MINUTES

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NAIRN AND HYMAN

TOWNSHIP OF NAIRN AND HYMAN

Monday June 1, 2026

The Regular Council Meeting was held at the Nairn Community Centre on Monday June 1, 2026, 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

a) Mayor Amy Mazey has declared a pecuniary interest on Agenda Item 4b) & 7b) – Public Meeting/Approval of the 2026 Fire Department Budget, because she is a firefighter.

b) Councillor Trevor McVey has declared a pecuniary interest on Agenda Item 4b) & 7b) – Public Meeting/Approval of the 2026 Fire Department Budget, because he is a firefighter.

c) Councillor Wayne Austin has declared a pecuniary interest on Agenda Item 4b) & 7b) – Public Meeting/Approval of the 2026 Fire Department Budget, because a family member is involved.

DELEGATIONS

None.

TEMPORARY ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION # 2026-8-113

MOVED BY: Wayne Austin

SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald

BE IT RESOLVED that the council meeting be temporarily adjourned at 6:08 p.m. for the purpose of a public meeting.

CARRIED

PUBLIC MEETING RE: OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT – ROK PIPELINE INC.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-114

MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that pursuant to Section 53 of the Planning Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13, the public meeting is now officially opened for the purpose of hearing comments regarding the following application:

- Application for Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment – ROK Pipeline Inc.

CARRIED

Erin Reed and Sarah Verault (J.L. Richards & Associates Ltd.) were in attendance representing the Township and presented the Planning Memorandum and Staff Report, dated May 25, 2026.

Vanessa Smith (Tulloch Engineering) was in attendance to present the application on behalf of the applicant.

PLANNING MEMORANDUM RE: OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT – ROK PIPELINE

RESOLUTION # 2026-8-115

MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council notes the Planning Memorandum prepared by J.L. Richards & Associates Ltd. regarding the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment – ROK Pipeline Inc.

CARRIED

Six members of the public were in attendance at the Public Meeting, and the following comments were received:

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

The Chair entertained comments and questions from the floor (**please note that the questions and responses noted below are summarized, the full recording of the meeting is available on our website**).

NAME	**COMMENTS**
Comment by Ms. Koskiniemi	She asked why additional land was required when the existing explosive manufacturing facility had already been approved?
Reply from Mr. Richard Walker (Applicant)	He advised that the company is expanding to accommodate new technology and a new manufacturing facility. Additional land is required to satisfy federal setbacks and separation distance requirements between buildings and related infrastructure.
Comment by Ms. Koskiniemi	She asked how many jobs had been created by the existing facility and how many jobs the proposed expansion would generate?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that the existing operation would support approximately 20 jobs. The proposed expansion is expected to create an additional 10 direct full-time positions and up to 15 indirect jobs, including trucking, drilling, and blasting-related employment. Construction activities have also provided employment opportunities.
Comment by Ms. Koskiniemi	She asked whether the facility would draw water from Pomfrey Lake?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that water would be supplied by a private well system located on-site and would not be sourced from Pomfrey Lake.
Comment by Ms. Koskiniemi	She asked whether the proposed new development would only have storage magazines or is it a new building?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He confirmed that the proposal includes a new manufacturing facility for hydrogen peroxide-based emulsion explosives. This will be the first facility of its kind in North America and the fourth worldwide.

Comment by Ms. Koskiniemi	Expressed that she has concerns regarding forest fires and asked how the company would mitigate the risks with storing explosive products in the area.
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He confirmed that fire control systems are in place. In the event of a fire, the area would be evacuated. He further advised that the emulsion products manufactured on-site are not combustible and are not impact sensitive.
Comment by Mr. Nathan Phillips	He identified himself as the owner of neighboring property located southeast of the proposed development and expressed support for the employment opportunities associated with the project. He noted concerns regarding environmental impacts, wildlife, hunting activities, and nearby water resources. He asked if the proposed explosive product could be compared to an expanding foam-type product?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	Commented that the product has a thick consistency, similar to mayonnaise and is manufactured on-site before being transported to mine sites.
Comment by Mr. Phillips	He asked whether the development site was situated higher or lower than nearby water bodies and whether there were measures to protect surrounding lands, the environment and wildlife.
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	The applicant advised that the proposed facility is located at a lower elevation and benefits from natural topographical barriers. It was further noted that no fencing or barriers were proposed that would restrict wildlife movement through the area.
Comment by Mr. Phillips	He asked how many hydrogen peroxide storage tanks were proposed and what their capacities would be?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that two hydrogen peroxide storage tanks are proposed. He did not have specific capacity information available at the meeting; however, the applicant committed to obtaining and providing that information.
Comment by Mr. Phillips	He asked whether hydrogen peroxide itself is explosive or only becomes explosive when incorporated into the emulsion product?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He replied that he could not provide a detailed technical explanation at the meeting but noted that the manufacturing process follows established procedures developed by the technology provider. He further stated that the hydrogen peroxide-based product is considered environmentally advantageous because it does not contain nitrates.
Comment by Ms. Lynn Mehaffy	She asked who conducted the environmental assessment and what environmental risks had been identified?
Reply from Ms. Vanessa Smith, Tulloch Engineering (Planner representing the applicant)	She advised that Environmental Ecosystem Solutions Inc. completed the Scoped Environmental Impact Study. She outlined several recommended mitigation measures, including sediment and erosion controls, restrictions on vegetation clearing during nesting periods, monitoring of potential reptile habitat, and setbacks from sensitive wildlife areas.
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	Mr. Walker noted further that the facility is federally regulated by Natural Resources Canada and that all storage, handling, and operational requirements must meet federal standards before the facility can operate.
Comment by Ms. Lynn Mehaffy	She asked whether the marshland located at the north end of the property would be disturbed by the development?

Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He confirmed that the marshland would remain undisturbed and would not be incorporated into parking areas, roads, or other site improvements. He also confirmed that the proposed new building would not be situated near these features.
Reply from CAO, Ms. Belinda Ketchabaw	The CAO advised that copies of the environmental report could be made available upon request.
Comment from Councillor Karen Richter	She asked about the toxicity of the products being manufactured and the potential environmental impacts should a release occur?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that containment measures are incorporated into the facility design. He advised that traditional nitrate-based products can break down into nitrates over time similar to fertilizer, whereas the hydrogen peroxide-based product breaks down primarily into water and oxygen. He noted that this technology is being pursued in part because of its reduced environmental impact.
Comment from Councillor Karen Richter	She asked about the status of the company's existing operation and whether production had commenced at the original facility?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that the original facility is operational and producing products for testing and trial purposes.
Comment by Ms. Lynn Mehaffy	She asked if the finished product will be shipped by rail?
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that rail service would be used only for importing raw materials and that finished products would be transported by truck.
Question from Mayor Amy Mazey	She asked for an update regarding the entrance permit from MTO to allow for an entrance to be constructed off of Highway 17 to their private access road.
Reply from Mr. Walker (Applicant)	He advised that revised traffic, geotechnical, and design information had been submitted to the Ministry of Transportation in support of the new entrance permit, and that construction of the entrance was anticipated during the current construction season.

COUNCIL TO TAKE RECESS

RESOLUTION # 2026-8-116

MOVED BY: Karen Richter
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council take a 5 minute recess at 6:50 p.m.

CARRIED

RETURN TO COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-117

MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the public meeting is now officially closed at 6:59 p.m. and the regular council meeting is now reconvened to discuss Agenda Items Bylaws 10e) & f).

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT FILE NO. 2026-1

RESOLUTION # 2026-8-118

MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED THAT WHEREAS Council has received applications for an Official Plan Amendment and related Zoning By-law Amendment, File No. 2026-1 for the property legally described as PCL 732 SEC SWS; LT 6 CON 4 NAIRN EXCEPT LT 3280 NAIRN AND HYMAN.

AND WHEREAS the Planning Report dated May 25, 2026, prepared by the Township's Planner J.L. Richards & Associates Limited, indicates that the proposed amendment is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, conforms to and does not conflict with the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, and otherwise conforms to the Township's Official Plan and complies with the Township's Zoning By-law;
AND WHEREAS a Public Meeting was held by the Council of the Township of Nairn & Hyman regarding the applications on June 1, 2026;
AND WHEREAS Council has considered the public input received;
THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT Council approves the Official Plan Amendment No. 7 which will redesignate the northern portion of the subject lands (south of rail line, and extending south to the mineral aggregate resources area) from Rural Area to Rural Industrial District to permit a bulk emulsion and explosive plant and that a Special Policy 3.7.4.3 be added to allow access to the property via a private road subject to entering into an agreement with the Township;
AND THAT Council enacts a By-law to rezone the northern portion of the subject lands (south of rail line and extending south to the mineral aggregate resources area) from Natural Resources (R) to Rural Industrial Zone (M3) to permit a bulk emulsion and explosive plant and that site specific provisions be added to permit development on a lot with no public road frontage; and
AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the Zoning By-law Amendment and the Official Plan Amendment No. 7.

CARRIED

PUBLIC MEETING RE: 2026 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND MUNICIPAL BUDGET
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-119
MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED THAT that pursuant to By-law number 2007-9, the public meeting is now officially open for the purpose of hearing comments regarding the 2026 Fire Department Budget and the Municipal Budget.

CARRIED

TEMPORARY CHAIR
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-120
MOVED BY: Karen Richter
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Councillor Richter will chair the portion of meeting to discuss the Fire Department Budget as Mayor Mazey has declared a conflict.

CARRIED

MAYOR TO RETURN TO CHAIR
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-121
MOVED BY: Karen Richter
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Mayor Mazey return to the chair to discuss the Municipal Budget.

CARRIED

***There were no members of the public in attendance for this portion of the public meeting and there were no written comments received.**

RETURN TO COUNCIL MEETING
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-122
MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council will close the public meeting at 7:19

CARRIED

2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROVED
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-123
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the 2026 Municipal Budget be approved with an amount required for taxation (Municipal and Education) totaling $1,268,686.00 with a 2.65% combined total increase.

CARRIED

ADOPTED COUNCIL MINUTES
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-124
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following council minutes be accepted as presented:

a) Special Council Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2026
b) Regular Council Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2026
c) Closed Session Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2026

CARRIED

WITHDRAWAL OF 2026 BURSARY
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-125
MOVED BY: Karen Richter
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
WHEREAS Council has received the correspondence from FONOM regarding the Nairn Centre Mill Curtailment; and
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council will withdraw the Espanola High School 2026 bursary this year as there were no graduates proceeding to post-secondary education or an apprenticeship

CARRIED

RECEIVED MINUTES AND REPORTS
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-126
MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes and Reports Items 7 a) to e) are noted as received.

CARRIED

ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-127
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Item 7d) be discussed in closed session.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-128
MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the Township of Nairn and Hyman Community Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes, dated May 5, 2026 as presented.

CARRIED

ACCEPTED CORRESPONDENCE
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-129
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the Correspondence Agenda Items 8 a) to b) as presented.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE RE: REQUESTED DUMPING/DISPOSAL CHANGES
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-130
MOVED BY: Karen Richter
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
WHEREAS Council has received the correspondence from Marcel Giroux regarding Dumping/Disposal Changes; and
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs that no changes be made to Land Fill Card system.

CARRIED

SUPPORT RESOLUTION RE: REVIEW OF OPP MUNICIPAL POLICING BILLING MODEL
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-131
MOVED BY: Wayne Austin
SECONDED BY: Rod MacDonald
WHEREAS Council has received the resolution from the Township of Baldwin calling upon the Province of Ontario to conduct an immediate review of the OPP Municipal Policing Billing Model and policing structure for unorganized territories; and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman supports this request; and
FURTHER that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Minister of the Solicitor General, MPP Bill Rosenberg, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and the Township of Baldwin.

CARRIED

BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR PAYING REMUNERATION TO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-132
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to Provide for Paying Remuneration to Members of 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 2026-17.

CARRIED

BY-LAW TO SET THE 2026 TAX RATIOS
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-133
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to Set the 2026 Tax Ratios" be read a first, second and third time, and finally passed in open council and its number shall be 2026-18.

CARRIED

BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF TAX RATES AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR PENALTY AND INTEREST IN DEFAULT OF PAYMENT FOR THE YEAR 2026
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-134
MOVED BY: Trevor McVey
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to Provide for the Adoption of Tax Rates and to Further Provide for Penalty and Interest in Default of Payment for the Year 2026" be read a first, second and third time, and finally passed in open council and its number shall be 2026-19.

CARRIED

BY-LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF TAX RATES FOR RAIL AND UTILITIES AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR PENALTY AND INTEREST IN DEFAULT OF PAYMENT FOR THE YEAR 2026
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-135
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
BE IT RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to Provide for the Adoption of Tax Rates for Rail and Utilities and to Further Provide for Penalty and Interest in Default of Payment for the Year 2026" be read a first, second and third time, and finally passed in open council and its number shall be 2026-20.

CARRIED

BY-LAW TO ADOPT OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 7
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-136
MOVED BY: Trevor McVey
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to Adopt Official Plan Amendment No. 7 for 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 2026-21.

CARRIED

BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW 2013-5
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-137
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
BE IT RESOLVED THAT "Being a By-law to Amend By-law No. 2013-5" be read a first, second and third time, and finally passed in open council and its number shall be 2026-22.

CARRIED

SUPPORT RESOLUTION: RE WEST
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-138
MOVED BY: Trevor McVey
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
WHEREAS Council has received the presentation from WEST Energy on May 4, 2026 and due to waste disposal capacity constraints within the Township of Nairn and Hyman (The Municipality), the Municipality is currently:

-Looking to divert landfill waste to extend asset life while creating positive economic value

AND WHEREAS Waste Energy Solutions and Technologies Inc. (WEST) is proposing an efficient, environmentally friendly, non-combustible, waste-to-energy conversion technology capable of processing the Municipality's solid waste;
AND WHEREAS WEST is in the process of developing a waste-to-energy facility in the area that is capable of processing the Municipality's solid waste at a fixed cost;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman are hopeful that an appropriate location could be scoped that would suit this project;
AND ALSO THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT subject to WEST obtaining all applicable building, environmental and regulatory permits and approvals, the Municipality will hereby support WEST in principle in this project;
AND FURTHER THAT The Municipality agrees in principle to become a client provided the proposal is financially viable and beneficial to the Municipality, and all other terms and conditions of the proposal are met; and
FURTHER THAT once the above terms and conditions are met Council agrees to provide staff with a directive to negotiate a contract to divert waste from the landfill and extend the landfill's lifespan.

CARRIED

MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-139
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
BE IT RESOLVED THAT that Council move into closed session at 8:18 p.m. for the purpose stated in section 239.2 of the Municipal Act:

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose
- Personal matters about an identifiable individual

CARRIED

Resolution # 2026-8-140 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 # 2026-8-141
MOVED BY: Trevor McVey
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED that council return to the open meeting at 8:50 p.m. and report on the general discussions held in closed session:

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding an application to the Ontario Superior Court that names the Township; and
- Personal matters about an identifiable individual

CARRIED

CAO REPORT RE: PARKING ENFORCEMENT OPTIONS
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-8-142
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
WHEREAS Council receives the CAO's Report #2026-14 entitled "Parking Enforcement Options"; and
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs Staff to prepare a draft by-law for Council's consideration at the next meeting based on Option #2 of the report.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD
Nil

BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NAIRN AND HYMAN
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-143
MOVED BY: Rod MacDonald
SECONDED BY: Trevor McVey
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 2026-23.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT
RESOLUTION # 2026-8-144
MOVED BY: Trevor McVey
SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin
BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting of June 1st, 2026, do now adjourn at 8:52 p.m. to meet again on the 13th day of July, 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.