



ARNPRIOR

Minutes of Council Meeting

April 27th, 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 (virtual)
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
Kelly Vieira, Client Services Coordinator
John Steckly, GM Operations
Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer
Ryan Wall, Engineering Officer
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

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.

4. Adoption of the Agenda (Additions/Deletions)

Resolution Number 110-26
Moved by Tom Burnette
Seconded by Ted Strike

Be it Resolved That the amended agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, April 27th, 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 111-26

Moved by Chris Toner

Seconded by Dan Lynch

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 – April 13, 2026; Special Meeting of Council – April 15, 2026).

Resolution Carried

8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations

None

9. Public Meetings

None

10. Matters Tabled/Deferred/Unfinished Business

Unfinished Business

a) Council Remuneration, Jennifer Moraweic, GM Client Services/Treasurer

The General Manager, Client Services/Treasurer, provided an overview of the presentation included in the agenda package and responded to questions from members of Council. Discussion ensued among members of Council, resulting in the following motion:

Resolution Number 112-26

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Couper

That Council amend By-law Number 7667-26, included on the agenda this evening, to include the following compensation model for the new Deputy Mayor position following the 2026 Municipal Election:

- The Deputy Mayor to receive a 6% increase in salary over the Councillor position; and
- The Deputy Mayor would receive 50% of the Mayor's base pay with the Mayor receiving 50% pay, in the event of an extended absence of the Mayor, being greater than 30 days.

Resolution Carried

11. Notice of Motion(s)

a) Winter Sidewalk Maintenance Service Level Review, Councillor Chris Couper

Resolution Number 113-26

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Chris Toner

Whereas the Town of Arnprior previously conducted a comprehensive review of winter sidewalk maintenance in June 2019, which resulted in an updated priority route and a transition from contracted to internal service delivery; and

Whereas the 2019 report identified that factors such as the intensity of winters, an increased hourly rate for external equipment, and an increased number of assets contribute to rising winter control costs; and

Whereas the Town has continued to experience the addition of new infrastructure since the last review, which impacts current operational resources and service levels; and

Whereas the Town's Strategic Plan and provincial mandates emphasize finding efficiencies within municipal operations and ensuring effective service delivery; and

Whereas an updated analysis is required to evaluate sidewalk priority routes.

Therefore Be It Resolved that Council direct staff to provide a comprehensive Winter Sidewalk Maintenance Service Level Review report; and

Be It Further Resolved That this report specifically take into consideration:

- Town Growth: The impact of new sidewalks and subdivisions added to the municipal inventory since 2019.
- Cost and Staffing Analysis: A current financial comparison of labour, equipment, and supply costs associated with winter control.
- Service Level Opportunities: Potential adjustments to the priority sidewalk route and maintenance schedules to balance community safety with operational efficiency.

Resolution Carried

b) **Bee City**, Councillor Chris Toner

Councillor Chris Toner provided notice of the following motion:

Whereas the goal of Bee City Canada certification is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for native bees and other pollinators; and

Whereas managed and native bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to a combination of habitat degradation, fragmentation and loss; climate change; use of pesticides; and, the spread of pests and diseases, with serious implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

Whereas communities and their residents have the opportunity to support native bees and other pollinators on both public and private land; and

Whereas supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions and engagement amongst community stewards; and

Whereas the economic benefits of pollinator-friendliness are:

- Healthy ecosystems.
- Increased vegetable and fruit crop yields due to insect pollination.
- Increased demand for pollinator friendly plant materials from local nurseries and growers.
- Increased awareness and resources for pollinator initiatives and community action groups focused on native pollinators and how to protect them; and

Whereas an ideal pollinator-friendly habitat:

- Provides diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from plants blooming in succession from early spring to late Autumn.
- Includes, where possible, designated pollinator Zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build Awareness.
- Provides water for drinking, cooling, nest-building and butterfly puddling.
- Is composed of mostly, if not all, native Species of annual and perennial trees, shrubs, native grasses, wildflowers, Ground cover and vines, which have co-evolved with native pollinators.
- Provides undisturbed spaces (un- Mulched areas of soil and sand, Pithy stemmed stalks, leaf and Brush piles, un-mowed fields or Field margins, fallen trees and Other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for native pollinators.

Therefore in order to enhance understanding among municipal staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the Council of the Town of Arnprior agrees to meet the following commitments required of all Bee Cities;

1. Create Pollinator Habitats
2. Engage the public with opportunities to learn and support pollinator habitats.
3. A yearly commitment to celebrate pollinators during International Pollinators Week (third week of June); and

Further in addition to these commitments, Council of the Town of Arnprior will:

1. Designate Arnprior's Environmental Engineering Officer as the Bee City Canada program "liaison;" who, along with the Environmental Advisory Committee will;
2. Develop a Municipal Pollinator Habitat Plan that will include a locally native, pollinator-friendly plant list with regional sources for such plants.
3. Annually apply for renewal of Bee City Canada designation at a cost of \$150 and submit a report of the previous year's activities.
4. Publicly acknowledge the community's commitment by agreeing to:
 - a. display Bee City Canada or appropriate signage in a prominent location; and
 - b. create and maintain information on our Town's website with links to a signed Resolution, the Bee City Canada's website, contact information for our local community's Bee City Canada liaison and reports of the pollinator friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s).

This motion will be brought forward for consideration at the next Regular Meeting of Council.

12. Staff Reports

a) Award Proposal 26014 Professional Engineering Services for Design and Tender Third Avenue Reconstruction, Ryan Wall, Engineering Officer

Resolution Number 114-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Couper

That Council award design proposal 26014 Professional Engineering Services for Design and Tender Third Avenue Reconstruction to Novatech Engineering Consultants Ltd, in the amount of \$156,070 plus HST; and

That Council passes a bylaw authorizing the CAO to execute the agreements and related documents with Novatech Engineering Consultants Ltd.

Resolution Carried

b) Award Proposal 25-1209B Meehan Street, Tierney Street N, St. Johns Way and Hugh Street N, Ryan Wall, Engineering Officer

Resolution Number 115-26

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Council award design proposal 25-1209B Meehan Street, Tierney Street N, St. Johns Way and Hugh Street N to Jp2g Consultants Inc, in the amount of \$155,670 plus HST; and

That Council passes a bylaw authorizing the CAO to execute the agreements and related documents with Jp2g Consultants Inc.

Resolution Carried

c) Fleet Electrification, Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer

Resolution Number 116-26

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council accept the Electric Vehicle Feasibility Report as prepared by Cascadia Partners as information, and;

That Council direct Staff to take this report into consideration for future budgeting and asset management planning, and;

That Council direct staff to procure electric vehicles for the three fleet expansion vehicles budgeted in 2026.

Resolution Carried

d) Ontario Permitting “Bring-Your-Own” Alcoholic Beverages at Outdoor Public Events, Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation

Resolution Number 117-26

Moved by Chris Toner

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

That Council receive report 26-04-27-04 as information; and

That Council direct staff not to proceed with permitting “bring your own” alcoholic beverages (BYOB) at outdoor public events within the Town of Arnprior at this time.

Resolution Carried

e) **Annual Statement of Development Charges – 2025**, Jennifer Moraweic, GM
Client Services/Treasurer

Resolution Number 118-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Couper

That Council receive report number 24-04-27-05 as information; and

That this Annual Statement of Development Charges be made available to the public on the Town of Arnprior website or upon request.

Resolution Carried

f) **Proclamation – Museum Month (May 2026)**, Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk

Resolution Number 119-26

Moved by Chris Toner

Seconded by Dan Lynch

That Council proclaim May 2026 as Museum Month in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Town Clerk read the proclamation:

Whereas the 700+ museums, art galleries, and heritage sites, and the over 9,000 museum workers and 35,000 volunteers contribute to Ontario's \$26 billion cultural sector; and

Whereas museums, as trusted local organizations, create healthy and connected communities, and by ensuring all Ontarians have access to culture and heritage, inspire lifelong learning; and

Whereas museums promote growth and build local economies by welcoming tourists in every community across the province; and

Whereas this month provides an opportunity to raise awareness for the vital role museums, museum workers and volunteers have in their communities and celebrate their contributions to community wellbeing, tourism, education, and learning; and

Whereas May is Museum Month to highlight museums as centers of education, innovation and cultural understanding in our communities; and

Whereas The Town of Arnprior is hosting various events in the Month of May to celebrate and showcase the Arnprior & District Museum, including:

- **May 17 | 1-3 pm - Drop Spindle/Wheel Workshop** - Introduction to drop spindle and wheel spinning methods.
- **May 24 | 1-3 pm - Wheel/Drop Spindle Workshop** – Follow up workshop to develop skills and about spinning different yarns for socks, sweaters, or weaving.
- **May 31 | 1-3 pm- Fleece Prep Workshop** – Introduction workshop on learning different ways of washing and preparing wool for spinning and weaving.
- **May 30 | 11 am – 7 pm - Noche Vibes** – Explore the healing arts from a range of traditions with local practitioners: breathwork, dance and movement, sound baths, music and food.

Therefore I, Mayor Lisa McGee, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as “Museum Month” in the Town of Arnprior, and encourage all residents and tourists to visit our local Arnprior & District Museum, in May and throughout the year.

g) Proclamation – First Responders Day (May 1, 2026), Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk

Resolution Number 120-26

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Chris Couper

That Council proclaim May 1, 2026, as First Responders Day in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Town Clerk read the proclamation:

Whereas first responders are often the first to arrive at emergency scenes, providing critical assistance to protect lives, property, and the environment, while supporting public safety during times of crisis; and

Whereas first responders include a broad range of highly trained professionals and volunteers, such as paramedics, police officers, firefighters, physicians, medical evacuation pilots, emergency management personnel, road maintenance workers, and members of the Canadian Armed Forces; and

Whereas these individuals respond to emergencies with professionalism, bravery, skill, and compassion, frequently placing themselves at personal risk in service of others; and

Whereas the dedication, sacrifice, and commitment demonstrated by first responders warrant recognition and gratitude for the essential role they play in protecting and supporting our communities; and

Whereas the Ontario Legislature proclaimed May 1 of each year as “First Responders Day” to formally recognize and honour the contribution and service of these courageous individuals; and

Whereas the Town of Arnprior and the County of Renfrew have many dedicated first responders that support and provide assistance to members of our community every day.

Therefore I, Mayor Lisa McGee, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2026, as “First Responders Day” in the Town of Arnprior, and encourage all residents to take the time to recognize and thank all first responders for their bravery and unwavering service they provide to protect and serve our community every day.

h) Proclamation – Sexual Assault Awareness Month (May 2026), Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk

Resolution Number 121-26

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council proclaim May 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

The Town 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 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 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; and

Whereas the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre of Renfrew County is planning their 8th annual “We Stand with Survivors Campaign”. This campaign is the result of research completed in Renfrew County, and as a result, they have created a “Rural Model” for female survivors of sexual violence, that is built around “Awareness”; and

Whereas the “We Stand with Survivors Campaign” banner will be displayed at the Nick Smith Centre for the month of May to bring awareness to this campaign as well as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Now Therefore I, Lisa McGee, Mayor of the Town of Arnprior, do hereby proclaim May 2026 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.

13. Committee Reports and Minutes

a) Mayor’s Report

None

b) County Councillor’s Report

County Councillor Dan Lynch reported the following:

- Sales Activity – March

	Sales		Average Price	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
March	12	10	\$575,692	\$489,833
Yearly	28	26	\$521,250	\$504,315

- As part of the ongoing asset management review, the Arnprior Telecommunications Tower has been identified as a candidate for removal from the County's asset inventory through potential sale. The County is evaluating the tower for suitability for use by wireless carriers and internet providers as a co-location site. This step is intended to better understand the asset.
- It was noted by County Staff that there are several amendments to the Planning Act, including:
 - Standardizing the structure and land use designations for official plans
 - Removing redundant requirement for municipalities to include climate change policies in the official plan
 - Remove the requirement for notices of amendment or revocations to Minister's Zoning Orders
 - Remove "sustainable design" from site plan control and restrict municipalities from requiring an owner of land to provide electric vehicle parking
 - Municipalities may not impose 'enhanced' development standards at the lot level that are not required for health, safety, or environmental performance
 - Green building/construction standards cannot be imposed by municipalities
 - Remove municipalities' authority to require sustainable elements
 - Minister may establish minimum lot size through regulation to 175 square metres.
- This Wednesday, April 29, 2026, a special meeting of the Operations Committee is being held to discuss the County's Transportation Master Plan.

c) Committee Reports and Minutes

None

14. Correspondence & Petitions

a) Correspondence

i. Correspondence Package No. I-26-APR-08

Resolution Number 122-26

Moved by Ted Strike

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Correspondence Package Number I-26-APR-08 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch made the following comments:

- Page 13: The Ontario Government will be introducing legislation that would modernize teacher education. The proposed changes include condensing teacher education programs to 12 months over three consecutive semesters, as opposed to the current model of four semesters spread over two years.
- Page 18: The Ontario Government has proposed legislation that would increase WSIB benefits to protect insured workers. These changes, if passed, would increase WSIB Loss of Earnings benefits to 90%, up from 85%.
- Page 30: Ontario Provincial Parks will now allow adults aged 19 and older to enjoy alcohol responsibly in most areas of the park that are open and staffed. This will include picnic and beach areas.
- Page 74: Nominations for the AMO Board of Directors opened for nominations last Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

15. By-laws & Resolutions

a) By-laws

Resolution Number 123-26

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Toner

That the following amended by-law, as per resolution number 112-26, be and is hereby passed:

- i. By-law No. 7667-26 – Council Remuneration

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 124-26

Moved by Ted Strike

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

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

- ii. By-law No. 7668-26 – Award Design Proposal for Third Avenue Reconstruction Design
- iii. By-law No. 7669-26 – Award Design Proposal for Meehan Street, Tierney Street N., St Johns Way and Hugh Street N.

Resolution Carried

16. Announcements

Councillor Couper made the following announcements:

- Arnprior Minor Hockey Association's Annual General Meeting is happening on April 28th from 6:30-7:30pm at the Masonic Hall. They are looking for any comments or questions and have indicated to email them at info@arnpriorminorhockey.ca.
- The Great Arnprior Trash Hunt is happening on Saturday, May 2 from 9am to 12pm at the Arnprior and District Museum. Pick up welcome kits beginning at 9am at the Museum and then let the hunt begin. There are golden tickets hidden with great prizes from local businesses. These tickets can be found in the identified areas of need. Golden tickets can be exchanged for awesome prizes. The event ends with a BBQ at 11am and picked up garbage can be left in the trailer.
- OPP are urging residents to lock up your cars at night. Stop these crimes of opportunity by locking your cars, remove any valuables, do not leave keys in the car, and park safely. Report any suspicious activity to the OPP.
- Welcomed the 21 new summer students joining the team

County Councillor Lynch made the following announcements:

- Beginning on May 1st, ATVs and side-by-sides will be permitted on the Algonquin Trail.
- Shoutout to Councillor Cloutier and the team for Doctors' Dining Duel for a great event.

17. Closed Session

Resolution Number 125-26 (8:04 PM)

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council move into Closed Session to discuss one (1) matter pursuant to Section 239 (2)(k) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, a position, plan, procedure, criteria, or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board (Public Access to Private Lands); and one (1) matter pursuant to Section 239 (b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and labour relations or employee negotiations (Organizational Review).

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 126-26 (9:14 PM)

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council resume to Open Session at 9:14 PM.

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 127-26

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Ted Strike

That Council direct the CAO to proceed as directed in closed session.

Resolution Carried

18. Confirmatory By-law

Resolution Number 128-26

Moved by Chris Toner

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That By-law No. 7670-26, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on April 27th, 2026, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution Carried

19. Adjournment

Resolution Number 125-26


Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Dan Lynch


That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Resolution Carried

Signatures



Lisa McGee, Mayor



Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk