

The Corporation of the Town of Kearney
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Council Chambers
Thursday, March 19, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor: Cheryl Philip
Deputy Mayor: Michael Rickward
Councillors: Keven Beaucage, Heather Pateman, Jill Sharer

Staff Present: Nicole Gourlay, CAO-Clerk (CAO)
Cindy Filmore, Deputy Clerk (DC)
Paul Schaefer, Fire Chief/Chief Building Official (FC/CBO)
Tom Young, Public Works Superintendent

The CAO, FC/CBO and the DC were present for the entirety of the meeting. The PWS was present during their portion of the meeting.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda**
Resolution 2026-057
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adopts the Agenda of March 19, 2026, as circulated
CARRIED
3. **Disclosure of Interest – None noted**
4. **Delegations/Presentations/Public Meetings - nil**
5. **Consent List**
Resolution 2026-058
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Consent List from the Council Meeting of Thursday, March 19, 2026, be accepted and that all recommendations or support contained therein be adopted and approved as resolutions of Council.
CARRIED
6. **Items Referred from the Consent List**
7. **Items for Discussion**
 - 7.1 Staff Report Public Works Building repairs
Resolution 2026-059
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Beaucage
WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts SR2026-16 regarding the Public Works building; AND WHEREAS the work involved in repairs to the building may represent expenses above the current budgetary limits; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney directs Staff to obtain 3 quotations for the necessary repairs and/or replace the structure and have Tatham complete a building condition assessment.
CARRIED
 - 7.2 Staff Memo: Surplus Fire department vehicle
Resolution 2026-060
Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supported the purchase of a new Emergency Services vehicle; AND WHEREAS this purchase means that former ambulance 317 can be taken out of service; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney declares that the 2011 Ford 3500 CTV as surplus; AND

FURTHER directs Staff to list this vehicle on GovDeals.com.
CARRIED

7.3 Staff Memo: Building Department Revenue & Expenses 2025

Resolution 2026-061

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Beaucage

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts the Staff Memo from the CAO Clerk regarding Building Department Revenue & Expenses 2025 Unaudited.

CARRIED

7.4 Staff Report: Building Fees Review for 2026

Resolution 2026-062

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Pateman

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts SR2026-17 from the CBO regarding Building Fees Review for 2026; AND FURTHER that Council directs that building permit prices shall remain stable for 2026.

CARRIED

7.5 DRAFT Agreement for One Investment

Resolution 2026-063

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts the Staff Report from the Treasurer regarding the Draft By-law for One Investment; AND FURTHER that Council supports the passing of the bylaw in this regard, which will take place later in the meeting.

CARRIED

7.6 DRAFT Investment Policy Update to Bylaw 2015-55

Resolution 2026-064

Moved by: Councillor Sharer; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts the Staff Report from the Treasurer regarding the Draft Investment Policy; AND FURTHER that Council supports the passing of the bylaw in this regard, which will take place at the next Council meeting.

CARRIED

7.7 FONOM Convention 2026

Resolution 2026-065

Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the following Staff and Council members attending the FONOM Conference taking place May 11 to 13, 2026, in Timmins, Ontario: Councillor Beaucage; Mayor Cheryl Philip

CARRIED

7.8 DPSMA Spring Meeting – Kearney to host May 29, 2026

Resolution 2026-066

Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the following Staff and Council members attending the DPSMA Spring Meeting taking place May 29, 2026 in Kearney: All of Council and Admin. Staff

CARRIED

7.9 Staff Memo: Canada Day Celebration Road Closure Request

Resolution 2026-067

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Beaucage

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts the Staff Report from the Community Engagement & Recreation Coordinator regarding the closure of Main Street on July 1, 2026 to allow for Canada Day Celebrations; AND FURTHER that Council supports the closure of Main Street on July 1, 2026, from 11 am until 5 pm from the intersection of Lakeview Avenue and Main Street to the parking lot of the LCBO near the intersection of Rain Lake Road and Main Street.

CARRIED

7.10 Verbal Update re SEPSDPB and associated Fees

Resolution 2026-068

Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives the updated fee schedule from the Southeast Parry Sound District Planning Board
CARRIED

7.11 Discussion: Burk's Falls Request for Almaguin Highlands Health Centre- deficit 2024 & 2025

Resolution 2026-069

Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives the request from the Village of Burks Falls regarding the request to contribute to funding of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre 2024 and 2025 deficit; AND FURTHER THAT Council directs Staff to NOT pay the additional funds requested until such time as we have entered into a fuller discussion with the Village of Burks Falls and AHHC regarding costs.

CARRIED

8. Notice of Motion

Resolution 2026-070

Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney has hired a Community Engagement and Recreation Coordinator to fulfill the key responsibilities associated with the organization of any and all events, programming, and community engagement initiatives for the Town; AND WHEREAS Council has traditionally had appointed Committees of Council to facilitate some of these job functions that are now solely a Staff role; AND WHEREAS these committees of Council in their current function bear a large procedural responsibility due to the committee structure which does not provide the members the ability to make a greater impact; AND WHEREAS the success of the Community Engagement and Recreation Coordinator to bring quality programming and multifaceted community events will rely on coordination and collaboration between community volunteers and the Town; AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney feels it is necessary to change the structure of its Committees of Council to a volunteer resource to provide the volunteers with flexibility to assist in a less structured manner, reducing red tape; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney requests Staff bring back a report to the next regular meeting of Council removing the following Committees of Council from a Committee of Council structure, to a volunteer resource on a per event or programming basis:

1. the Regatta Committee
2. the Kearney Community Centre Committee
3. the Recreation Committee
4. the Economic Development Committee
5. the Dog Sled Race Committee
6. the Creative Changes Art Show Committee
7. the Seniors Committee

AND FURTHER THAT this report includes some process/procedure on what or how the volunteer groups make look in a more informal way to be more impactful for the Town of Kearney and its residents.

CARRIED

9. Correspondence for Information

Resolution 2026-071

Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives correspondence list from March 19, 2026, for information; AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to write letters of support for the following items:

9.7 Letter of Support – Provincial Bail Notification

9.9 Letter of Support – Protect our Food Act

CARRIED

10. By-laws

Resolution 2026-072

Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the following by-laws be read a first, second and third time, be passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the by-law book:

10.1 By-law 2026-12 being a By-law to Amend Zoning By-law 2022 – 20
112 Ostick Rd. (Rusnak)

10.2 By-law 2026-13 being a By-law to Amend Zoning By-law 2022 – 20
1046 Echo Ridge Rd (Bennett)

10.3 By-law 2026 -14 being a By-law to regulate Election Signs

10.4 By-law 2026-15 being a By-law to enter into an agreement for One Investment
CARRIED

11. **Closed Session - nil**

12. **Confirming By-law**

Resolution 2026-073

Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that By-law 2026-16 being a by-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2026, be read a first, second and a third time, passed, signed by the Mayor and the Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the by-law book.

CARRIED

13. **Adjournment**

Resolution 2026-074

Moved by: Councillor Sharer Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Regular Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adjourn at 7:36 pm

CARRIED

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF KEARNEY**

Mayor

Clerk

DRAFT