



Council Minutes November 5, 2025 – 9:00 AM

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

Staff Present: Tracey Atkinson, Heather Boston, Roseann Knechtel, Chris Wolnik

1.0 Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 8:58 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 Lyon

That Council approve the agenda.

Carried.

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Clark

That the minutes of October 1, 2025 are approved.

Carried.

5.0 Discussion Arising Out of the Minutes - None

6.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests - None

7.0 Public Question Period

Lou Acri asked about the new posts on 10 Sideroad and the status of ASE. Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure, confirmed the posts are for upcoming speed limit changes and that Mulmur's ASE pilot has ended, with alternative road safety options under review.

8.0 Deputations and Presentations

8.1 Citizen Recognition: Honeywood Arena October 5, 2025

Council and Dufferin EMS Chief Gary Staples recognized Patrick De Brou, Andrew Meunier and Jamie Horne for their heroic actions in saving a life at the Honeywood Arena on October 5, 2025.

8.2 Kim Delahunt, President and CEO: Headwaters Health Care Centre

Council welcomed Kim Delahunt, President and CEO of Headwaters Health Care Centre, who spoke to Dufferin-Caledon's first MRI machine, the growth in obstetrics, and the required future expansion to meet the needs of the growing community.

Council discussed MRI funding, parking, the future expansion and staffing challenges.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council receive the presentation from Kim Delahunt, President and CEO at Headwaters Health Care Centre.

Carried.

8.3 Chief Gary Staples, Dufferin County Paramedic Service: Tiered-Response

Council welcomed Chief Gary Staples, Dufferin County Paramedic Service, who presented on Tiered Response and the upcoming changes to the Provincial medical priority dispatch, which takes effect December 3, 2025.

Chief Staples spoke to Dufferin's current fleet size, increased call volumes and medical demands, the geographic location of ambulance bays, and the required resources to tend to a medical call. A tiered response committee is to be established.

Chief Staples also spoke to the Community Paramedic Program, which will receive permanent funding in April 2026 and focuses on home bound medical support.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

That Council receive the Tiered Response presentation from Chief Gary Staples, Dufferin County Paramedic Service.

Carried.

Council recessed at 10:17 a.m. and returned at 10:26 a.m.

9. Public Meetings

9.1 Zoning Housekeeping By-law

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Hawkins

That Council recess the regular meeting at 11:43 a.m. to hold a public meeting pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, as amended, to present and obtain public input on the General Housekeeping Zoning By-law Amendment.

Carried.

Tracey Atkinson, Planner, presented the proposed amendments to the Township's Zoning By-law highlighting:

- The removal of the NAVCAN beacon;
- Setbacks and gross floor areas for Detached Additional Single Dwellings;
- Permissions for one Home Industry per property;
- Provincial regulations for schools;
- Permissions for outdoor events in Recreational Zones;
- Restrictions for new cemeteries; and
- Updates to definitions.

Comments from the public included:

Michael Porter expressed concern with the restriction of 80 m² for detached additional dwellings.

Leah Pressey expressed concern with noise associated with associated with gatherings in recreational zones.

Council directed staff to re-examine the maximum floor areas and setbacks for additional detached single dwellings.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council adjourns the public meeting and returns to the regular meeting at 12:31 p.m.

Carried.

Council recessed at 12:31 p.m. and returned at 1:17 p.m.

10.0 Reports for Decision

10.1 Draft 2026 Budget

Heather Boston, Treasurer presented the first draft of the 2026 Budget highlighting:

- CPI 2.4% (\$128,000 in budget impacts);
- Tariff impacts;
- Road safety measures;
- Capital projects: Bridge 11, culverts, road resurfacing, brusher head and salt/sand combo and blade for the 1 tonne, arena chiller and the multi-purpose court in Terra Nova.

The first draft of the budget proposes a tax levy increase of 6.36%, or a tax rate increase of 3.49%.

Council discussed pavilion options and the timing of the Recreational Master Plan update, reserve amounts and the use of tax rate stabilization.

Council directed staff to make the following amendments:

- Use \$50,000 from tax rate stabilization;
- Apply for funding in 2026 for the pavilion and update Recreational Master Plan;
- Utilize Canadian vendors where possible.

A public meeting for Draft #2 of the 2026 Budget is scheduled for December.

10.2 2026 Draft NVCA Budget & MOU

Council discussed services included in Category 3, budgetary impacts, and additional water monitoring.

Council directed staff to formulate a letter expressing concerns with the loss of local input in the proposed consolidation of the conservation authorities and the improvements made by the NVCA for the next meeting.

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council direct staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority for Category 3 services for a 3-year term unless Council passes a motion indicating otherwise.

Carried.

10.3 Plow Procurement

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Lyon

That Council approve the early purchase of the plow truck equipped with a one-way plow, as a 2026 budget item to be ordered in 2025, funded through the Equipment Reserve.

Carried.

10.4 2025-2026 Winter Operations Plan

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council adopt the 2025-2026 Winter Operations Plan for the Township of Mulmur.

Carried.

10.5 Strada Aggregates Development Project Comments

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council direct staff to submit a comment letter to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) on the Strada Aggregates development project by November 10, 2025.

Carried.

10.6 Mulmur 175

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

That Council continue to support the community-led events approach to the 175 celebration, recognizing its value in promoting local businesses, fostering community engagement, and offering a diverse range of event types that reflect all areas and demographics of the Township;

And that Council direct staff to participate in community-led celebrations in a supportive and collaborative capacity;

And that Council direct staff to proceed with the Township-led events as discussed;

And further that the Mulmur 175 budget be increased to \$7,500 to include a Township directed event.

Carried.

11. Committee Minutes and Reports

11.1 Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board Minutes: September 23, 2025

11.2 Rosemont District Fire Board Minutes: September 26, 2025

11.3 Dufferin County Council Minutes: September 25, 2025

11.4 Dufferin County Council Minutes: October 9, 2025

- 11.5 Shelburne Public Library Board Minutes: September 16, 2025**
- 11.6 Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Minutes and Highlights: September 26, 2025**
- 11.7 Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Media Release**

Council recognized and congratulated Rose Dotten on her retirement from the Shelburne Public Library.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receives the committee minutes and reports as copied and circulated.

Carried.

12. Information Items

12.1 Council Renumeration/Expense Policy

Council directed staff to amend the policy to:

- Maintain current mileage practices;
- Allow greater flexibility for accommodations;
- To have the policy come into effect in 2027;
- Update the definition for boards to include committees;
- Create a general professional development account instead of the \$2,000 individual allotments, with the provisions that each Councillor must request their professional development as part of the budgetary process.
- Allow for per diems where the Council member is a presenter at community and special events.

12.2 NDCC Fundraising Update

12.3 Township of Mulmur ARA Comments

12.4 Q3 Planning Report

12.5 Q3 Grant Report

12.6 B04-2025 Mujunen: Notice of Complete Application and Public Meeting

12.7 Township of Mulmur and Dufferin County Speed Limit Adjustment – 10 Sideroad / Dufferin Road 17

12.8 Family Transition Place Proclamation Request: Woman Abuse Prevention Month

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

WHEREAS November is Woman Abuse Prevention Month and November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; and

WHEREAS violence is the greatest gender inequality rights issue for women, girls and gender-diverse individuals. Our community is committed to ending femicide and all forms of gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS Femicide rates are on the rise in Ontario, with over 31 femicides in Ontario since November 26th, 2024; and

Whereas 37 different cities and towns in Ontario had a femicide occur in their community last year; and

WHEREAS Indigenous, Black, South Asian and South East Asian women and girls continue to experience high rates of violence, including femicide; and

WHEREAS men's violence has taken the lives of women and girls across the lifespan with femicide victims in the 2023/24 femicide list ranging between the ages of 2 months old to 89 years old; and

WHEREAS this month and throughout the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, we acknowledge our community's support of the Wrapped in Courage campaign and commitment to ending gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for greater investment and action to end gender-based violence in our community and throughout Ontario by all three levels of Government; and

Now, therefore, I, Janet Horner, Mayor of Mulmur Township, proclaim and declare that November 25th, 2025, shall be known as

“The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women”

and urge all citizens to recognize this day by taking action to support survivors and becoming part of Ontario wide efforts to end gender-based violence.

Carried.

12.9 Hunter and Associates: ERO 025-1005 Strada Aggregates Inc.

12.10 Canadian Union of Postal Workers Correspondence

12.11 Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks Correspondence

12.12 Town of Ajax: Automated Speed Enforcement

12.13 Town of Shelburne: Automated Speed Enforcement

12.14 Town of Midland: Automated Speed Enforcement

12.15 Township of Melancthon: County Road 124 and Highway 10 Road Safety

12.16 Dufferin County: Agriculture Industry Consultation

12.17 Municipality of Bluewater: Climate Change

12.18 City of Kitchener: Postage

12.19 Town of Plympton-Wyoming: Conservation Fee Freeze

12.20 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

12.21 Township of Melancthon: Harmonized Fire By-laws Resolution

12.22 Township of Melancthon: Natural Gas Expansion Resolution

12.23 Town of Wasaga Beach: Mandatory Water Safety & Swim to Survive Resolution

Council directed staff to submit comments against the elimination of ASE cameras.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

That Council receives the information items as copied;

And that the following items be endorsed: 12.17, 12.19, 12.20, 12.21.

Carried.

13. Closed Session

13.1 Fire Board Negotiations

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council adjourn to closed session at 1:32 p.m. pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended for:

- one (1) matter related to 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 under section 239(2)(b)(c)(k).

Carried.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council do rise out of closed session into open session at 2:37 p.m. with the following motion:

That Council direct staff to proceed as discussed.

Carried.

14. Items for Future Meetings

14.1 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

14.2 Procurement Policy Amendments

14.3 Council Renumeration By-law

14.4 General Housekeeping Zoning By-law

15. Passing of By-laws

- 15.1 Council Remuneration By-law**
- 15.2 Traffic Amendment By-law**
- 15.3 Amending Zoning By-law**
- 15.4 Confirmatory By-Law**

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Clark

That by-laws 15.1 and 15.3 be deferred;

And that by-laws 15.2 and 15.4 be approved.

Carried.

14.0 Adjournment

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council adjourns the meeting at 4:35 p.m. to meet again on December 3, 2025 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk