



ARNPRIOR

**Minutes of Council Meeting**

**March 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 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, GM Operations  
Ben Ritchie, Waterworks Supervisor  
Sheena Baum, A/Environmental Engineering Officer  
Kelly Vieira, Client Services Coordinator  
Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator  
Saba Zamani, Museum Weekend Staff  
Danielle Nagy, Museum Weekend Staff

**Council Members Absent:**

Councillor Lynn Cloutier

**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 Lynn Cloutier.

**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 062-26  
Moved by Chris Toner  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

**Be It Resolved That** the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 063-26

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council listed under Item 7(a) on the Agenda be adopted (Regular Meeting of Council – February 9, 2026).

Resolution Carried

**8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations**

**a) Museum 2025 Annual Report**, Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator

Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator, provided Council with an overview of the presentation included in the agenda package and responded to questions.

**9. Public Meetings**

None

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

None

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

**12. Staff Reports**

**a)2025 Annual Report – Arnprior Water Pollution Control Centre and Arnprior Drinking Water System**, Ben Ritchie, Waterworks Supervisor

Resolution Number 064-26

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Couper

**That** Council receive this report for information and receive the following additional reports for information:

1. Arnprior Water Pollution Control Centre, Summary Report 2025
2. Town of Arnprior Waterworks, Annual Report 2025
3. Arnprior Water Filtration Plant, Summary Report 2025
4. MECP Arnprior DWS 2025-26 Inspection Report # 1-1481754132, dated February 23rd, 2026.

**That** a copy of the above noted reports be made available to the public for review in hard copy format at the Town Hall and in electronic format on the Town's website.

**That** Council receive the updated Municipal Drinking Water Licence, 170-101, Issue No. 8, dated February 24th, 2026, and the updated Drinking Water Works Permit, 170-201, Issue No. 4., dated February 24th, 2026, for information.

At the request of County Councillor Lynch, through Mayor McGee, a recorded vote was taken:

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

Resolution Carried

**b) 2025 DWQMS Audits and Management Review Results, Sheena Baum,  
A/Environmental Engineering Officer**

Resolution Number 065-26  
Moved by Ted Strike  
Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** Council receive Report Number 26-03-09-02 authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and the General Manager, Operations on behalf of Top Management, and the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to endorse the QMS Commitment and Endorsement Policy, to meet the requirements of the Town of Arnprior Drinking Water Quality Management System Operational Plan.

At the request of County Councillor Lynch, through Mayor McGee, a recorded vote was taken:

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

Resolution Carried

### 13. Committee Reports and Minutes

#### a. Mayor's Report

Mayor McGee reported the following:

- Mayor McGee thanked Councillor Strike for acting as the Deputy Mayor for the last Council meeting in her absence.
- Since the Council meeting, Mayor McGee met with Pierre Dufresne from Cavanagh Communities. Mr. Dufresne reported that they are getting close to submitting a Planning Act application. In their meeting, Mayor McGee emphasized the need to respect community feedback which seemed to be well received.
- Mayor McGee met with Kelly Linton, who is completing the Corporate Organizational Review of the Town of Arnprior. He is planning to present his findings to Council in mid April.
- Mayor McGee met with Karen DeLuca, Chief Librarian, to hear about new initiatives at the library and their busy plans for summer 2026.

#### b. County Councillor's Report

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

- The Enterprise Renfrew County Representative, Heather Inwood-Montrose, gave an update that highlighted the need for funding for this program. There has been no increase in funding in the past 10 years and is looking for new community investments. Of note, the County's contribution of \$28,055 is one of the contributors who has not increased its contributions. As well, there have been several Arnprior Entrepreneurs who have benefited from this program.
- The Director of Public Works, Lee Perkins, outlined the 2026 Capital Program which included an estimated \$30 million in investments throughout the County. This included 48.64km of road rehabilitation, four bridge replacements, four culvert replacements, four bridge designs, five trail bridge designs, signal upgrades, and 9.8 km of Algonquin Trail improvement.
- The Manager of Public Works, Taylor Hannrath, presented the Transportation Master Plan. Arnprior Growth Projects include:
  - Years 1 to 5
    - Algonquin Trail paving from Mima St. to Division St. - \$960,000
    - Vanjumar Rd. from White Lake Rd. to Russett Dr - \$1,650,000
    - Division St. from Alexandra St. to Baskin Dr. - \$2,400,000
  - Year 6 to 10
    - Madawaska Blvd. from John St. to Jack Cres. - \$1,500,000
    - Madawaska Blvd. at Daniel St. traffic circle - \$3,500,000
    - Baskin Dr. at Division St. and Duncan Dr. traffic circle - \$3,500,000
  - Year 10 to 20
    - Daniel St. at Staye Court Dr. traffic circle - \$3,500,000
    - Daniel St. S. at Baskin Dr. traffic circle - \$3,500,000

- The County CAO, Craig Kelly, brought forward a report on “The Buy Ontario Act” and as a result County approved a resolution stressing that the provisions of any Act that is being brought forward remain flexible and has local context in mind and do not create additional undue burden to limited resources and capacity at both municipal level and among smaller vendors in Ontario.
- The Bonnechere Manor has achieved Level 1 Butterfly Home Accreditation, the highest designation awarded by Meaningful Care Matter; in which it was highlighted the exceptional care clients were given.
- The County of Renfrew is hosting the 2026 Ontario Foresters Association Annual Conference and AGM from April 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026.
- On Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026, County Councillor Lynch had the opportunity to attend Renfrew’s Town Hall with MPP Billy Denault for the announcement of the Request for Proposal for the design-build of the extension of highway 417 from Scheel Dr. to Bruce St in Renfrew, which will close in fall of 2026.

**c. Committee Reports and Minutes**

Councillor Chris Couper reported the following from the Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee (CDAC):

- CDAC recommended that Council receive the new Land Acknowledgement proposal, which will be coming forward soon through the CAO and the Manager of Culture/Curator. CDAC is excited about this proposal and has worked hard on it for the last few months.
- CDAC reviewed the draft Strategic Plan for the Museum. Councillor Couper indicated he is excited to see this come forward to Council for consideration.

Councillor Chris Couper reported the following from the Arnprior Public Library Board:

- The Board is at the tail end of their strategic planning process. They are discussing strategic timelines for specific actionable items.
- Councillor Couper noted that as a member of both the Arnprior Public Library Board and CDAC, they have defined their roles organically with the Library being the information hub and the Museum being the culture hub. He noted that it is nice to see all the opportunities coming together for both spaces.

**14. Correspondence & Petitions**

**a) Correspondence**

**i. Correspondence Package No. I-26-MAR-05**

Resolution Number 066-26

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** Correspondence Package Number I-26-MAR-05 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch made the following comments:

- Page 15: For residents who enjoy alcohol, the Provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia have signed an agreement to allow consumers to purchase alcohol directly from other province's local producers, including breweries, wineries, and distilleries.
- Page 26: The County of Renfrew Paramedic Service has recently teamed up with local County hospitals to launch a Fit2Sit program. This program will allow the paramedics to better serve our communities as quickly as possible after transporting a patient to the hospital by ambulance. Simply put, if you are taken by ambulance to a hospital and your condition is stable, you will be left in the emergency room of the hospital and monitored by hospital staff. If your condition is serious then you will remain under the care of the paramedics.
- Page 28: The County's Reduced Load Limits come into effect today and terminate on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026, at 12:01 AM.
- Page 34: Renfrew County District Health Unit has announced that effective April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, they will be enforcing the Immunization of School Pupils Act that will suspend students aged 4-17 with incomplete immunization records.
- Page 51: The province is calling for applications for the PJ Marshall Award. County Councillor Lynch asked the CAO if the Town had any projects that would qualify for this award.
  - The CAO noted that we do not have any projects that would meet this award criteria.
- Page 119: Congratulations were provided to the Town's Clerk's Department for the publishing of a very informative By-Law Enforcement statistics memo.

## 15. By-laws & Resolutions

### a) By-laws

None

### b) Resolutions

None

## 16. Announcements

County Councillor Dan Lynch made the following announcement:

- County Councillor Lynch provide congratulations to the Special Olympians who participated last Saturday in the district basketball tournament. Regretfully, they did not win. They had won the provincials last year and moved up a tier. The Special Olympics provincial curling tournament will be at the Arnprior Curling Club this Saturday.

Councillor Chris Couper made the following announcements:

- Extended a Happy International Women's Day to all the women that work for the Town of Arnprior.
- Councillor Couper noted that there was a very small film crew in town over the weekend. They were filming an episode of "Still Showing" and it focuses on Arnprior's O'Brien Theatre. The O'Brien Theatre is an anomaly in a world where most independent theatres have been closing. The production is funded by Bell TV1 and the crew came out from Carleton Place to do the interviews. Councillor Couper was honoured to have been asked to be a part of it along with a few

other community members. The documentary will be showing in April at the O'Brien Theatre and on Bell TV1.

- The Longer Table is partnering with White Pine Books and the Arnprior Public Library to host Arnprior Reads: Cookbook Edition. This event will be on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. It will feature five different culinary chefs who will debate which cookbook is best to feed the world. It will be an evening of great cheer, good eats, and supporting a good cause with all proceeds going to the Longer Table. Tickets are \$100 each and are available through White Pine Books.

Councillor Tom Burnette made the following announcement:

- Councillor Burnette noted that he received correspondence from Anne Baird regarding Barid's Restaurant and provided some background information on the history of this space.

### 17. Closed Session

None

### 18. Confirmatory By-Law

Resolution Number 067-26  
Moved by Chris Couper  
Seconded by Chris Toner

That By-law No. 7658-26, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution Carried

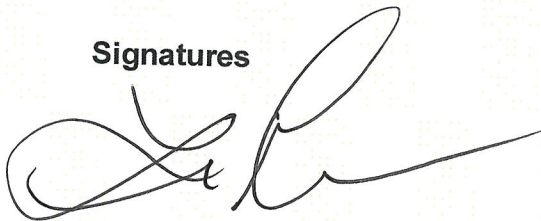
### 19. Adjournment

Resolution Number 068-26  
Moved by Dan Lynch  
Seconded by Ted Strike

That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Resolution Carried

Signatures



Lisa McGee, Mayor



Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk

