provincial legislative amendments related to road authority health and safety concerns, the Town of Latchford regarding funding support for Official Plan and Zoning By-law reviews, and the Municipality of Trent Hills regarding the elimination of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's Second Injury and Enhancement Fund. No additional direction was provided.

RESOLUTION 2026-176

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the correspondence for information.

CARRIED

12. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Council reviewed the list of upcoming meeting dates. No changes were proposed.

13. CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION 2026-177

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, at 7:39 p.m., Council move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, to consider; Item 13.1, being the Closed Session minutes of the Regular Council meeting held August 11, 2026, under the same authority as the original meeting; Item 13.2, being human resources and employment-related matters, including personal matters about identifiable individuals, pursuant to Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001; Item 13.3, being a matter involving litigation or potential litigation under Section 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege under paragraph 239(2)(f) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

CARRIED

During closed session, the following procedural resolution was passed:

KP 6m

RESOLUTION 2026-178

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the time being 8:23 p.m., Council rise from closed session and report in open session.

CARRIED

Open session resumed.

14. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION 2026-179

Moved by: Councillor Halvorsen

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Closed Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on August 11, 2026, be approved; AND THAT Administration be authorized to proceed as directed during Closed Session.

CARRIED

15. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

By-law 2026-028

RESOLUTION 2026-180

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Halvorsen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2026-028 be passed; AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized on behalf of the Township of Conmee to affix their signatures to By-law No. 2026-028, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of this evening's meeting.

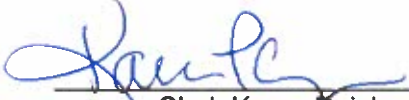
CARRIED

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Mayor Sheila Maxwell



Clerk Karen Paisley