



ARNPRIOR

**Minutes of Council Meeting
February 9th, 2026, 6:30 PM
Town Hall, Council Chambers – 105 Elgin St. W. Arnprior, ON.**

Council and Staff Attendance

Council Members Present):

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

Council Members Absent:

Councillor Chris Couper

Town Staff Present:

Robin Paquette, CAO
Jennifer Morawiec, GM Client
Services/Treasurer
Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation
John Steckly, GM Operations
Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer
Kelly Vieira, Client Services Coordinator

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 except Councillor Chris Couper.

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 034-26
Moved by Tom Burnette
Seconded by Chris Toner

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, February 9th, 2026, be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

None

6. Question Period

None

7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 035-26
Moved by Dan Lynch
Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

That the minutes of the Regular and Special Meetings of Council listed under Item 7(a) and (b) on the Agenda be adopted (Regular Meeting of Council – January 26, 2026 and Special Meeting of Council – February 2, 2026).

Resolution Carried

8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations

None

9. Public Meetings

None

10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business

None

11. Notice of Motion(s)

a) Provincial Support of the Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program, County Councillor Lynch

County Councillor Lynch provided notice of the following motion to be considered at the next Regular Council Meeting:

Whereas County Councillor Lynch has brought forward the following resolution to demonstrate the Town of Arnprior's support of the Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program; and

Whereas small and regional airports in Ontario serve as critical infrastructure-facilitating essential public services including air ambulance operations, forest firefighting, search & rescue, and law enforcement activities, while also driving local and regional economic development; and

Whereas many of these airports are ineligible for the federal Airports Capital Assistance Program (ACAP) due to eligibility constraints such as lacking year-round scheduled service, yet still require capital funding for safety-related infrastructure; and

Whereas the Airport Management Council of Ontario (AMCO) has identified a persistent funding gap for non ACAP eligible community airports, estimating that approximately 85 such airports need \$5.5 million annually to address critical airside infrastructure needs; and

Whereas provinces including British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan have successfully managed permanent provincial capital-assistance programs-offering clear models for cost-sharing framework, eligible projects criteria, and annual funding envelopes; and

Whereas AMCO's proposed Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP) envisions an annual operational budget of \$8.5-10 Million, with a 75% provincial and 25% facility owner cost-share, a \$2 million per applicant cap, and bonuses for key community-benefiting projects; and

Whereas the 2025 Ontario Budget has already acknowledged "airports as cross country infrastructure" and signaled intent to include them in upcoming capital investments; and

Whereas the Town of Arnprior and the County of Renfrew benefit directly from airport-enabled services and ensure its continued operation are in the public interest of resident safety, economic resilience, and efficient connectivity.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior formally urges the Government of Ontario to:

- i. Implement the Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP) managed by the Ministry of Transportation; and
- ii. Adopt the recommended cost-sharing structure (75% provincial and 25% facility owner), and cap funds at \$2million per project per applicant; and
- iii. Expand eligibility to include public-use registered aerodromes and certified airports not currently eligible for ACAP; and
- iv. Reinstate the Ontario Air Advisory Panel to advise on airport infrastructure and policy priorities; and
- v. Designate community and regional airports as critical infrastructure under provincial policy; and
- vi. Investigate stable funding mechanisms – such as a dedicated stream from the aviation fuel tax – to support OACAP sustainably; and

Further That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Transportation, local MPPs, the County of Renfrew, and AMCO; and

Further That the Mayor, on behalf of Council send a letter to the Chair of the Arnprior Airport Commission expressing formal support for the establishment of a provincial Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program.

12. Staff Reports

- a) **Request for Award of REC-2026-01 Skate Park Design-Build**, Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer, Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation

Resolution Number 036-26
Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That Council award Tender No. REC-2026-01 Arnprior New & Improved Skate Park to Papillon Skate Parc Inc. for a total of \$275,000 (plus HST); and

That Council delegate authority to the General Manager, Operations to authorize award of the provisional scope at a cost of \$25,000 provided that \$25,000 or more is committed through donations, sponsorship or naming rights revenues received in an appropriate timeframe; and

That Council delegate authority to the General Manager, Operations to authorize increases to the scope of the project based on donations, sponsorship and naming rights revenues received; and

That Council enact a bylaw authorizing the CAO to execute the agreements, and related documents with Papillon Skate Parc Inc. to complete the scope of work specified.

Resolution Carried

- b) **Water Filtration Plant Clearwell Replacement Award**, Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer

Resolution Number 037-26
Moved by Ted Strike
Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Council enact a by-law to:

- (a) Award Tender No. PW-2025-05 Arnprior Clearwell #1 Replacement to Louis W. Bray Construction Limited for a total of \$4,816,500.00 (plus HST); and
- (b) Award contract administration services for Tender No. PW-2025-05 Arnprior Clearwell Replacement to Stantec Consulting for a total of \$387,420.30 (plus HST); and
- (c) Authorize the General Manager, Operations to spend additional contingency expenses up to \$520,392.03 (plus HST) which constitutes 10% of the total

- Contract value; and
- (d) Authorize funding the shortfall of \$1,725,060.23 from the Water Reserve Fund; and
- (e) Authorize the CAO to execute the agreements and related documents with Louis W. Bray Construction Limited and Stantec Consulting respectively to complete the scope of work specified.

Resolution Carried

13. Committee Reports and Minutes

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Lisa McGee reported the following:

- Councillor Toner, Councillor Couper, County Councillor Lynch, and Mayor McGee attended the ribbon cutting for Irons and Woods, Arnprior's new indoor golf location. It was amazing to see what they have done with the space. It is purpose built and sleek and will be a lovely addition for all the golfers who want to practice in the winter months and play hundreds of courses year-round. It's a great family space as well, with another screen to play many games other than golf. There is a bar there as well, serving Cold Bear and other beverages. Congratulations to Kevin Whalen on what he has created.
- MPP Billy Denault and Mayor McGee toured the new building for Capital Asphalt. It is an impressive space, and it will allow them to host their offices and equipment locally.
- Last Wednesday, Mayor McGee attended an OPP South Ottawa Valley Detachment Board meeting. Great news – each municipality will be receiving a \$10,000 credit towards the 2026 cost to operate the detachment board. This year's budget is set at \$120,332 less the \$70,000 in credits, which is \$52,332 shared amongst the seven municipalities. The meeting featured two OPP members from the cadet program. The cadet program is a paid program for young adults who may have an interest in policing. They support the OPP in many ways and play a key part in future recruiting in a time when this can be a challenge. The Detachment Commander provided her January report, and she noted that while overall calls for service are down, the calls have become increasingly complex due to mental health related incidents. Detachment members had a community presence in Arnprior with school-based initiatives, fraud prevention presentation, and foot patrols in public spaces, as well as an increase in RIDE program initiatives due to an increase in impaired driving. Key takeaways for January: traffic safety, impaired driving enforcement remain critical priorities; mental health-related incidents continue to be the main driver of their service demand.
- Met with the other six mayors from the detachment board to discuss ongoing concerns with the default funding model, which right now is spread equally across all seven municipalities. The provincial default is that it be funded equally unless there is unanimous agreement to fund it differently. Currently there is not unanimous agreement to fund it differently.

- Had a presentation last week by Municipal AI and looking forward to sharing with staff and seeing if it might be a fit for us to consider here in Arnprior. Blown away by what these two women founders have created and the opportunities for their product.
- Mayor McGee will not be present at the next Council meeting; Councillor Strike will be acting as Deputy Mayor.
- Mayor McGee shared a video from the Town of Renfrew's Council Meeting, that was a result of the home at home series between the Arnprior Packers and Renfrew's Junior B team. Back-to-back games in Arnprior and Renfrew with the Packers winning both games. Thank you to Renfrew Town Council for being good sports. Go Packers Go!

b. County Councillor's Report

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

- At the last County Council meeting there was a delegation from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories. The new President/CAO, Dennis Carr, and Operations Manager, John Osborne, provided an Annual Update on Major Projects, Accomplishments and Plans for the Future.
- The 2025 Residential Sales Activity Stats for Arnprior are:
 - December
 - 2025 – 6 sales – average price of \$604,507
 - 2024 – 6 sales – average price of \$449,400
 - Year end
 - 2025 – 186 sales – average price of \$529,482
 - 2024 – 190 sales - average price of \$507,372
- Corporate Services Committee recommended that the 2026 County Levy be 6.68%.
- The County is moving forward with Climate Action by enrolling a Climate Action Intern, Larissa Coulas.
- The Development & Property Committee has recommended to County Council that the County write a letter of support for a Resolution requesting the Province of Ontario support two Municipal Airports, Arnprior and Pembroke, for eligibility for the Airport Capital Assistance Program. At the present time, these two airports are not eligible as they do not have any scheduled flights.
- The Development & Property Committee has recommended to County Council that the tower along the Algonquin Trail in Arnprior be sold, but the lands be retained.

c. Committee Reports and Minutes

None

14. Correspondence & Petitions

a) Correspondence

i. Correspondence Package No. I-26-FEB-03

Resolution Number 038-26

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Ted Strike

That Correspondence Package Number I-26-FEB-03 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch made the following comments:

- Page 7: The Summer Company is now open for applications in support of young entrepreneurs (age 15-29) and offers up to \$3,000 in grant funding. Last year Arnprior had three starter companies recognized.
- Page 47: A resolution from Fort Frances requesting the Province of Ontario provide dedicated annual funding for small and regional airports through the Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program.

15. By-laws & Resolutions

a) By-laws

Resolution Number 039-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Dan Lynch

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

- By-law No. 7651-26 – 2026 User Fees and Charges
- By-law No. 7652-26 – Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund Grant Agreement
- By-law No. 7653-26 – Skatepark Design-Build Award
- By-law No. 7654-26 – Clearwell Replacement Award

Resolution Carried

b) Resolutions

i. Long-Range Capital Forecast

Resolution Number 040-26

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Toner

Whereas the Long-Range Capital Forecast is a snapshot in time of known future budget pressures, relies on master plan and asset management data, is subject to various changing factors and is set on a twenty-year timeframe to align with the nature and longevity of municipal infrastructure; and

Whereas the 20 Year Long Range Capital Forecast (2027-2046) was presented to Council on January 12, 2026.

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the 20 Year Long Range Capital Forecast (2027-2046) as a financial planning tool, to be used to inform the annual budget process, as well as other financial planning processes and documents; and

Further That staff continue to update the Long-Range Capital Forecast as part of the annual budget process.

Resolution Carried

16. Announcements

None

17. Closed Session

Resolution Number 041-26 (7:17 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)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board (Land Acquisition); and One (1) matter pursuant to Section 239 (2)(b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, labour relations or employee negotiations (Staff Matter).

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 042-26 (8:07 PM)

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council resume to Open Session.

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 043-26

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Ted Strike

That Council direct staff to proceed as directed in Closed Session on both items; and

Further That Council authorize up to \$25,000 for any costs associated with Item #1 (Land Acquisition) to be drawn from the Capital Expenditure Reserve Fund.

Resolution Carried

18. Confirmatory By-Law

Resolution Number 043-26
Moved by Chris Toner
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That By-law No. 7655-26, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on February 9th, 2026, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution Carried

19. Adjournment

Resolution Number 044-26
Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Tom Burnette

That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Resolution Carried

Signatures



Ted Strike, Deputy Mayor



Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk

