



ARNPRIOR

Minutes of Council Meeting

January 12th, 2026, 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 Tom Burnette
Councillor Lynn Cloutier
Councillor Chris Toner
Councillor Chris Couper

Council Members Present (Virtual):

Council Members Absent:

Town Staff Present:

Robin Paquette, CAO
Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk
Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client Services/Treasurer
Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk
John Steckly, GM Operations
Rick Desarmia, Fire Chief
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation
Lucas Power, Program & Events Supervisor

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 001-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Dan Lynch

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, January 12th, 2026, be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Chris Toner declared a pecuniary interest on a portion of item 8a – fire department compensation due to a potential perceived interest since his son is a volunteer firefighter with the Arnprior Fire Department.

6. Question Period

None

7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 002-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That the minutes of the Regular and Special Meetings of Council listed under Item 7(a) and (b) on the Agenda be adopted (Special Meeting of Council – December 3, 2025 and Regular Meeting of Council – December 8, 2025).

Resolution Carried

8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations

Delegations

a) Ottawa Valley Community Foundation

Alastair Baird, Board Member of Ottawa Valley Community Foundation, provided an overview of the presentation included in the agenda package, and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued, with the following being a summary:

- The Foundation can be a conduit for organizations wishing to raise charitable donations, as they are tracked and distributed appropriately.
- The Foundation accepts applications beginning in the winter and funds are distributed later in the year. For 2026, applications will be available soon.
- Council asked if the Foundation takes a fee for managing funds. Alastair suggested contacting the Chair of the Foundation to discuss further.

Presentations

a) 2026 Proposed Budget, Mayor Lisa McGee, & Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client Services/Treasurer

Mayor Lisa McGee and Jennifer Morawiec, General Manager of Client Services Treasurer, presented the 2026 proposed budget to Council.

Councillor Tom Burnette vacated his seat at the Council table at 7:23 pm and resumed his seat at 7:25 pm.

b) 2027-2046 Long Range Capital Forecast, Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client Services/Treasurer

Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client Services/Treasurer presented the 2027-2046 proposed Long Range Capital Forecast to Council.

9. Public Meetings

None

10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business

None

11. Notice of Motion(s)

None

12. Staff Reports

None

13. Committee Reports and Minutes

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Lisa McGee reported the following:

- Mayor McGee met with Pierre Dufresne from Cavanagh Communities. Pierre asked to meet to bring Mayor McGee up to speed as they were close to submitting their application for the lands adjacent to the Galilee property. Mayor McGee noted that she has not seen the plan but appreciated the heads up.

b. County Councillor's Report

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

- At the last County Council meeting, Councillor Jennifer Murphy was elected to be the 2026 Warden by a vote of 12 to 5. County Councillor Lynch has been appointed as Deputy Chair of Operations, as well as a member of the Development & Property Committee, Ottawa Valley Trail Committee, and the CNL Environmental Stewardship Committee.
- On December 11th, 2025, the Counties of Frontenac, Lanark and Renfrew officially signed documents marking the beginning of the process to transfer ownership of sections of the historic K&P Trail from the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority.
- County Budget workshop will be held on January 29th and 30th, 2026.

c. Committee Reports and Minutes

None

14. Correspondence & Petitions

a) Correspondence

i. Correspondence Package No. I-26-JAN-01

Resolution Number 003-26

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Ted Strike

That Correspondence Package Number I-26-JAN-01 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch made the following comments:

- Page 35 – Ontario Government is investing \$20 Million to support firefighter health and safety, expand cancer prevention, and improve emergency response to lithium-ion battery related incidents. Arnprior will receive \$16,023.
- Page 59 – Effective January 1, 2026, the Ontario Government expanded “As a Right” rules which allows health professionals move to Ontario from another province to practice right away while they await registration in Ontario.
- Page 96 – Effective January 1, 2026, the Ontario Government has started the phase-out of mercury containing lamps (fluorescent, metal halide, sodium). Asked the CAO if the Town has any of these in operation.
 - The CAO noted that the Town does still have a few metal halide streetlights in some municipal parking lots and along Madawaska Street. The Town also still has some fluorescent lights within various facilities. As these lights reach the end of service, they continue to be replaced with newer technology lighting including LED fixtures.
- Page 106 – Participants in LAS Electricity and Natural Gas Procurement Programs can budget energy costs for 2026 with the new LAS hedge prices. Asked staff if the Town is part of this procurement program.
 - The GM, Client Services noted that yes, the Town is a part of this program.

ii. Correspondence Package No. A-26-JAN-01

Resolution Number 004-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Correspondence Package Number A-26-JAN-01 be received and the recommendations be brought forward for Council’s consideration.

Resolution Carried

15. By-laws & Resolutions

a) By-laws

Resolution Number 005-26
Moved by Chris Couper
Seconded by Tom Burnette

That the following by-law be and are hereby passed:

- i. By-law No. 7646-26 – Authorize Transfer Payment Agreement – Ontario Fire Protection Grant

Resolution Carried

b) Resolutions

i. Municipal Grant Request (In Kind) – Arnprior Minor Hockey Association (Fundraising Event)

Resolution Number 006-26
Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from Arnprior Minor Hockey Association; and

Whereas Arnprior Minor Hockey Association is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy as they support the participation of local youth in the sport of hockey by providing a fun and safe environment for all participants.

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall rental fees on January 31, 2026, from 4:00 pm – 12:00 am (value of approximately \$470 plus HST) for a fundraising Trivia Event.

Further That Arnprior Minor Hockey Association be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured and is responsible for any security related costs for the event.

Resolution Carried

ii. Municipal Grant Request (In Kind) – Arnprior Optimist Club (Winter Carnival)

Resolution Number 007-26
Moved by Chris Toner
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from Arnprior Optimist Club; and

Whereas Arnprior Optimist Club is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy and supports local families and children by providing a full program of social and recreational activities that promote community wellness; and

Whereas the annual Arnprior Optimist Club Winter Carnival will be hosted between Friday, January 10th, 2026 to Saturday, January 18th, 2026 at various locations across the Town of Arnprior; and

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall, Arena(s), Swimming Pool and McLean Avenue Ball Diamond rental fees (value of approximately \$9,738 plus HST) for the 2026 Optimist Winter Carnival between January 10th, 2026 and Saturday, January 18th, 2026;

Further That the Arnprior Optimist Club be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured and is responsible for any security related costs for the event.

Resolution Carried

iii. Municipal Grant Request (In Kind) – Arnprior Regional Health Foundation (Ladies Night Event)

Resolution Number 008-26
Moved by Chris Couper
Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from Arnprior Regional Health Foundation; and

Whereas Arnprior Regional Health Foundation is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy and supports residents in our community by helping to support our local hospital, nursing home and community health programs.

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall rental fees for the Arnprior Regional Health Foundation Ladies Night Event (value of approximately \$470 plus HST) to be held on February 27th, 2026; and

Further That Arnprior Regional Health Foundation be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured and is responsible for any security related costs for the event.

Resolution Carried

16. Announcements

Councillor Chris Toner made the following announcement:

- Arnprior Optimist Club Winter Carnival started last weekend and there are lots of events happening, details can be found on the Facebook Page. The club is very proud to give this event to the community and thankful to the support provided by local businesses and the Town.

The CAO made the following announcement:

- The Still Standing episode that will feature the Town of Arnprior will air on Tuesday, January 20th on CBC Gem.

17. Closed Session

None

18. Confirmatory By-Law

Resolution Number 009-26

Moved by Ted Strike

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That By-law No. 7647-26, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on January 12th, 2026, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution Carried

19. Adjournment

Resolution Number 010-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Dan Lynch

That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:01PM.

Resolution Carried

Signatures



Lisa McGee, Mayor



Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk

