



Council Minutes May 7, 2025 – 9:00 AM

Council Present: Mayor Horner, Deputy Mayor Hawkins, Councillors Clark Cunningham and Lyon

Staff Present: Tracey Atkinson, Roseann Knechtel, Chris Wolnik

1.0 Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2.0 Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

3.0 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Clark

That Council approve the agenda as amended to include item 13.3 Planning Application Negotiations.

Carried.

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Hawkins

That the minutes of April 2, 2025 are approved as amended to show Councillor Clark as present.

Carried.

5.0 Discussion Arising Out of the Minutes - None

6.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests - None

7.0 Public Question Period

Cheryl Russel sought clarification on Dufferin County's road safety petitions. Mayor Horner advised of upcoming meetings with the MTO as the County continues to advocate for roads safety, noting the transfer of roads between the upper and lower tier municipalities as part of the road rationalization plan has been paused.

8.0 Presentations

8.1 2025 Outstanding Citizen of the Year

Council recognized Jeanette McFarlane as the 2025 Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

Jeanette stepped up and took charge of bringing the My Honeywood fundraising brand to life, creating not just a strong vision, but a compelling story that captured hearts across our community. Her ability to rally support, generate excitement, and make each person feel like a part of something bigger transformed what could have been just another fundraiser into a movement.

She has worked tirelessly to maintain and grow community involvement—fostering connection, pride, and teamwork among neighbours, families, and friends. She became a voice for Honeywood—spreading the word far and wide, ensuring that people near and far knew just how special our community is.

Her leadership was once again evident when she championed Honeywood's bid for Kraft Hockeyville. Thanks to her dedication and drive, Honeywood was named a finalist—a remarkable achievement that brought national recognition to our little corner of the world.

Jeanette's efforts don't end with a single campaign or contest. Her work is ongoing, fueled by a deep love for her community and a belief in what we can accomplish together. She makes those around her believe too—believe in the power of community, the strength of shared goals, and the magic that happens when one person steps forward to make a difference.

Council thanked Jeanette, for bringing unity and inspiration not just to Honeywood but to all of Mulmur.

9.0 Reports for Decision

9.1 Rosemont District Fire Department 2024 Annual Report

Chief Blacklaws presented the Rosemont District Fire Department 2024 Annual Report, highlighting Mulmur's calls for service, response times and firefighter training.

Council requested that the costs of medical directives be further explored in the future.

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receive the 2024 Rosemont District Fire Department Annual Report from Chief Blacklaws.

And further that medical oversight protection continue to be pursued further on behalf of Rosemont and Melanchthon fire departments.

Carried.

9.2 BetterHomes in Dufferin Energy LIC Program

Sara MacRae, Dufferin County Manger of Climate and Energy and Rebecca Danard, CleanAir Partnership Manager of Energy Programs presented the BetterHomes in Dufferin Energy LIC Program requesting Council support by passing a by-law to allow Mulmur residents to participate in the program.

Direction was given to staff to investigate County grant and program limits to offer green energy alternatives to new builds.

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receives the BetterHomes in Dufferin presentation;

And that Council agrees to participate in this project and directs staff to prepare and present the Local Improvement Authorization By-law for passing;

And further that is motion be sent to Dufferin County and all lower tier municipalities in Dufferin County.

Carried.

Council recessed at 11:03 a.m. and returned at 11:16 a.m.

9.3 New Official Plan Discussion

Council provided staff with the following comments relating to the new official plan:

Additional settlement areas: Council does not support the creation of additional settlement areas and would support expansion and intensification of existing settlement areas instead.

Maximum lot size for surplus dwelling severances: Council supports 1 ha maximum with farm buildings not included in the severance or to be removed as a condition of severance.

Surplus Dwellings for owners in close proximity to Mulmur: Council is comfortable with existing policies.

Mansfield North Recreational Area: Council supports studies for the individual and abutting lands only opposed to the Master Plan approach

Types of Recreation in the Mansfield North Recreational Area: Council does not want to restrict recreational opportunities in the Official Plan, and will further review specific recreational uses in the Mansfield North Recreational Area and consider the updated Recreational Master Plan as the source for priorities, such as a ball diamond, community hub or wellness centre.

Draft policies will be brought forward for consideration at a future meeting.

10.0 Committee Minutes and Reports

10.1 Shelburne District Fire Board Minutes: January 7, 2025

10.2 Shelburne District Fire Board Minutes: February 4, 2025

10.3 Shelburne District Fire Board Minutes: March 4, 2025

10.4 Ontario Climate Caucus Meeting Notes: March 2025

10.5 Dufferin County Council Minutes: March 13, 2025

10.6 Dufferin County Council Minutes: April 10, 2025

10.7 Economic Development Committee Minutes: April 17, 2025

10.8 Economic Development Committee Motion: Business Excellence Awards

Council directed staff to move forward with a Table Sponsorship for \$200 and a maximum of 2 gala tickets to be funded through the community grant budget.

10.9 Dufferin County Council Minutes: April 24, 2025

10.10 Mansfield Parks Committee Minutes: April 29, 2025

10.11 Mansfield Parks Committee Motion: Committee Mandate

Council directed staff to prepare a draft mandate for consideration.

10.12 Shelburne Library Board Correspondence

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council requests the Shelburne Public Library to initiate tracking of individual users from each municipality.

Carried.

10.13 Campaign Cabinet: April 2025

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receives the committee minutes and reports.

Carried.

11.0 Information Items

11.1 The Fields Estates Zoning Information Report

11.2 1st Quarter Property Report

11.3 1st Quarter Grant Report

11.4 1st Quarter Financial Report

11.5 Family Transition Place: Sexual Violence Prevention Month Proclamation Request

Mayor Horner made the following proclamation.

Whereas, Sexual Violence Prevention Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts people of all ages, genders, and ethnicities;

And whereas, approximately 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men will experience sexual assault in their lifetime, will know the person who attacked them and do not report the crime to the police;

And whereas, victims of sexual assault are some of the most vulnerable and silent people in society and it is now time to ask questions to learn about the services for victims;

And whereas, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions;

And whereas, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence through increased education, awareness, and community involvement.

Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim May 2025 as “Sexual Violence Prevention Month” in the Township of Mulmur and urge all citizens to recognize the ongoing commitment of individuals and organizations in our community who actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence and for all of us to start conversations, take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for all.

11.6 Strada Aggregates Correspondence

Council directed staff to commence discussions with the Township of Melancthon regarding the scope of the peer review process for discussion at the next regular Council meeting.

- 11.7 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks: Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Update**
- 11.8 Dufferin County Media Release: EV Test Drives**
- 11.9 NVCA CAO Appointment**

Council directed staff to invite the NVCA CAO to attend an upcoming Council meeting.

- 11.10 Township of Clearview: NVCA Amalgamation Resolution**
- 11.11 Municipality of Grey Highlands: NVCA Amalgamation Resolution**
- 11.12 Township of Melancthon: NVCA Amalgamation Resolution**
- 11.13 Town of Parry Sound: Strong Mayor Powers Resolution**
- 11.14 Town of New Tecumseth: Strong Mayor Powers Resolution**
- 11.15 Town of Petawawa: Strong Mayor Powers Resolution**
- 11.16 Township of Zorra: Strong Mayor Powers Resolution**
- 11.17 Town of Kingsville: Strong Mayor Powers Resolution**
- 11.18 Township of Champlain: Heavy Motor Vehicles Resolution**

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receives the information items;

And further that the following item be endorsed: 11.18

Carried.

Councillor Clark left the Council Chambers at 12:35 p.m. and returned at 12:38 p.m.

12.0 Closed Session

- 12.1 Bylaw Enforcement**
- 12.2 Climate Change Risk Assessment**
- 12.3 Planning Application Negotiations**

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council adjourn to closed session at 12:36 p.m. pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended for one (1) matter relating to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, one (1) matter relating to litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board, and one (1) matter relating to a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations and under section 239(2)(b)(e)(k).

Carried.

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

That Council do rise out of closed session into open session at 12:56 p.m. with the following motion:

That staff be directed to proceed as discussed in closed session.

Carried.

Mayor Horner left the meeting at 12:55 p.m. Deputy Mayor Hawkins assumed the position of Chair.

13.0 Items for Future Meetings

13.1 Street Art Impacts / Results (Q3 2025)

13.2 County Road 19 Speed Limits and Intersection

14.0 Passing of By-laws

14.1 The Fields Estates Zoning By-law

14.2 User Fee By-law Amendment

14.3 NDCC Agreement By-law

14.4 2025 Library Agreements By-law

14.5 Confirmatory By-law

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That By-Laws 14.1 and 14.5 be approved.

Carried.

15.0 Adjournment

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council adjourn the meeting at 12:57 p.m. to meet again on June 4, 2025 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk