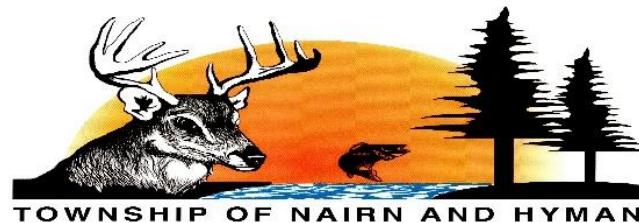


MINUTES

THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NAIRN AND HYMAN



Monday December 8, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was held at the Nairn Community Centre on Monday December 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. (The meeting was open to the public and recorded to allow for viewing on our website)

PRESENT:	Amy Mazey	Mayor
	Trevor McVey	Deputy Mayor
	Wayne Austin	Councillor
	Rod MacDonald	Councillor
	Karen Richter	Councillor
	Belinda Ketchabaw	CAO, Clerk Treasurer

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None.

DELEGATIONS

Mathieu Gagnon, WEST, Gagnon Renewable Resources Inc. – to present to Council options for renewable energy projects - **Absent with regrets**

ADOPTED COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-235

MOVED BY: Wayne Austin

SECONDED BY: Karen Richter

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following council minutes be accepted as presented:

- a) Regular Council Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2025
- b) Closed Session Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2025

CARRIED

RECEIVED MINUTES AND REPORTS

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-236

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes and Reports Items 7 a) to d) are noted as received.

CARRIED

CAO REPORT RE: SALE OF OTHER DISPOSITION OF MUNICIPAL LAND POLICY AND BY-LAW

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-237

MOVED BY: Wayne Austin

SECONDED BY: Karen Richter

WHEREAS Council has received the CAO's Report #2025-33 for information; and
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct Staff to prepare a new "Sale and Other Disposition of Municipal Land Policy and By-law" to be presented for review at the next Council Meeting.

CARRIED

TAX WRITE OFFS

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-238

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the Summary of Tax Write Offs, dated December 4, 2025.

CARRIED

ACCEPTED MUNICIPAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-239

MOVED BY: Wayne Austin

SECONDED BY: Karen Richter

WHEREAS Council has received for information the CAO's Report #2025-32; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the 2025 Third Quarter (Q3) Financial Update as presented.

CARRIED

ACCEPTED OCWA MANAGEMENT MINUTE REVIEW MINUTES & OPERATIONAL PLAN

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-240

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accepts the 2025 Drinking Water Quality Management System Review Minutes and Operational Plan prepared by the Ontario Clean Water Agency as presented.

CARRIED

SUPPORT REQUEST FOR NATION-BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHWAY 11/17 (2+1 & FOUR LANE OPTIONS)

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-241

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

WHEREAS Canada's east-west trade and national mobility rely on the Trans-Canada Highway system, including Highways 17 and 11 across Northern and Eastern Ontario, which carry significant freight volumes but remain predominantly two-lane corridors; and

WHEREAS four-laning the entirety of Highway 17 is the ultimate goal of the communities along the corridor; and

WHEREAS the proven "2+1" highway design - alternating passing lanes with a continuous median barrier - delivers safety outcomes comparable to full twinning at substantially lower cost, land, and environmental impact, and can be scaled or converted to four lanes (2+2) as volumes grow; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced a 2+1 pilot between North Bay and Temagami and a further extension toward Cochrane, creating a near-term implementation pathway; and

WHEREAS modernizing Highways 17 and 11 will improve safety, reduce closures, strengthen supply-chain reliability for mining, forestry, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing, and enhance national resilience and emergency response capacity; and

WHEREAS a phased 2+1 build - prioritizing Highway 11 (North Bay --+ Cochrane, then Cochrane--+ Nipigon) and key sections of Highway 17 (western border of County of Renfrew--+ Sudbury; Sault Ste. Marie --+ Sudbury; Thunder Bay--+ Kenora) - aligns with nation-building criteria, supports economic reconciliation with Indigenous partners, and enables integrated EV charging and low-carbon construction practices;

WHEREAS analysis summarized by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, (FONOM) demonstrates high freight demand on these routes and strong safety/economic rationale for a 2+1 program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman formally endorses the adoption and phased implementation of a 2+1 highway program on Highways 17 and 11 as a nation-building project; and

THAT the Government of Canada be urged to designate this initiative as a project of national interest under the Building Canada Act and to partner with Ontario to co-fund and accelerate planning, design, procurement, and construction; and

THAT the Government of Ontario be urged to expand the announced pilot to a corridor-wide program, sequencing works as follows (subject to readiness and safety benefit):

THAT the Government of Ontario prioritize these projects into the Ministry of Transportation's Major Projects Division; and

THAT both governments ensure early, ongoing, and capacity-supported engagement with affected Indigenous Nations, with opportunities for Indigenous training, contracting, and equity participation; and

THAT the program incorporates corridor-wide safety features (barrier-separated 2+1 cross-sections, controlled passing frequency, wildlife considerations}, resilience measures (closure mitigation, climate adaptation}, and clean-growth elements (EV charging readiness, recycled aggregates, lower-carbon materials; and

THAT this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transport (Canada}, the Minister of Infrastructure (Canada}, the Ontario Minister of Transportation, local MPs and MPPs, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM}, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA}, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO}, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM}, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA}, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC} for support.

CARRIED

ACCEPTED CORRESPONDENCE FROM FONOM

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-242

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the correspondence from FONOM regarding NOMA and FONOM Bring a Unified Northern Voice to Ottawa; and

FURTHER Council commends their efforts to bring the priorities of Northern Communities to parliament.

CARRIED

SUPPORT RESOLUTION - RE: ELECT RESPECT PLEDGE

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-243

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the correspondence from the Township of Chapple regarding the Elect Respect pledge; be received and supported as outlined below:

WHEREAS democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community; and

WHEREAS we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS Ontario's municipally elected officials and municipal staff are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment; and

WHEREAS social media platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office; and

WHEREAS better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables; and

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office; and

WHEREAS in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and called on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct; and

WHEREAS H.E.R. Halton has launched a campaign called Elect Respect to promote the importance of healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials and municipal staff that encourages individuals to participate in the political process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

- Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks,
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks,
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office,

- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats, and
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at www.electrespect.ca; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, MP Jim Belanger and MPP Hon. Bill Rosenberg, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-244

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that Council move into closed session at 6:30p.m. for the purpose stated in section 239.2 of the Municipal Act:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees

CARRIED

Resolution # 2025-14-245 was dealt with in closed session and is in a sealed envelope and filed in the office of the CAO/Clerk

RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-246

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED that council return to the open meeting at 7:20 p.m. and report on the general discussions held in closed session:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees

CARRIED

SUPPORT FOR STEEL AND LUMBER SECTORS

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-247

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

WHEREAS the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has issued a media release dated November 26, 2025, welcoming the Government of Canada's new measures to support the steel and softwood lumber sectors in response to ongoing U.S. tariff pressures; and

WHEREAS the federal actions—including strengthened protections for domestic producers, expanded financial supports, and increased incentives to utilize Canadian steel and lumber in federal infrastructure and housing projects—represent important steps in stabilizing industries that are vital to Northern Ontario's economy; and

WHEREAS municipalities across the North continue to experience the economic impacts of industry closures, including the recent shutdown of Domtar a pulp and paper mill in the neighboring Town of Espanola, which has demonstrated the vulnerability of resource-dependent communities and the need for coordinated intergovernmental support; and

WHEREAS the Township of Nairn and Hyman recognizes the significant role of Interfor, our local soft-wood lumber mill, as a major employer and economic anchor in our region, and further recognizes that any threat to its continued operation would have devastating consequences for workers, families, and local businesses; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has a shared responsibility to ensure the long-term sustainability of the forestry, lumber, and steel sectors, which are foundational to the economic wellbeing of Northern and rural communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman commends the Government of Canada for its leadership and for implementing substantial measures to support Canada's steel and softwood lumber industries during this period of trade volatility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council respectfully urges the Government of Ontario to introduce additional financial, regulatory, and policy-based supports to ensure that Ontario's steel, forestry, and lumber sectors remain competitive, resilient, and able to withstand ongoing international trade pressures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council specifically calls upon the Province of Ontario to work directly with industry stakeholders, including municipalities and major employers such as Interfor, to create programs and investments that will help protect jobs, maintain production capacity, and support long-term industry growth in Northern Ontario; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Northern Development, FONOM, MP Jim Belanger, MPP Bill Rosenberg and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

NIL

BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NAIRN AND HYMAN

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-248

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nairn and Hyman" be read a first, second and third time, and finally passed in open council and its number shall be 2025-29.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-249

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting of December 8, 2025, do now adjourn at 7:25 p.m. to meet again on the 12th day of January, 2026, or at the call of the Mayor.

CARRIED

Mayor

Clerk

These minutes shall not be considered as official minutes until they have been approved by council at their next meeting.