

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a hybrid meeting on the 19th day of June, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean, Councillor Ralph Moore, Councillor Bill Neilson and Councillor Ruth Plowright were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk, Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator, and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer were also present. Mayor White presided and called the meeting to order.

Mayor White advised that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted to the Township's website under Council Agendas and Minutes.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Announcements

Councillor Plowright reminded everyone about Melancthon Day Weekend; Corbetton BBQ Friday Night, Horning's Mills Park Bouncy Castles, Music and Fireworks Saturday and Breakfast in Riverview on Sunday.

Additions

Mayor White – Township Fire By-law

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council approve the Agenda as amended. Carried.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Mayor White advised that disclosure of pecuniary interest can be declared at this time or anytime throughout the meeting by giving the general nature thereof and that declarations must be submitted to the Clerk in writing.

Minutes

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, that Council approve the minutes of the June 5, 2025 Council meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

None.

Public Works

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Planning

Applications to Permit

There were no questions or concerns with the one application on the spreadsheet.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Climate Change Initiatives

Nothing for this matter.

Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur

Email from Linda Polonsky Regarding Dangerous Drivers

Council discussed the email from Linda Polonsky.

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by McLean, that the email from Linda Polonsky regarding dangerous drivers be received as information and forwarded to the 3M Detachment Board for consideration. Carried.

County Council Update

Dufferin County – Council Highlights, May 28th, 2025

Nothing for this matter.

Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Shelburne Public Library Board – April 15, 2025
2. Shelburne & District Fire Board – May 6, 2025
3. Parks & Recreation Board – May 26th, 2025
4. Infrastructure & Emergency Management Committee – May 8, 2025
5. Heritage Advisory Committee - May 12, 2025

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, That the Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes – Items 1-5 be received as information. Carried.

Items for Information Purposes

1. Town of Grand Valley Resolution Requesting the County of Dufferin to Supply an Information Breakdown of the 2025 County Budget to Include with Tax Billing
2. Town of Caledon Letter to the Premier of Ontario Doug Ford Regarding Illegal Land Use
3. Watson & Associates Letter to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Regarding the Assessment of Bill 17 (Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025)

4. Natural Resources Solutions Inc – Integrated Monitoring Plan for Melancthon #2 Pit and the Bonnefield Property Pit – Summary of 2024 Biological Survey Results – Strada Aggregates
5. Municipality of Grey Highlands – Open House for Zoning By-law and Official Plan Amendment, June 26, 2025
6. Western Ontario Wardens Caucus Letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Reaffirmation of WOWC Position on Strong Mayor Powers

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore, that correspondence items 1-6, for information purposes, be received as information, except for items 2 & 4, pulled for further discussion. Carried.

Deputy Mayor McLean spoke to Item 2 and would like to support this motion to the Province.

Councillor Neilson spoke to Item 2 and would also like to support the motion.

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council support the letter from the Town of Caledon with regards to Illegal Land Use and that this motion of support be forwarded to all Dufferin County municipalities and request that they also support the letter. Carried.

Councillor Neilson spoke to Item 4. Staff were directed to send Strada Aggregates a letter regarding the erosion fencing being in disrepair.

Items for Council Action

1. RJ Burnside & Associates – Gray Municipal Drain Findings and Recommendations

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that we direct the Drainage Superintendent to proceed with the maintenance work on the Gray Municipal Drain as outlined in his letter of June 6, 2025. Carried.

2. RJ Burnside & Associates – Brausam Drainage Works Findings and Recommendations

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson, that we direct the Drainage Superintendent to proceed with the maintenance work on the Brausam Drainage Works as outlined in his letter of June 6, 2025. Carried.

General Business

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law

Nothing for this matter.

New/Other Business/Additions

2025 Fall/Winter Newsletter

There were no changes noted to the draft newsletter.

Email from Olivia Campbell Regarding Council's Climate Plan (Councillor Plowright)

Councillor Plowright spoke to the email. Councillor Neilson advised that he did more research following receiving this email, and they want to dissolve animal farming completely. The email was received as information.

Notice of Motion Deputy Mayor McLean regarding the removal of costs for County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendments

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright, that Council request that the County of Dufferin remove costs of Official Plan Amendment Application Fees for those who had started a pre-consultation application and had their designation on their property change as a result of the Municipal Comprehensive Review. Carried.

Remuneration for Council Members attending the Delegations to Area Municipalities regarding the Proposed Strada Quarry (Mayor White)

Mayor White wanted the thoughts of Council on remuneration for Council Members attending the Delegations to Area Municipalities regarding the proposed Strada Quarry. Council was all in agreement that the \$75 meeting fee should be allowable for these meetings.

Melancthon Township Parks & Recreation Board Draft Donation Letter (Councillor Plowright)

Councillor Plowright spoke to this item and is going to send the letter to businesses in Melancthon looking for sponsorship for the Township parks.

Melancthon Township Parks & Recreation Board Terms of Reference

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Moore, that Council approve the Township of Melancthon Parks and Recreation Board Terms of Reference as amended.

Council discussed the Terms of Reference for the Township Parks & Recreation Board and Deputy Mayor McLean raised some concerns about the overlap of responsibilities between the Parks and Recreation Board and the Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee. Staff advised that the responsibilities were taken from the By-law passed for the creation of the Board which was established prior to the Roads Sub-Committee being changed to the Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee so if responsibilities are going to be changed the By-law also needs to be changed. Staff were directed to review the Terms of Reference and the By-law and make changes as they see necessary and bring the Terms of Reference and By-law back to the next meeting for review. The motion was tabled to the next meeting.

New/Other/Additions

Mayor White – Township Fire By-law

Mayor White spoke to a resident who called because they were having a fire, and the fire department showed up and put out the fire. Council would like to review the Fire Permits By-law and fire provisions.

Unfinished Business

Draft Alcohol Policy & Town Hall Meeting – Topics for Discussion

Council discussed topics for discussion at the Town Hall Meeting and would like to discuss the Six Nations of the Grand Meeting, the County Planning MCR as it has been finalized and would like to advertise it as a Horning's Mills Hall Open House as required for the Ontario Trillium grant. This Town Hall will be hosted sometime in the Fall.

Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

Mayor White Meeting with Chief Hill from the Six Nations & County Planning Summit

Mayor White updated Council on the Meeting with Chief Hill of the Six Nations for the Grand and the Joint Council Meeting for the Planning and Economic Development Summit.

Delegations

5:30 p.m. – Murray Short, RLB – Presentation of the 2024 Financial Statements

Murray Short, RLB attended Council and Presented the 2024 Financial Statements.

Moved by Moore, Seconded by McLean, that Council approve the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2024 as prepared by RLB, Chartered Professional Accountants. Carried.

Closed Session

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright, that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting at 6:24 p.m. pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reasons: (f) advice that is subject to Solicitor/Client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – Strada Aggregates Applications; (e)(f) litigation or potential litigation including matters before administrative tribunal affecting the local board and advice that is subject to Solicitor/Client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – By-law Complaint 517462 County Road 124; (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees – By-law Enforcement Complaint updates; (b) properties eligible for tax arrears registration. Carried.

Rise With or Without Report from Closed Session

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that Council rise from Closed Session at 7:44 p.m. with report. Carried.

Report:

That Staff and others be directed as per the discussions in Closed Session.

Third Reading of By-laws

None.

Notice of Motion

None.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Neilson, Seconded Moore, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon at its Council meeting held on June 19, 2025 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 26-2025. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by McLean, Seconded Moore, that Council adjourn this meeting at 7:44 p.m., to meet again on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK