

**REGULAR MINUTES**  
**TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL**  
**TUESDAY MAY 20, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m. – Council Chambers**

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge, with respect, that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and known as Bawating. Bawating is the home of Garden River First Nation, Batchewana First Nation, and the Historic Metis Council.

Mayor: Lynn Watson

Council: Derek Hansen, Parker Brockelbank, Shelly Bailey

Absent: Adam Chevis (with regrets – illness)

Staff: Lacey Kastikainen, Cody Jarrell, Catie Stevens

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

#25-113

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we open our Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.”

CD.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

#25-114

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

**4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

#25-115

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and Special Minutes of Council held on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be accepted as presented.”

CD.

**5. Delegations/Public Presentation**

**6. Staff & Committee Reports**

a) Road Supervisor

- Equipment Repair – all in good working order. Annual safety completed on plow trucks.
- Lake Street: Brushing/Ditching & Road Surface – Lake Street brushing to be included in this years budget.
- Gravel Tender Results

#25-116

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we accept the tender from Bernt Gilbertson Enterprises Limited for the Gravel Tender 2025 in the amount of \$135,530.00 + HST.”

CD.

- Brushing & Ditching Rental – delayed a couple of weeks this year, we will not be able to complete the brushing as planned, will be pushed off until next year.
- Landfill – Parks & Rec crew did a big cleanup at the landfill, along Watson Road and the entrance. 30 full bags were collected. CAO to send a letter of thanks for the job well done.
- Street Sweeping – completed week of April 21-25.
- Load Restrictions – Lifted as of Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 on all municipal roads.
- Surface Treatment – A portion of Cemetery Road is worse off than we expected after the spring break up. We will re-build this section this fall and surface treat next year. In place of Cemetery Road we will now be doing a single treatment on Lakeview Road, Findlay Hill and Findlay Road.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- 2025 Senior of the Year & BBQ (Tuesday June 24<sup>th</sup>)

#25-117

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we honour Fred Shaughnessy as our 2025 Volunteer Senior of the Year and invite him to the Dr. HS Trefry Memorial Centre barbeque celebration in honour of senior’s month on Tuesday June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Legion in Richards Landing. Parker Brockelbank and CAO/Clerk will be in attendance to present the award.”

CD.

- Event & Program Updates

#25-118

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we hire Hannah Buckley-Dubois as our Museum/Lending Library summer student, and Madison Delfgou as our office Administrative Assistant student, and Alyssa Stevens, Lauren Moule and Samantha Thomas to be recreational activity counselors and Evan Ayotte as our Parks Maintenance/Labourer summer student.”

CD.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls – Brush Fire, Child Lock-in & Brush Fire within Laird, Fire Alarm, Smoke in the area and Brush Fire in Echo Bay.
- Fire Hall Maintenance – Additional dryer unit for bunker gear storage area. Training area wall paint and springtime deep clean on the list for completion this year.
- Equipment Maintenance – all in working order.
- Training – First AID & CPR re-certs, BLS training is scheduled for Monday May 26<sup>th</sup>. June training is structure fire basics.
- Personnel – Nothing new to report
- New Business – Chief and Deputy Chief travelled to Kelowna, BC to view two different pumper trucks. Meeting with sales representatives Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss options and will report back to Council with expected next steps. Additional quotes to be options once design specs are confirmed to obtain competitive pricing.

#25-121

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we accept the reports from the Road Superintendent, Leisure Services Coordinator and Fire Chief as presented.”

CD.

d) Treasurer’s Report

#25-119

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay bills for March 2025:

Invoices: \$307,177.98

Payroll: \$46,351.59

Total: \$353,529.57.”

CD.

#25-120

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay bills for April 2025:

Invoices: \$277,257.38

Payroll: \$46,100.19

Total: \$323,357.57.”

CD.

e) Cemetery Board

- Tour Update – overall cemeteries are in good shape. The snow load was hard on the trees this year, but the stones weren’t as badly affected with less frost in the ground.
- Benches – We will be looking for purchase a bench for each cemetery this year.

f) Planning Board

g) Police Detachment Board

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board

- Meeting Minutes February 13, 2025

#25-125

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we accept the Algoma District Administration Board Meeting minutes from February 13, 2025, meeting as presented.”

CD.

i) Algoma District Municipal Association

j) Landfill/Recycling – Included in Roads Report

k) Sewer and Water

- Echo Bay Water Tower Re-lining & Painting – RFQ Closes May 28, 2025
- 2024/2025 Inspection Report for the Echo Bay Drinking Water System

#25-126

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we hereby accept the annual Drinking Water System inspection report for 2024/2025 and corresponding Incident Rating Report and Risk Methodology document from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.”

CD.

**7. By-Laws**

**8. Unfinished Business**

**9. New Business**

a) Adopt 2025 Budget

#25-127

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we adopt the 2025 Budget and set tax rate on \$2,475,000.00 and authorize the CAO/Clerk to draft the Tax Rate By-law.”

CD.

b) MMAH 2025 Northern Municipal Finance & Administration Workshop (Virtual)

#25-128

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer and CAO/Clerk to participate in the virtual 2025 Northern Municipal Finance and Administration workshop hosted by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing on June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.”

CD.

c) 2025 Northern Finance Workshop (MFOA) – Sudbury October 15-17, 2025

#25-129

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to attend the Northern Finance Workshop hosted by MFOA from October 15-17, 2025, in Sudbury, registration fee \$75.00.”

CD.

d) Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) Training By OMAFRA

#25-130

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize Councillor Bailey and the CAO/Clerk to participate in the Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) training session hosted by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) on June 12, 2025, no cost to participate.”

CD.

e) Rock Networks Broadband Update – Project in still in progress. 82 power poles in our municipality will need to be replaced to support the new infrastructure.

f) Building Permits

#25-131

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we acknowledge the Chief Building Official approved building permits to Willem Alcock to build a garage, Brian Lewis to build a single family dwelling with attached garage, Kickits Echo Bay Holding Inc to replace entry stairs & ramp, Mathieu Caron to re-shingle dwelling roof, Taryn Mosker for a dwelling addition, Connor Glassford for new siding and exterior doors, and David Altonen to replace cottage roof.

CD.

**10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account**

**11. Closed Session-Permissive**

#25-122

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that this Council proceed into Closed Session at 7:20 p.m. to consider the following subject matter in accordance with the Municipal Act Section 239 (2):

- k) 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.”

CD.

- Discussed the Laird Fire Agreement
- Echo Lake Road Bride Replacement

#25-123

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we come out of closed session at 7:35 p.m. and continue our Regular Council meeting.”  
CD.

#25-124

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the Mayor and CAO/Clerk to enter into a renewed Fire Agreement with Laird Township for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025, under the existing terms;

AND THAT the renewed agreement include the following two additional clauses:

1. A clause requiring a proportional buyout of the new pumper truck in the event of a breakdown in the relationship; and
2. A clause stating that, at the end of the fiscal year, the actual audited fire department costs will be reconciled, with any surplus credited toward the next year’s budget and any deficit billed accordingly.”

CD.

## 12. Correspondence

- a) Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing – RE: Protect Ontario by Building Faster & Smarter Act, 2025. – Received as information
- b) MTO Regional Director – RE: Highway 638 Bar River Bridge Replacement Update – Rec’d as info.
- c) Algoma Public Health – Meeting Minutes February 26, 2025

#25-132

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we hereby accept the Algoma Public Health Meeting minutes from February 26, 2025, as presented.”

CD.

- d) Multiple – RE: Opposition to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

#25-133

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has enacted legislation granting “Strong Mayor” powers to select municipal heads of council, including unilateral authority over budgeting, staffing, and certain planning decisions;

AND WHEREAS these powers shift the balance of municipal governance by centralizing authority in the office of the Mayor and reducing the role of elected municipal councils in key decision-making processes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional hereby expresses its opposition to the implementation and expansion of Strong Mayor powers in Ontario Municipalities.

AND THAT this Council reaffirms its commitment to collaborative governance, accountability, and transparency in municipal decision-making;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).”

CD.

- e) FONOM – AGM Resolutions

#25-134

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional supports the following resolutions passed by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities at its 2025 Annual General Meeting:

- Resolution No. 2025-01 regarding increased provincial funding for mandated public health programs;
- Resolution No. 2025-02 calling for a phased-in \$100 million provincial policing grant to address rising OPP costs in Northern municipalities;
- Resolution No. 2025-03 requesting a comprehensive provincial-municipal fiscal review to improve the stability and sustainability of municipal finances;
- Resolution No. 2025-04 regarding the expansion of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) to include the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector; and

- Resolution No. 2025-05 calling for the appointment of a Deputy Minister or Associate Minister dedicated to Northern Ontario transportation;

AND THAT copies of this resolution, along with the referenced FONOM resolutions, be forwarded to the respective provincial ministries involved, the Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM).”

CD.

**13. Mayor & Councillors Comments**

**14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law**

#25-135

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #25-2250 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on May 20, 2025.”

CD.

**15. Adjournment**

#25-136

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to June 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”

CD.

**THAT** we accept the minutes this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

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**MAYOR**

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**CAO/CLERK**