



ARNPRIOR

**Minutes of Council Meeting  
July 14<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  
Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client Services/Treasurer  
Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk  
Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk  
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation  
Alix Jolicoeur, Manager of Community Services/Planner  
John Steckly, GM Operations  
Rick Desarmia, Fire Chief  
Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer  
Ryan Wall, Engineering Officer  
Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator

**Council Members Present (Virtual):**

**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 233-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Chris Couper

**Be It Resolved That** the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be adopted.

Resolution Carried

**5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**  
None

**6. Question Period**  
None

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

Resolution Number 234-25  
Moved by Chris Toner  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council listed under Item 7 (a) on the Agenda be adopted (Regular Meeting of Council – June 23, 2025).

Resolution Carried

**8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations**

**a) Presentations/Awards**

**i. 2025 Cultural Night Market and Museum Update**

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator, provided Council with an update on the 2025 Cultural Night Market and future programming at the Museum.

**9. Public Meetings**  
None

**10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business**  
None

**11. Notice of Motion(s)**  
None

**12. Staff Reports**

**a) Zoning By-law Amendment 6/25 – 10 William St. W.,** Alix Jolicoeur, Manager of Community Services/Planner

Resolution Number 235-25  
Moved by Chris Couper  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Council adopts a by-law to amend Zoning By-law 6875-18 to change the zoning of 10 William Street West from “Mixed Use Residential/Commercial exception 3 temporary zoning 2 (MU-RC\*3- T2)” to “Mixed Use Residential/Commercial exception 50 temporary zoning 2 (MU- RC\*50-T2)” to permit a wider variety of non-residential uses and to remove the restriction on the maximum floor area for permitted non-residential uses.

**Further That** Council has considered all written and oral submission received on this application, the effect of which has helped Council make an informed decision.

Resolution Carried

- b) Awarding of Tender PW-2025-01 – 400 mm Watermain Madawaska River Crossing Lease Agreement & Contract Administration, Ryan Wall, Engineering Officer**

Resolution Number 236-25  
Moved by Tom Burnette  
Seconded by Ted Strike

**That** Council award Tender PW-2025-01 to Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited for \$2,615,770.95 (Incl HST); and

**Further That** Council award the Contract Administration and Inspection services for project PW-2025-01, under standing offer agreement, to J.L. Richards and Associates Limited for \$438,078.12 (Incl HST); and

**Further That** Council authorize the General Manager, Operations to spend an additional contingency up to \$353,337.41 which constitutes 15% of the total contract value including net HST; and

**Further That** Council authorize the CAO to enter into a Construction and Access License and Lease Agreement with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) at a cost of \$56,250.00 + HST to construct a watermain across a portion of OPG lands in the Town of Arnprior; and

**Further That** Council authorize the CAO to execute the agreements and related documents with Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited, J.L. Richards and Associates Limited, and Ontario Power Generation to execute the works.

Resolution Carried

- c) Nick Smith Centre Arena Revitalization Update, Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation, and Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer**

Resolution Number 237-25  
Moved by Dan Lynch  
Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Council accept Arena Revitalization Update Report 25-07-14-03 as information, and;

**That** Council approve a budget of \$95,000 funded from the Capital Expenditure Reserve Fund to complete a new project, with a scope that includes: additional rubber flooring, furniture for new office and meeting spaces, and Bert Hall Arena sound system.

Resolution Carried

**d) Implementation Plan for Robert Simpson Park, Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation, and Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer**

Resolution Number 238-25  
Moved by Chris Couper  
Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Council direct staff to proceed with an updated phased approach to the Robert Simpson Park Revitalization design assignment with Phase 1 consisting of the Upper Park and Phase 2 consisting of the Shoreline Modification & Lower Park; and

**That** Council direct staff to conduct two separate public consultations for Phase 1 Upper Park and Phase 2 Shoreline Modification & Lower Park; and

**That** Council direct staff to proceed with public consultation for the Phase 1 Upper Park with a projected budget of \$3.2 million, anticipated for 2026 construction; and

**That** Council direct staff to explore alternative options to the proposed breakwater and return at a later date with options for the Phase 2: Shoreline Modification & Lower Park, including cost impact and an anticipated schedule to be determined as an update to the LRCF.

Resolution Carried

**e) Asset Management Plan Update, Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer**

Resolution Number 239-25  
Moved by Dan Lynch  
Seconded by Chris Couper

**That** Staff Report No. 25-07-14-05, regarding the Strategic Asset Management Policy and 2024 Asset Management Planning activities, be received as information.

**That** Council adopt the Asset Management Plan compliant to the 2025 deadlines of O.Reg. 588/17; and

**That** Council endorse the recommended levels of service as laid out in the above report.

Resolution Carried

**13. Committee Reports and Minutes**

**a. Mayor's Report**

Mayor McGee reported the following:

- Attended the graduation at Arnprior and District High School and presented the Town of Arnprior Student Bursary Awards.
- Had a lengthy meeting with residents in Olympia subdivision regarding their visions about dog parks, taxes, parks, by-law, policing and roads. It is always

great when misinformation can be clarified, and a better understanding of things can lead to agreement.

- Celebrated a fantastic Canada Day with mostly good weather.
- Had a chance to connect and have lunch with Pierre Dufresne from Cavanagh Communities last week. Discussed their hopes for various developments and potential options for servicing of different locations.
- Last weekend the Kitchissippi Trails group came through Arnprior. Councillor Couper, County Councillor Lynch and Mayor McGee met the two large canoes at the Marina. The group was celebrating the route that had been taken by Grand Chief Pinesi in the early 1900s. Their goal was to finish in Ottawa on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Town helped transport paddlers from the Marina to Fitzroy so they could continue their journey.
- A couple of weeks ago, Mayor McGee has a one-on-one meeting with Carmen Goold. Carmen is the regional development officer for the province of Ontario, and she delivers ministry programs and services to communities throughout Renfrew County.
- Joined by MPP Billy Denault and Carmen Goold for the funding announcement of the \$1 million grant from the Government of Ontario for the Nick Smith Centre Revitalization.
- A few days ago, Mayor McGee met with County Councillor Lynch and Councillor Couper to discuss the process for Budget 2026. Things will be a little different this year, but the end product and process will look quite similar. Key difference will be that the working group will be involved from the early stages, but the process will be fully transparent to the rest of Council and there will be opportunities for discussion. With the new legislation, the head of Council could simply provide a budget to Council without public delegations or input from staff, however that would not serve anyone very well. Looking forward to being more involved and hope Council is happy with where things have landed.

#### **b. County Councillor's Report**

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

- County Council had the following delegations:
  - Mike Nolan, Director of Emergency Services, presented retired Paramedic Brad Smith with the Ontario Governor General Medal of Bravery.
  - Renfrew County Agriculture Economic Development Members, Shanna Armstrong, Pinnacle Haven Farm, and Jennifer Doelman (Vice Chair), Bonnechere Haven Farms, Farmers Daughter Honey, made a presentation dealing with agriculture opportunities in the County.
  - Ontario Ministry of Transportation staff, Darren Waters and Ryan Vandenberg, updated County Council on the Highway 17/417 projects including culvert/bridge replacements, paving projects, and the new MTO yard being constructed at highway 417 and highway 15/29.

- Local MPP Billy Denault brought greetings from the Ontario Government and addressed provincial updates.
- Renfrew County Forrester, Lacey Rose, was the 2025 recipient of the Ontario Woodlot Association Lorax Award. This award recognizes an individual for outstanding achievement for promoting a better understanding and appreciation of forest values in Ontario's woodlands.
- Taste of the Valley 2025 is scheduled for the following dates and locations:
  - Saturday, July 26: Eganville Arena
  - Saturday, August 23: Alice and Fraser Recreation Centre
  - Saturday, September 20: Calabogie Community Hall
  - Saturday, October 18: Cobden Fairgrounds
  - Saturday, December 13: Pembroke Knights of Columbus Hall
- The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association has announced their 2025/2026 Board of Directors which include the Town of Arnprior's Manager of Culture/Curator, Emily Stovel.
- Following the success of the recent forestry tour and keeping in line with the Economic Development Division's 2024-26 strategic priorities, an agriculture tour for elected officials is being organized for September 12, 2025.
- 2025 Summer Company Program selected seven qualified candidates, of which three are from Arnprior. They are Page Hodgson, crochet products and clothing, Minnah Rehn, henna services and products, Emmanuel Young, lawn care services.

### **c. Committee Reports and Minutes**

Councillor Couper reported the following from the Arnprior Public Library:

- Held a full day strategic planning exercise on July 5<sup>th</sup>. Welcomed Alison Pilon, Ontario Library Service, who led the full board in some strategic plan discussions. Talked about the Library's mission, values and worked together to discuss the plan for the library moving forward.
- Community values were a huge part of discussion when evaluating the Library as more than just a place for books.
- Looking forward to the next phase where there will be further refinement of the strategic plan and then the publication of the plan, and potentially a new logo and motto, later this fall.

## 14. Correspondence & Petitions

### a) Correspondence Package No. I-25-JUL-13

Resolution Number 240-25

Moved by Chris Toner

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Correspondence Package Number I-25-JUL-13 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch made the following comments:

- Page 8: 2025 Ontario Volunteer Awards – in the Outstanding Volunteer Group Category – The Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary (Opportunity Shop), Arnprior, was recognized. Of note, the Arnprior Regional Health Auxiliary was founded in 1961 and is a dedicated team of 165 volunteers supporting the Arnprior Hospital, Groving Nursing Home, and Palliative Care. Through hands-on service and creative fundraising – including the Opportunity Shop – they contribute up to \$350,000 annually, funding vital medical equipment and enhancing healthcare for the entire Arnprior community. Congratulations on behalf of Council on this well-deserved recognition.
- Page 22: The Ontario government is now accepting applications for the new Rural Ontario Development program to help support economic growth, protect jobs and improve infrastructure in small communities. The funding allocation is \$20 million over two years. The first of four program intakes is open from June 24 to September 24, 2025. Eligible rural municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, Indigenous communities and small businesses can apply to four funding streams:
  1. Economic Diversification, Competitiveness and Capacity Building: building economic development capacity and implementing strategies that increase competitiveness to retain business, attract investment and enhance growth.
  2. Workforce Development, Attraction and Retention: investing in strategies and/or to undertake initiatives for attracting and retaining workers.
  3. Community Infrastructure Enhancements: investing in community infrastructure and improving public spaces or existing community assets.
  4. Business Development: investing in projects that support businesses to be financially sustainable and competitive, including cyber security initiatives, accessibility enhancements or expansion to new markets.

Asked the CAO if the Town has any projects that would qualify for this funding. The CAO noted that staff are reviewing options and in the past the Town has received funding for wayfinding signage, the commercial retail demand study, as well as the recent Business Retention and Expansion study.

- Page 45: The Ontario government is protecting tenants by capping rent increases for 2026 at 2.1%. This cap is based on Ontario's Consumer Price Index.

- Page 56: The Ontario government is investing \$35 million to help long-term care homes across the province support residents with complex needs. The Local Priorities Fund is designed to support programs that connect people with the right care for them, reducing emergency department visits and hospital stays.
- Page 59: The Ontario government is investing \$2.2 million to help protect and strengthen access to inclusive spaces for all Ontarians. The Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone Grant awards up to \$60,000 for projects that improve accessibility and support active lifestyles for people with disabilities and older adults. Asked the CAO if the Town has any projects that would fit this funding stream. The CAO noted that staff are looking at a couple of options in the Long Range Capital Forecast that may be a fit for this funding.
- Page 80: Intake is open for Ontario's new Health and Safety Water Stream fund to help municipalities and First Nations build, repair and expand aging water infrastructure. Asked the CAO if there are any projects that qualify for this funding stream. The CAO noted that yes, staff recently applied for the Victoria Street Reconstruction Project using this stream of funding.
- Ducks Unlimited Canada's Conservation PRO team has resources available for municipalities to turn stormwater facilities into natural assets and provides habitat restoration services on land and water. Asked the CAO if the Town has any stormwater ponds that would qualify for these resources. The CAO noted that staff will require more time to research this opportunity but will investigate if this is a good fit for any of the Town's ponds.

## 15. By-laws & Resolutions

### a) By-laws

Resolution Number 241-25

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Ted Strike

**That** the following by-laws be and are hereby passed:

- i. By-law No. 7607-25 – Zoning By-Law Amendment 6/25 – 10 William Street West
- ii. By-Law No. 7608-25 – Award Tender – PW-2025-01 – 400mm HDD River Crossing Watermain & OPG Easement
- iii. By-law No. 7609-25 – Amend By-law 7272-22 – Community Emergency Management Coordinator (Chair)
- iv. By-law No. 7610-25 – Transfer Payment Agreement Municipal Housing Infrastructure – Housing Enabling Core Services Stream
- vi. By-law No. 7612-25 – Authorize Alternative Voting for 2026 Municipal Election

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 242-25  
Moved by Dan Lynch  
Seconded by Chris Couper

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

- v. By-law No. 7611-25 – Amend Council Composition By-law

Resolution Carried

## 16. Announcements

County Councillor Lynch made the following announcements:

- Ontario's new law prohibits the use of handheld devices while driving including cellphones and other electronic devices. The law applies to all vehicles in motion and when stopped at traffic lights or in traffic, with some exceptions. The exception would be when the driver safely pulls off the road and is not impeding traffic, or professional emergency services.
- This Thursday, Seniors at Home are hosting their annual barbeque at Robert Simpson Park.
- Sunday, Concerts in the Park features Terry Marcotte and the Ottawa Valley Outlaw.
- On July 26<sup>th</sup>, Arnprior Packers have their golf tournament at Mountain Creek.
- Congrats to Ottawa Valley Air Paddle on a successful PaddleFest at Mclean Park last Saturday and the opportunity to view their trophy for Business of the Year awarded by the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association.

Councillor Couper made the following announcements:

- Gave a shout out to the local OPP. We hear a lot about traffic enforcement concerns. There was a group of residents who were very concerned about failure to stop at a stop sign. OPP Inspector Marianne McNeil investigated the issue and came back with data about the complaint. The OPP conducted traffic enforcement at the stop sign of concern which resulted in 12 warnings and 4 provincial offense notices over just 4 enforcement times. As a result, residents are very thankful for the support.

## 17. Closed Session

Resolution Number 243-25 (8:49 PM)

Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

**That** Council move into Closed Session to discuss:

- 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 (Fire Protection and Prevention Act Offence); and
- One (1) matter to discuss labour relations or employee negotiations pursuant to Section 239 (2)(d) (Tentative Collective Agreement).

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 244-25 (9:16 PM)  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Chris Toner

**That** Council resume to Open Session.

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 245-25  
Moved by Chris Couper  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** Council receive the information presented in Closed Session.

Resolution Carried

### **18. Confirmatory By-Law**

Resolution Number 246-25  
Moved by Ted Strike  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

**That** By-law No. 7613-25, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution Carried

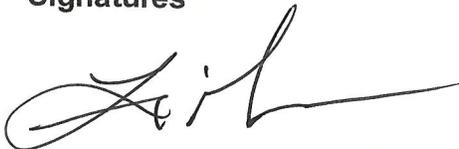
### **19. Adjournment**

Resolution Number 247-25  
Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** this meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Resolution Carried

### **Signatures**



Lisa McGee, Mayor



Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk