



## CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

### Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

**Present:** Mayor David Moore  
Councillors Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland, Debbie Zulak, and Morley Haskim  
**Staff:** Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton

### DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF – Mayor Moore declared a conflict of interest for Item 20.5.

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-513** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council, as amended to move item 17.2 Acquisition of a Backhoe to precede item 14.1 Adoption of Minutes.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**25-514** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar, pursuant to the Ontario Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, as amended, move into closed session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- 5.1 Minutes of Closed Session – November 18, 2025
- 5.2 Litigation or potential litigation; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(e) - Litigation.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-515** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby reconvene into regular open session of Council at 6:30 p.m.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Morley Haskim**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**25-516** **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby accept the reports, recommendations and directions arising from the closed session held on December 2, 2025.

**Carried**

### ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

**Present:** Mayor David Moore  
Councillors Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland, Debbie Zulak, and Morley Haskim  
**Staff:** Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton  
Public Works Superintendent, Tom Stoneman



## CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025

### DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF - Mayor Moore declared a conflict of interest for Item 20.5

### RESPECT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DECLARATION

In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.

**Moved by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**25-517**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report PW-2025-12 from Public Works Superintendent, Thomas Stoneman; and

**FURTHER THAT** Council award CAT the contract to supply the Township with one (1) CAT 420backhoe at a cost of \$202,272.30, plus HST of \$26,295.40, for a total of \$228,567.70; and

**FURTHER THAT** the powertrain/hydraulic and tech warranty in the amount of \$3,150.00 be included in the machine purchase, being a one-time fee for a period of six years.

**Carried**

**Public Works Superintendent, Tom Stoneman, left the meeting at 6:52 p.m.**

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-518**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Minutes of the November 18, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council on November 21, 2025, as circulated.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**25-519**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2025, District of Parry Sound West (Belvedere Heights) Board of Management, for information purposes.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-520**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report ADMIN-2025-22 for information purposes; and

**FURTHER THAT** Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute Change Order No. 1 to the Depot Operations Agreement No. 2024-00-120.

**Carried**



## CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland

**25-521**      **WHEREAS** on August 12, 2025, Council of the Municipality of West Nipissing passed Resolution 2025-263 requesting reconsideration of the planned use of glyphosate-based herbicides; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone passed Resolution No. 2025-331 declaring their support for the Municipality of West Nipissing;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar declares their support for the Municipality of West Nipissing, urging the province to reconsider the planned use of glyphosate-based herbicides and suspend aerial spraying until research is completed and reviewed; and

**THAT** this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Mike Harris Jr., Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health and MPP Graydon Smith.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Debbie Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim

**25-522**      **WHEREAS** the Federal Government has announced a planned Canada Post Corporation Review from October 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, as follows:

*Notionally, public consultations may be undertaken to consider the Canadian Postal Service Charter (2009) and to get a pulse on Canadians' needs and use of the postal service. Should engagement be necessary, the goal would be obtain (sic) views from Canadians and stakeholders to redefine the government's service-oriented vision for Canada Post, in a context where the postal industry landscape has changed, the needs of Canadians have evolved, and the volume of mail and letters has declined significantly to the point where Canada Post's sustainability has been undermined.*

**WHEREAS** the current plan does not ensure that there will be any public consultation or engagement with all stakeholders, and the process and terms of reference for the mandate review have yet to be announced.

**WHEREAS** the recent Industrial Inquiry Commission report recommended service cuts in the form of post office closures and the reintroduction of the community mailbox conversion plans of the last Federal Conservative government.

**WHEREAS** it will be crucial for the mandate review to hear the views from municipalities on key issues, including maintaining Canada Post as a public service, the importance of maintaining the moratorium on post office closures, improving the Canadian Postal Service Charter, home mail delivery, parcel delivery, keeping daily delivery, improving postal banking, greening Canada Post, EV charging stations, food delivery. Improving delivery to rural, remote and indigenous communities, and developing services to assist people with disabilities and help older Canadians remain in their homes for as long as possible – and at the same time, helping to ensure that good jobs stay in their communities and that Canada Post can remain financially self-sustaining.



## CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar formally writes the Minister of Government Transformation, Public Works and Procurement, Joel Lightbound, to demand that no mandate review takes place until Canada Post returns to stabilized operations, until the full impact of the stamp price increase is realized, and until parcel volumes reflect sectoral demand.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar will include in its letter to Minister Lightbound that any review of Canada Post and the Canadian Postal Service Charter must be done through a full and thorough transparent public review of Canada Post, including public hearings, with all key stakeholders, in every region of Canada.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar will make a written submission and/or participate in hearings to provide input in the upcoming mandate review of Canada Post.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-523**      **WHEREAS** the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 394 provides essential support in honouring Canada's veterans through the organization and delivery of annual Remembrance Day services; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of McKellar recognizes the importance of supporting community partners who uphold remembrance, service, and the well-being of veterans;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar authorize a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 394's building fund in appreciation of their contributions to Remembrance Day services and their continued support for local veterans;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this donation be included in the Township's discretionary contributions for the 2025 fiscal year.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**25-524**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give all permanent full-time staff, including Market Manager, Jan Gibson, and Fire Chief, Robert Morrison, a \$150.00 Christmas bonus.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-525**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby authorize the Treasurer to transfer surplus funds as of December 31, 2025, remaining in the Community Centre operating/capital budget to the Community Centre reserve account; and

**FURTHER THAT** this transfer occurs annually, without a resolution from Council, moving forward.

**Carried**





**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**December 2, 2025**

**Moved by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**25-526**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the application to the NOHFC for the installation of 5 new sets of playground equipment for the funding amount of \$405,227.00; and

**FURTHER THAT** the Council confirms our commitment to cover our contribution towards the project in the amount of \$105,057.00 which will come from the levy and parkland reserve account and that we will cover any project cost overruns should they occur.

**Carried**

**Mayor Moore left the meeting at 7:35 p.m., and Deputy Mayor, Mike Kekkonen, took Chair of the meeting.**

**Moved by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**25-527**      **Whereas** the Town of Parry Sound, at its Regular Meeting held on November 18, 2025, passed a motion requesting that the Minister of Education extricate the West Parry Sound Municipalities from the Near North District School Board, with a first preference to reinstate the former West Parry Sound District School Board, and a second preference to join the Simcoe-Muskoka District School Board; and

**Whereas** the West Parry Sound Municipalities collectively support this initiative and wish to present a united position to Minister Calandra; and

**Whereas** although not explicitly stated, The Town of Parry Sound Council's support for this initiative is grounded in concerns regarding the underrepresentation of West Parry Sound trustees on the Near North District School Board despite the region contributing education levy revenues at twice the amount of North Bay; ongoing governance issues within the Board; and the handling of the JK-12 school construction project; and

**Whereas** students residing in the Township of McKellar attend McDougall Public School for elementary education and Parry Sound High School for secondary education; and

**Whereas** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar wishes to support its students and calls upon the Minister of Education to address these long-standing issues to ensure that students in West Parry Sound are not further disadvantaged;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby supports the Town of Parry Sound's request to the Minister of Education to extricate the West Parry Sound municipalities from the Near North District School Board, with the only preference to reinstate the West Parry Sound District School Board; and

**FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Parry Sound so that a joint letter of support may be prepared and sent to the Minister of Education, MPP Graydon Smith, and the Premier.

**Carried**

**Mayor Moore re-entered the meeting at 7:47 p.m. and resumed Chair of the meeting.**



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**December 2, 2025**

**Moved by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**25-528**        **WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar has given By-law No. 2025-52, Being a By-law to Establish a Public Notice Policy, a First and Second reading;

**NOW FURTHER** gives a **Third** reading and **Passes** in open Council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2025.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**Seconded by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**

**25-529**        **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby gives By-law No. 2025-57, Being a By-law to Adopt an Asset Management Plan, a First and Second reading;

**AND FURTHER** gives a Third reading and Passes in open Council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2025.

**Carried**

**Moved by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**Seconded by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**25-530**        **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar gives By-law No. 2025-61, Being a By-law to Regulate the Maximum Speed limit on Middle River Drive, a First and Second reading;

**AND FURTHER** gives a **Third** reading and **Passes** in open Council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2025.

**Deferred**

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen**

**Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland**

**25-531**        **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the consent agenda as presented.

**Carried**

**QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD (RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)**

**Lawrence Rubin asked questions and commented on agenda items via Zoom.**

**Moved by: Councillor Debbie Zulak**

**Seconded by: Councillor Morley Haskim**

**25-532**        **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give By-law No. 2025-62, being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council, a first and second reading;

**AND FURTHER** give a **Third** reading and **Pass** in open Council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2025.

**Carried**



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

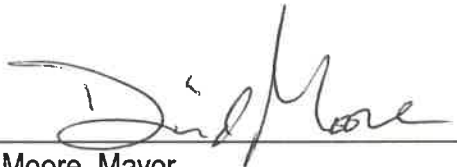
Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Mike Kekkonen  
Seconded by: Councillor Nick Ryeland

**25-533**      **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby adjourn this meeting at 8:21 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, or at the call of the Mayor.

**Carried**

  
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David Moore, Mayor

  
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Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator