



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2026

1:00 pm

The meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Magnetawan was held at the Magnetawan Community Centre on Wednesday January 21, 2026 with the following present:

Mayor Sam Dunnett
Councillor Bill Bishop
Councillor Brad Kneller

Regrets:

Deputy Mayor John Hetherington
Councillor Jon Hind

Staff: CAO/Clerk Kerstin Vroom and Deputy Clerk Recreation and Communications Laura Brandt, were present for the entire meeting. Deputy Clerk Planning and Development Erica Kellogg and Public Works Superintendent Scott Edwards were present for their respective sections in the meeting.

OPENING BUSINESS

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order

1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

RESOLUTION 2026-01 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the agenda as presented.

Carried.

1.3 Adoption of the Previous Minutes

RESOLUTION 2026-02 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan adopts the minutes of the Council meeting on December 10, 2025, and Planning Act Public Meeting on December 10, 2025, as copied and circulated.

Carried.

1.3 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Mayor Sam Dunnett stated that should anyone have a disclosure of pecuniary interest that they could declare the nature thereof now or at any time during the meeting.

PRESENTATION

Rachel Sullivan & Rob Ross - Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee Tagline Presentation

RESOLUTION 2026-03 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of thanks Rachel Sullivan and Rob Ross for their presentation and extends their appreciation to the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee for their good work in their inaugural year;

AND HEREBY, is in favour of the use of the Tagline “Magnetawan-of-a Kind” with the compass on existing social media content and other marketing and/or promotional materials in conjunction with the Municipal Lighthouse logo.

Carried.

STAFF QUARTERLY REPORTS

Report from Fire Chief Derek Young

Report from By-law Enforcement Officer Jason Newman

Report from Chief Building Official Tyler Irwin

Report from Public Works Superintendent Scott Edwards

Report from Parks and Maintenance Manager Steve Robinson

Report from Deputy Clerk Erica Kellogg

Report from Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt

RESOLUTION 2026-04 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the Staff Quarterly Reports from the Department Heads as presented for information only.

Carried.

STAFF REPORTS, MOTIONS AND DISCUSSION

2.1 Request STA Exemption Justin Bellon - Increasing Occupancy by 2, 12 Year Old Children

RESOLUTION 2026-05 Kneller-Bishop

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan passed Bylaw 2025-50 to License and Regulate the Use of Short-term Accommodation (STA) Properties in the Municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan passed Resolution 2025-87 permitting a licensed STA municipally known as 486 East Poverty Bay - Bellon, an increased rental occupancy from six (6) person – three (3) bedroom capacity to eight (8) persons for the 2025 operating season;

AND WHEREAS Bellon – 486 East Poverty Bay has submitted a letter requesting Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan approve the increased occupancy on an ongoing basis;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the exemption request to allow family bookings of 8 guests with the following conditions:

- *Confirmation of the septic system being fully pumped to be submitted to the Municipality by October 31st of each year;*
- *The applicant apply for and be approved for an annual Short-term Accommodation licence.*

Carried.

2.2 Report from Public Works Superintendent Scott Edwards, Award of RFP 2025-06 Engineering Services for Bridge #10 Bay St.

RESOLUTION 2026-06 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the report Award of RFP 2025-06 Engineering Services for Bridge#10 from Public Works Superintendent Scott Edwards and approves the recommendations contained therein to award the project to Tulloch Engineering in the amount of \$140,110 plus HST; AND FURTHER directs Staff to include this amount in the 2026 budget.

Carried.

2.3 Report from Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt, Outcome of New Years Eve Gala

RESOLUTION 2026-07 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the report Outcome of New Years Eve Gala from Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt and approves the recommendations contained therein to transfer the ticket and bar proceeds to the Community Enhancement Fund in the amount of \$6,933.30;

AND FURTHER that \$10,000 be allocated for a New Years Eve Event in 2026.

Carried.

2.4 Request for Donation Almaguin Pride Network

RESOLUTION 2026-08 Kneller-Bishop

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the correspondence from Claire Burns, Request for Donation Almaguin Pride Network;

AND WHEREAS Council is appreciative of the good work and inclusive messaging that the Almaguin Pride Network provides to our residents and neighboring communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the donation request in the amount of \$500.

Carried.

2.5 Discussion Ministry of Natural Resources Glyphosate Spraying

RESOLUTION 2026-09 Kneller-Bishop

WHEREAS the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), conducts forest management activities within the French–Severn Forest, which covers the Municipality of Magnetawan, including the use of herbicides containing glyphosate, in accordance with approved Forest Management Plans;

AND WHEREAS the application, regulation, and enforcement of pesticide use in Ontario falls under provincial and federal jurisdiction, including oversight by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP);

AND WHEREAS municipalities do not have jurisdiction over provincial forest management operations or the approval of federally regulated pesticides;
AND WHEREAS glyphosate has been proven to increase mortality, behavioural changes and threatens overall survival of our pollinators, including bees, butterflies and other insects;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council respectfully affirms that it is not in favour of the use of glyphosates in Canada and more specifically in and around the area of the Municipality of Magnetawan;

AND FURTHER THAT residents who have questions, concerns, or objections regarding glyphosate use or pesticide regulation are directed to contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and/or Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, as the appropriate authorities;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP for Parry Sound–Muskoka, the Honourable Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound–Muskoka, FONOM, AMO, and all Ontario municipalities through AMCTO.

Carried.

2.6 DRAFT Interim Tax Levy in 2026 By-law

RESOLUTION 2026-10 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the DRAFT Interim Tax Levy 2026 By-law as presented, and the by-law on this matter will be passed later in the meeting.

Carried.

2.7 DRAFT Authorize Borrowing for Current Expenditures 2026

RESOLUTION 2026-11 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the DRAFT Authorize Borrowing for Current Expenditures 2026 By-law as presented, and the by-law on this matter will be passed later in the meeting.

Carried.

MUNICIPAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

3.1 Almaguin Highlands Health Council Minutes November 6, 2025

3.2 District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) Chief Administrative Officer's Report December 2025 & January 2026

RESOLUTION 2026-12 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the Municipal Boards and Committee Minutes as copied and circulated.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 4.1 **City of Peterborough Sustainable Funding for Police Services Request**
- 4.2 **Town of Moosonee Strengthening Self-Defence Protections & Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario**
- 4.3 **Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response Passage of Bill 25, Emergency Management Modernization Act, 2025 amending the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act**
- 4.4 **Ontario Provincial Police OPP Annual Billing Statement Package, OPP Detachment Board Reports October - December 2025, OPP Detachment Revenues July to September 2025 & 2025 Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Grant Reminder**
- 4.5 **Office of the Solicitor General Release of 2026 Ontario Provincial Police Annual Billing Statements for 2026**
- 4.6 **District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) Honorarium and Expenses Statement**
- 4.7 **FONOM Accessible & Effective Alcohol Container Return System in Ontario**
- 4.8 **Correspondence Ministry of Attorney General By-law 2025-59 Landfill Management and Illegal Dumping**
- 4.9 **Near North Crime Stoppers January is Crime Stoppers Month**
- 4.10 **Thank You from the Almaguin Highlands Special Olympics**
- 4.11 **Successful Outcome 2025/26 Fire Protection Grant**
- 4.12 **Successful Outcome NOHFC Community Events Funding 2nd Stage**
- 4.13 **Successful Outcome NOHFC Intern Funding 2nd Stage**
- 4.14 **Unsuccessful Outcome MLSE Foundation Community Action Grant Funding**
- 4.15 **Unsuccessful Outcome EASE Grant Funding**
- 4.16 **Unsuccessful Outcome OTF Seed Grant Funding**
- 4.17 **Unsuccessful Outcome L.E.A.F. Grant Funding**
- 4.18 **Deputy Clerk Laura Brandt Destination Ontario Lunch & Learn Presentation**
- 4.19 **Community Rock Snake Contest Poster**
- 4.20 **Family Day Event Poster**
- 4.21 **Seniors Active Living Fair Poster & Agenda**
- 4.22 **Super Senior Poster**
- 4.23 **ICYMI Council Highlights December 12, 2025**

RESOLUTION 2026-13 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the correspondence items as copied and circulated;

AND FURTHER endorses the following motions:

- 4.1 ***City of Peterborough Sustainable Funding for Police Services Request***
- 4.2 ***Town of Moosonee Strengthening Self-Defence Protections & Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario (a motion to reconsider will be brought forward to the next meeting of Council)***

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

5.1 Accounts in the amount of \$1,710,602.95

RESOLUTION 2026-14 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the accounts in the amount of \$1,710,602.95 as presented.

Carried.

BY-LAWS

6.1 Interim Tax Levy in 2026 By-law

6.2 Authorize Borrowing for Current Expenditures 2026

RESOLUTION 2026-15 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan that the following by-laws are now read a first, second and a third time, passed, signed by the Mayor and the Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the by-law book:

6.1 Interim Tax Levy in 2026

6.2 Authorize Borrowing for Current Expenditures 2026

Carried.

CONFIRMING BY-LAW AND ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Confirm the Proceedings of Council and Adjourn

RESOLUTION 2026-16 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan that the Confirming By-law is now read a first, second and a third time, passed, signed by the Deputy Mayor and the Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation and engrossed in the by-law book; AND FURTHER THAT this meeting is now adjourned at 1:55 pm to meet again on Wednesday February 11, 2026, at 1:00 pm or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Approved by:

Mayor

Clerk