



ARNPRIOR

**Minutes of Council Meeting  
April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 6:30 PM**

**Town Hall, Council Chambers – 105 Elgin St. W. Arnprior, ON.**

**Council and Staff Attendance**

**Council Members Present (In-Person):**

Mayor Lisa McGee  
County Councillor Dan Lynch  
Councillor Ted Strike  
Councillor Lynn Cloutier  
Councillor Tom Burnette  
Councillor Chris Toner  
Councillor Chris Couper

**Town Staff Present:**

Robin Paquette, CAO  
Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk  
Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client  
Services/Treasurer  
Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk  
John Steckly, General Manager, Operations  
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation

**Council Members Absent:**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Lisa McGee called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed those present.

**2. Roll Call**

The roll was called, with all Members of Council being present.

**3. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Mayor Lisa McGee asked everyone to take a moment to acknowledge and show respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land we operate on, by stating:

"I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we work, and gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe People. This Algonquin Nation have lived on this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of the European settlers, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory."

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

Resolution Number 149-25  
Moved by Chris Couper  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**Be It Resolved That** the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 be adopted as amended with two by-laws under section 15(a) of the agenda and to change the number of the confirmatory by-law accordingly.

Resolution Carried

**5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**

None

**6. Question Period**

None

**7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

Resolution Number 150-25

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Toner

**That** the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council listed under Item 7 (a) on the Agenda be adopted (Regular Meeting of Council – April 14, 2025).

Resolution Carried

**8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations**

None

**9. Public Meetings**

None

**10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business**

None

**11. Notice of Motion(s)**

None

**12. Staff Reports**

**a) Strong Mayors Powers Legislation – Bill 3, Robin Paquette, CAO**

Resolution Number 151-25

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Ted Strike

**That** Council receive Staff Report No. 25-04-28-01 regarding the Strong Mayors Powers Legislation – Bill 3 for information.

Resolution Carried

**b) Proclamation – Museum Month (May 2025), Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk**

Resolution Number 152-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** Council proclaim May 2025 as Museum Month in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Deputy Clerk read the proclamation:

**Whereas** throughout our community, museums, art galleries, and heritage sites reflect our local history and culture, and contribute to our collective problem-solving in the present and the future; and

**Whereas** this month provides an opportunity to increase awareness of our community's museum and celebrate the contributions these institutions make to quality of life, education, and economic development; and

**Whereas** the Arnprior and District Museum welcomes visitors and tourists to our community while also serving as a community cultural hub; and

**Whereas** the Arnprior and District Museum is a key asset to education, employment, economic development, tourism, culture, and equity;

**Now Therefore**, I, Lisa McGee, Mayor of the Town of Arnprior, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as Museum Month in the Town of Arnprior and encourage all residents and visitors to drop into the Arnprior and District Museum and explore through the Museum's social media to find out ways to join in this month and all year long!

**c) Proclamation – Sexual Assault Awareness Month and “We Stand With Survivors” Campaign (May 2025), Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk**

Resolution Number 153-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

**That** Council proclaim May 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Deputy Clerk read the proclamation:

**Whereas** Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community member; and

**Whereas** approximately 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men will experience sexual violence in their lifetime; and

**Whereas** most victims of sexual violence are under the age of 25, know the person who attacked them and do not report the crime to the police; and

**Whereas** the prevalence of all gender-based violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault, has tragically increased since the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**Whereas** victims of sexual violence are some of the most vulnerable and silent people in society and it is always the right time to ask questions to learn about the services for victims and their families; and

**Whereas** no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual violence on their own and we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

**Whereas** the [Women's Sexual Assault Centre of Renfrew County](#) is a grassroots, community-run nonprofit organization that aims to support women who have been sexually abused through active listening, information sharing and providing connections to relevant resources across our region.

**Now Therefore** I, Lisa McGee, Mayor of the Town of Arnprior, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the Town of Arnprior and urge all residents of our community to learn more about sexual assault, abuse and violence and become active participants in eliminating these crimes.

**d) Proclamation – First Responders Day (May 1, 2025)** Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk

Resolution Number 154-25  
Moved by Tom Burnette  
Seconded by Chris Couper

**That** Council proclaim May 1st, 2025, as First Responders Day in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Deputy Clerk read the proclamation:

**Whereas** Bill 15, “An Act to Proclaim First Responders Day”, was adopted by the Legislature of Ontario on December 10th, 2013, designating May 1st of each year as ‘First Responders Day’ in the Province of Ontario; and

**Whereas** First Responders are those individuals who, in the early stages of an emergency, are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence and the environment; and

**Whereas** First Responders include police officers, firefighters, paramedics, medical evacuation pilots, dispatchers, nurses, doctors, emergency medical technicians, military personnel, road maintenance personnel and emergency managers; and

**Whereas** First Responders are both volunteers and professionals who dedicate their lives to public service, and whose skills often make the difference between life and death; and

**Whereas** at a moment's notice, first responders are quick to respond to dangerous and distressing situations that threaten our communities; and

**Whereas** the services, dedication and commitment of First Responders deserve to be recognized and honoured; and

**Whereas** the Town of Arnprior employs or contracts the services of many First Responders;

**Now Therefore**, I, Lisa McGee, Mayor of the Town of Arnprior, do hereby proclaim May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 as "First Responders Day" in the Town of Arnprior and urge all residents to thank those individuals who have dedicated their lives to keeping our community and homes safe and protected.

**e) Proclamation – Emergency Preparedness Week**, Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk

Resolution Number 155-25

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Ted Strike

**That Council** proclaim May 4th to 10th, 2025 as Emergency Preparedness Week in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Deputy Clerk read the proclamation:

**Whereas** Emergency Preparedness Week is a national awareness initiative that has taken place annually since 1996; and

**Whereas** Emergency Preparedness Week encourages Canadians to take three simple steps to become better prepared to face a range of emergencies:

1. Know the Risks
2. Make a Plan
3. Get an Emergency Kit; and

**Whereas** this awareness initiative is a collaborative event undertaken by the provincial and territorial emergency management organizations supporting activities at the local level in conjunction with Public Safety Canada and partners; and

**Whereas** the 2025 theme is "[Be Prepared. Know Your Risks](#)" to encourage Canadians to understand the risks in their area and learn what actions they can take to protect themselves and their families; and

**Whereas** the Town of Arnprior Fire Prevention Office has been raising awareness throughout the community in support of Emergency Preparedness Week; and

**Now Therefore**, I, Lisa McGee, Mayor of Arnprior, do hereby proclaim May 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 as Emergency Preparedness Week in the Town of Arnprior and encourage all residents to learn more about preparing for an emergency (know the risks, make a plan, get an emergency kit) and understand the importance of emergency preparedness.

### 13. Committee Reports and Minutes

#### a) Mayor's Report

Mayor Lisa McGee reported the following:

- On Easter Weekend the Mayor was joined by Councillor Toner and got the racers started for the first Bunny Run, that we certainly hope will be an annual event. There were about 180 registered participants and the consensus among participants was that it was an incredible event and everyone is already looking forward to next year.

#### b) County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Lynch reported the following from the County of Renfrew:

- At the April 23rd Council meeting Sabine Mersmann, President and CEO presented an update of the Pembroke Regional Hospital. Provided the slide show to the Clerk for publication.
- County of Renfrew endorsed Councillor Glenn Doncaster to stand for election on FCM's Board of Directors and/or appointments to Standing Committees for the period starting in June 2025.
- Correspondence (this was received in our Correspondence package) from the Provincial Policy Division Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch which informed municipalities about the Agricultural System Implementation. There are two components:
  - (a) The identification of the agricultural land base; of note this includes forests as agriculture land;
  - (b) the consideration of the agri-food network. Of note this may include infrastructure, Master Transportation plans and other services and assets that the agri-food sector relies on.
- Rural County Councillors have expressed concerns over this implementation.
- The 2025 County of Renfrew Budget Overview (hard copy) was made available. Of note this Overview is in our correspondence package.

### c) Committee Reports and Minutes

Councillor Couper provided the following from the Arnprior Public Library:

- Residents may notice a new machine outside the main doors to the Arnprior Public Library. This is a book locker made by a company called Bibliotheca. The book locker is going to provide 24-hour access to books. You will reserve your book in advance, you will go up and scan your card, it will open the locker, and you will receive your book. This is excellent for people who are not able to get into the library during operational hours and it offers 24-hour access. The library will open an hour later on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> to accommodate training for staff and the book locker should be up and running by the end of May.

Councillor Toner provided the following report from the Arnprior McNab/Braeside Archives (AMBA) Committee:

- Archives wish to thank Arnprior General Manager of Client Services, Jennifer Morawiec, and Arnprior IT Coordinator, Wes Schnob, for getting the archives file share folders and backup folders back online after a power outage.
- Archives welcomed Mariah, a student from Mohawk College, who will begin her practicum placement at the AMBA starting in April.
- Popular research requests at the archives over the past two months include extensive genealogy research for the Dewar family, schoolhouse history for Goshen Road schoolhouse and multiple requests for access to land records, wills and historical property documentation.
- Work continues on digitization of the collection, including audio tapes and video records and indexing and organizing land records.
- There have been preliminary discussions regarding the donation of historical records from the Eganville Leader newspaper.
- Volunteers continue to work on processing and cataloguing the collections from the Arnprior Fish and Game Club, digitizing newspapers and researching the First German Settlements and McNamara Exhibitions.
- Sara MacKenzie has decided to stay on as AMBA board secretary and is excited about creating some new initiatives.
- The AGM was held directly after our meeting where we adopted the new directors for the upcoming term and approved our audited financial statements.

Councillor Toner provided the following report from the Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) Advisory Committee:

- SALC are happy to welcome to the team interim program coordinator Amber and program assistant Ameliah.
- With Amber and Ameliah now on board, the SALC is getting back on track with updated programming, bus trip excursion planning and social media and email outreach. They are both full of enthusiasm and have been tasked with scheduling new programming outside of regular hours.
- Amber and Ameliah will also work on getting processes, procedures and programming contacts included in a resource manual for the SALC.

- Community gardens are planning to be opened for May long weekend and the popular walking club will begin in early May as well.
- The SALC/Arnprior Regional Health are still waiting for the government funding to arrive.

Resolution Number 156-25

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Ted Strike

**That** Council receive the Advisory Committee Minutes listed under item 13 (c) (i) as information (Environmental Advisory Committee – March 17, 2025).

Resolution Carried

#### **14. Correspondence & Petitions**

##### **a) Correspondence Package No. I-25-APR-08**

Resolution Number 157-25

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Dan Lynch

**That** Correspondence Package Number I-25-APR-08 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Dan Lynch noted the following items

- Page 6: The Ontario Government is continuing to support its vibrant Francophone community with the launch of the 2025-2026 edition of the Grants Program. Community organizations and businesses have until May 26 to submit their proposal under one of two streams: Community and Culture or Economic Development.
- Page 62: Health and Safety Water Stream fund to help municipalities and First Nations build, repair and expand aging water infrastructure. Inquired if staff have applied for this funding.
  - The CAO noted that staff are looking at this fund and attending webinars to receive more information.
- Page 86: Township of McNab/Braeside is celebrating their Bi-Centennial Anniversary on Saturday, June 28, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Township office.

**b) Correspondence Package No. A-25-APR-05**

Resolution Number 158-25  
Moved by Chris Toner  
Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Correspondence Package Number A-25-APR-05 be received and the recommendations be brought forward for Council consideration.

Resolution Carried

**15. By-laws & Resolutions**

**a) By-laws**

Resolution Number 159-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Chris Toner

**That** the following by-law be and is hereby enacted and passed:

- i. By-Law No. 7586-25 – 2025 Tax Rate
- ii. By-Law No. 7587-25 - Part Lot Control Fairgrounds Plan 49M-109 Block 50 parts 3 and 4 on 49R-19859
- iii. By-Law No. 7588-25 – Appoint Deputy Clerk (K. Wendland)

Resolution Carried

**b) Resolutions**

- i. Lion's Club – Blind Anglers International Tournament (BAIT), Waiving of Launching Fees – Municipal Grants Application (In-Kind Request)

Resolution Number 160-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from Lions Club International, District A-4 and Blind Anglers International Tournament (BAIT); and

**Whereas** the Lions Club International, District A-4 is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy and supports residents in our community through the creation of BAIT as an opportunity for blind anglers to spend an enjoyable weekend together fishing; and

**Therefore Be It Resolved That** Council approve the request for waiving the boat launching fees at the Marina for 25 boats (value of approximately \$375) on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025; and

**Further That** Lions Club International, District A-4 be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured for the event.

Resolution Carried

## 16. Announcements

Councillor Couper made the following announcements:

- There has been a confirmed measles case in Renfrew County. The Renfrew County District Health Unit has published about a possible exposure to measles Renfrew Victoria Hospital Emergency Department on April 15<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 and 9:30 PM; Renfrew Victoria Hospital Diagnostic Imaging on April 15<sup>th</sup> between 4:15 and 7:45 PM; and No Frills in Renfrew between 8:30 and 11:00. Anyone who was at these locations during these times should check their vaccination records to make sure that they are protected. Individuals should have two doses of a measles vaccine and if there are any questions, reach out to the Renfrew County District Health Unit at 1-800-267-1017.
- On the subject of the proclamation made for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, if you or someone you know has experienced sexual violence, please reach out to the Women's Sexual Assault Centre of Renfrew County. Their 24-hour crisis line is always open and available. You can reach them at 1-800-663-3060 or at [rscac.org](http://rscac.org).
- This weekend we had a number of events. Kudos to Alexis, Jacob, and all the volunteers and sponsors of the second annual Great Arnprior Trash Hunt. Conditions were not great, it was pretty damp and people came out in droves. A huge trailer full of trash was picked up. Volunteers did come back to the Museum for a lunch afterwards for a prize draw and BBQ put on by members of the Fire Department.
- The Annual Bowl-a-thon for the Arnprior Special Olympics took place on Sunday at Steelhead and Strikes. Along with the Arnprior Lions Club, they raised \$9,443.50. Coach Brenda has said that they are so close to reaching \$10,000 that if you have it in your heart, you can email her at [arnpriorbowling@gmail.com](mailto:arnpriorbowling@gmail.com) and help put them over that \$10,000 mark.
- Number of events coming up this weekend. The Men's Shed is having a craft sale at the JAG Centre in Braeside from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. They are offering one-of-a-kind, handmade goods from members of the Men's Shed.
- Union 108 is having a 30-hour trauma conscious training session that is 20 hours of live learning and 10 hours of self study. This is a course to understand what trauma is, common effects and responses to trauma, all through yoga.
- On Saturday, Arnprior Ducks Unlimited is having a huge dinner and charity auction. All proceeds raised will go towards preserving wetlands across Canada.
- Ottawa Valley Homesteaders Conference is taking place Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. It is an inaugural event that is a gathering of individuals who are passionate about sustainable living. Speakers they will have on hand include bee keeping, maple syrup production, gardening and hunting.
- Arnprior Ladies Night – enjoy the Moulin Rouge at the Nick Smith Centre on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 PM. This is an 18+ event. Tables of eight

are available for \$480 or individual tickets for \$60. All the money goes back to the Arnprior Optimistic Women's Club.

- Registration is open for the Swing for Optimism Golf Tournament on June 14<sup>th</sup>. \$500 for a foursome with 1:00 PM shot gun start. Email [arnprior.optimistclub@gmail.com](mailto:arnprior.optimistclub@gmail.com) to register. Registration gets you a power cart, 18 holes of golf, and a dinner and prizes.

County Councillor Dan Lynch made the following announcements:

- May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – invited to the Gerald Tracey park rededication ceremony in Eganville which starts at 1:30 PM.
- The Ottawa Valley Tourism Awards winners will be announced at the OVTA annual general meeting and tourism awards celebration which is taking place at 5:00 PM Tuesday at the Neat Café in Burnstown. Of note, in the Tourism Champion category, Jill McLellan, co-founder of Watch My 6 and owner of End of the Leash, Megan James, general manager of Somewhere Inn Calabogie, and Councillor Lynch and the Arnprior Station. Thanks again to our businesses that supported the Arnprior Station. They were Miller Aggregates, RONA, Wolf System, Paul Neil Trucking, Hughes Brittle Printing, Home Hardware, Milliken Landscaping, Arnprior Glass, Cold Bear Brewing, The Toner Family, The Box Family, The Lynch Family, The England Family, The McLean Family, Bonnie Giles, Arnprior McNab Braeside Archives, and Gilk's Signs. The Station has been recognized as a place to visit on the Railways of the Ottawa Valley.
- At 5:00 PM this Thursday, at the Paul J Yakabuski Community Centre in Barry's Bay, there will be a celebration of life for Mark Willmer. Mark was at the Town for 22+ years as a councillor and member of the community.

At the request of County Councillor Lynch, Council observed a moment of silence in memory of Mark Willmer.

The CAO made the following announcements:

- At the Ottawa Valley Tourism Awards, the Town has also been recognized with a nomination in the category of Cultural Events for the Cultural Night Market.
- Canadian Heritage Grant – applied for Canada Day and received \$10,000. Historically the Town has received about \$2,000, so this was great to see.

The Director of Recreation made the following announcements:

- Swings will be going up this week in all parks. Already installed at Legion Park last week. Fairview Park swings will go up when it opens at the end of May and Caruso Park once the excessive groundwater dries up.
- The section of the Gillies Trail (Waterfront Trail) between Pier 6 to the boat launch is closed due to overland water. Continue to monitor the condition of the trail daily.

**17. Closed Session**

Resolution Number 161-25 (7:27 PM)  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

**That** Council move into Closed Session to discuss two (2) matters pursuant to Section 239 (2)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, to discuss a personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or Local Board employees (Town Awards – Volunteer, Senior and Youth and Striking Committee); and one (1) matter pursuant to Section 239 (2)(e) and (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, to discuss litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose (Claim).

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 162-25 (8:18PM)  
Moved by Dan Lynch  
Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Council resume to Open Session.

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 163-25  
Moved by Chris Couper  
Seconded by Ted Strike

**That** Council direct staff to proceed as directed in Closed Session.

Resolution Carried

**18. Confirmatory By-Law**

Resolution Number 164-25  
Moved by Chris Toner  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** By-law No. 7589-25, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be and is hereby enacted and passed.

Resolution Carried

**19. Adjournment**

Resolution Number 165-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Chris Couper

That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Resolution Carried

**Signatures**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa McGee', with a large, stylized initial 'L'.

Lisa McGee, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kaila Zamojski', with a large, stylized initial 'K'.

Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk