



**Municipality of
Magnetawan**

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 04, 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 March 04, 2026 with the following present:

Mayor Sam Dunnett
Deputy Mayor John Hetherington
Councillor Bill Bishop
Councillor Brad Kneller
Councillor Jon Hind

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

OPENING BUSINESS

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order

1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

RESOLUTION 2026-34 Bishop-Hind

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

Carried.

1.3 Adoption of the Previous Minutes

RESOLUTION 2026-35 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan adopts the minutes of the Council meeting on February 11, 2026, 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.

*Councillor Bishop declared pecuniary interest for the Agenda Item – Deputation - Cyndi Culbert – Management of the Magnetawan Friendship Club Building.

DEPUTATION

A *Councillor Bishop declared pecuniary interest for the Agenda Item - Deputation – Cyndi Culbert - Management of the Magnetawan Friendship Club Building due to being a member of the Magnetawan Friendship Club Board. Councillor Bishop left the room

Cyndi Culbert - Management of the Magnetawan Friendship Club Building

RESOLUTION 2026-36 Hind-Hetherington

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan thanks Cyndi Culbert for her deputation regarding the Management of the Magnetawan Friendship Club;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Management of the Magnetawan Friendship Club shall remain status quo.

Carried.

B *Councillor Bishop returned to the meeting.

PLANNING ACT MEETING

Zoning By-law Amendment Application – Schell -107 Miller Road and Marszewski 3363 Highway 520

RESOLUTION 2026-37 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan recesses the regular meeting to hold a public meeting pursuant to Sections 34 of the Planning Act to consider two Zoning Amendment applications described as:

- *Schell – 107 Miller Road*
- *Marszewski – 3363 Highway 520.*

Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-38 Hind-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the report from Patrick Townes, Planner MHBC and supports the application for a Zoning By-law Amendment as a condition of consent to rezone Severed Lot Two from Rural to Rural Residential to recognize the undersized Rural lot – Marszewski - 3363 Highway 520 (4944 010 00138600) and a By-law on this matter will be passed later in the meeting.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-39 Bishop-Kneller

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the report from Patrick Townes, Planner MHBC and supports the application for a Zoning By-law Amendment as a condition of consent, to rezone severed lot one and severed lot two from Rural to Rural Residential to recognize the undersized Rual lot– Schell – 107 Miller Road (4944 010 002114000) and a By-law on this matter will be passed later in the meeting.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-40 Hind- Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan adjourns the Planning Act public meeting and returns to the regular meeting.

Carried.

STAFF REPORTS, MOTIONS AND DISCUSSION

2.1 Request Magnetawan Public Library Board Recruit New Board Members

RESOLUTION 2026-41 Bishop-Kneller

WHEREAS the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan received a request from the Magnetawan Public Library Board Chair to advertise and recruit new Board Members; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan directs Staff to utilize Municipal communication platforms to support the Magnetawan Public Library Board in seeking expressions of interest for two additional Members.

Carried.

**2.2 DRAFT Motion Request for Funding of Almaguin Highland Health Centre
AHHC - Clarity on 2025 Reserves**

RESOLUTION 2026-42 Hind-Hetherington

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the correspondence 2025 Contribution Invoice – AHHC from the Village of Burk’s Falls; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes a contribution of 1/10 share of the deficit to the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre in the amount of \$8,353.

Recorded Vote Called by Councillor Jon Hind

Bill Bishop	Yea	
Deputy Mayor John Hetherington	Yea	
Jon Hind		Nay
Brad Kneller	Yea	
Mayor Sam Dunnett	Yea	

Carried.

Direction was given to the CAO/Clerk to confirm items listed within Building Maintenance and if a shared Building Maintenance Person has been contracted.

2.3 DRAFT By-law Authorize Borrowing for Fire Hall

RESOLUTION 2026-43 Hetherington-Hind

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the draft By-law to Authorize Borrowing for Fire Hall and a by-law will be passed later in the meeting.

Carried.

2.4 DRAFT By-law Regulate the Placement of Municipal Election Signs in the Municipality of Magnetawan

RESOLUTION 2026-44 Hind-Hetherington

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan receives the draft By-law to Regulate the Placement of Municipal Election Signs in the Municipality of Magnetawan and a by-law will be passed later in the meeting.

Carried.

2.5 DRAFT Motion Successful Pothole Prevention Program - Purchase of "Hotbox"

RESOLUTION 2026-45 Hind-Hetherington

WHEREAS Staff submitted an application to the new 2025-2026 Pothole Prevention and Repair Program (PPRP) Funding Stream and were successful in their application in the amount of \$38,000;

AND WHEREAS as per the funding agreement all eligible expenditures including any direct costs incurred and paid must be completed by March 31, 2026;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the purchase of pothole prevention "hotbox" equipment;

AND FURTHER that \$50,000 be allocated for this project in the 2026 Budget.

Carried.

2.6 DRAFT Motion - AORS - Municipal Public Works Escalating Threats

RESOLUTION 2026-46 Hind-Hetherington

WHEREAS municipal public works employees and contracted service providers are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, bridges, drainage systems, and winter maintenance operations that are essential to public safety and emergency response;

AND WHEREAS during significant weather events and emergencies, these workers act as frontline responders, ensuring routes remain open for ambulances, fire services, police, school transportation, and the travelling public;

AND WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are reporting an increase in harassment, threats, intimidation, and dangerous interference from members of the public directed at municipal workers and subcontractors while they perform their duties;

AND WHEREAS these behaviours have included verbal abuse, threats of violence, obstruction of equipment, and actions that delay or disrupt winter maintenance and emergency response operations, placing workers and the broader public at risk;

AND WHEREAS interference with municipal operations during storms and emergencies jeopardizes service levels, delays critical response times, and creates significant occupational health and safety risks;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) has formally called on the Province of Ontario to strengthen legislative protections, enforcement support,

and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal public works staff and contractors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan supports the calls to action advanced by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to improve protections for municipal public works workers and subcontractors;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to introduce legislative and enforcement measures that:

- recognize municipal public works workers and contractors as essential service providers;*
- deter and penalize interference, threats, harassment, or obstruction of municipal operations; and*
- provide clear direction and support to police services to proactively respond to these incidents;*

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this motion conveying be sent to The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors and all Municipalities through AMCTO.

Carried.

2.7 OPP Detachment Board - James Bay East, Support Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario and Bail Notification Program

RESOLUTION 2026-47 Bishop- Hetherington

WHEREAS the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan acknowledges that Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario (VCAO) provides essential services for individuals and families affected by crime and tragic circumstances;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan is aware that VCAO works closely with police services to ensure survivors receive timely safety planning, crisis intervention and connection to support services which are critical during these vulnerable moments;

AND WHEREAS the multijurisdictional approach to the current bail notification system is presently inconsistent leaving survivors at risk when not informed of release conditions or bail decisions which impacts their safety planning;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of Magnetawan support efforts undertaken by the James Bay East OPP Detachment Board to keep communities safe while upholding the rights of survivors through a strengthen investment in VCAO agencies, a provincial-wide bail notification system between police services and justice partners;

AND FURTHER a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities of Ontario through AMCTO and all Ontario OPP Detachment Boards.

Carried.

MUNICIPAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

- 3.1 **Board of Health for North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit November 26, 2025 Minutes**
- 3.2 **Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee Minutes January 12th & February 18th, 2026**
- 3.3 **Magnetawan Community Centre Board Draft Minutes February 4th, 2026**
- 3.4 **OPP Detachment Board Draft Minutes February 11th, 2026**
- 3.5 **District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board February 2026 CAO Report**

RESOLUTION 2026-48 Hind-Kneller

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 **Prince Edward County - Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act 2025 Support**
- 4.2 **City of Welland - Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children**
- 4.3 **North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Food and Housing Affordability in Nipissing & Parry Sound District**
- 4.4 **Township of Papineau-Cameron Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity**
- 4.5 **Response from FONOM to Resolution 2026-28 Bill 68 - OMERS request for information**
- 4.6 **Phragmites Working Group Lake Bernard - Winter Newsletter**
- 4.7 **Magnetawan Use of Municipal Resources During Election Campaign Period Policy**
- 4.8 **Information Session for Municipal Elections Candidates 2026**
- 4.9 **Call for Applications: Almaguin Area Joint Compliance Audit Committee**

RESOLUTION 2026-49 Hind-Bishop

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 *Prince Edward County - Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act 2025 Support*
- 4.2 *City of Welland - Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children*
- 4.3 *North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Food and Housing Affordability in Nipissing & Parry Sound District*
- 4.4 *Township of Papineau-Cameron Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity.*

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 **Accounts in the amount of \$822,136.09**

RESOLUTION 2026-50 Hetherington-Hind

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the accounts in the amount of \$822,136.09 as presented.

Carried.

BY-LAWS

6.1 Authorize Borrowing for Fire Hall

6.2 Regulate the Placement of Municipal Election Signs in the Municipality of Magnetawan

6.3 Zoning By-law Amendment - Schell - 107 Miller Road

6.4 Zoning By-law Amendment - Marszewski - 3363 Highway 520

RESOLUTION 2026-51 Hind-Kneller

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 Authorize Borrowing for Fire Hall

6.2 Regulate the Placement of Municipal Elections Signs in the Municipality of Magnetawan

6.3 Zoning By-law Amendment – Schell- 107 Miller Road

6.4 Zoning By-law Amendment – Marszewski – 3363 Highway 520

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, Council shall proceed into Closed Session in order to address matters pertaining to:

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

RESOLUTION 2026-52 Bishop-Hind

BE IT RESOLVED the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan moves to a closed session at 3:10 pm pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, Council shall proceed into Closed Session in order to address matters pertaining to:

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-53 Kneller-Bishop

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan returns to open session at 3:40 pm.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-54 Hind-Kneller

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan passed Resolution #2026-32 wherein lands legally described as Part 1, 2, 6 and 7 of Plan 42R-22763 Municipally known as 4855 Highway 520 as surplus with a price of \$5,000 per acre;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives and approves the draft purchase and sale agreement for the subject lands as prepared by the Municipal Solicitor;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan receives an offer to purchase from Shaun Brear for lots legally described as Part 1 and 2 of Plan 42R-22763;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves

the sale of Part 1 and 2 of Plan 42R-22763 to Shaun Brear;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following by-law to authorize the Purchase and Sale Agreement is now read a first, second and a third time, passed, signed by the Mayor and the Clerk/CAO, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the by-law book.
Carried.

CONFIRMING BY-LAW AND ADJOURNMENT

6.1 Confirm the Proceedings of Council and Adjourn

RESOLUTION 2026-55 Hetherington-Bishop

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 Mayor and the Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation and engrossed in the by-law book;

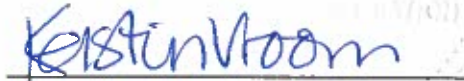
AND FURTHER THAT this meeting is now adjourned at 3:50 pm to meet again on Wednesday March 25, 2026, at 1:00 pm or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Approved by:



Mayor



Clerk

