The Corporation of the Town of Kearney

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Council Chambers
Thursday, June 11, 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)
Jenny LeBlond, Treasurer (T)
Cindy Filmore, Deputy Clerk (DC)
Tom Young, Public Works Superintendent

All Staff were present for the entirety 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 2026-124
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Beaucage
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adopts the Agenda of June 11, 2026, as amended:
Add: 7.8 Memo regarding Emergency Culvert Repair
Delete: Closed Session
CARRIED

3. **Disclosure of Interest**
Keven Beaucage declared a conflict of pecuniary interest based on:
7. 1- Payment #352-7.1 (FONOM Conference Expenses= $782.78 payable to herself) & 7.2 – Resolution & Report by Stefanie Allen, Policy for Communications & Public Relations Coordinator (family member) & 10.1 Communications Policy Bylaw

4. **Public Meeting -** Budget Package
Council was presented with the Budget Package as amended from requests made at the May 5 budget meeting.
Discussion regarding management cellphones was initiated, however no direction in the form of a resolution was forthcoming.

5. **Consent List**
Resolution 2026-125
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Pateman
BE IT RESOLVED that the Consent List from the Council Meeting of Thursday, June 11, 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 Change Date of September 24 Meeting
Resolution 2026-126
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney reschedules the Council meeting of Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 6 pm on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 6 pm
CARRIED

7.2 Staff Memo are DRAFT Resolution regarding 2026 Ralph Bice Bursary

Councillor Beaucage recused herself from this discussion as her daughter had prepared the report and resolution

Resolution 2026-127
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney hereby receives the Staff Memo regarding the 2026 Ralph Bice Bursary; AND FURTHER Council agrees to award the Ralph Bice Bursary in the amount of $1000 to Jesse Woodruff.
CARRIED

Councillor Beaucage returned to the table

7.3 Young/Harris Consent (Easement)
Resolution 2026-128
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney recommend approval of Consent for Right-of-Way Application B-008/26 to the Southeast Parry Sound Planning Board, with the following conditions:

1. That all Municipal taxes to date shall be paid in full.
2. That all Town fees and disbursements (legal, engineering, planning), if any incurred by the Town with respect to this application shall be paid for by the owner.
3. An updated Draft Reference Plan of Survey be provided to the Town of Kearney for review and approval prior to registration.

CARRIED

7.4 Resolution Template for Use to Support POA Fine Advocacy
Resolution 2026-129
Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Pateman
WHEREAS the delivery of Court Services is governed by Transfer Agreements entered into with the Province (MOU & Local Side Agreement); and the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) entered into between The Town of Parry Sound and the Corporation of the Township of Armour, Township of Seguin, Township of Carling, Township of Perry, Town of Kearney, Village of Burk's Falls, Village of South River, Village of Sundridge, Township of Hagerman, Municipality of Whitestone, Township of Joly, Township of Machar, Municipality of McDougall, Township of McKellar, Township of McMurrich/Monteith, Municipality of Magnetawan, Township of Ryerson, Township of Strong and Township of the Archipelago, as amended, in addition to applicable legislation, including the *Provincial Offences Act* (POA); and
WHEREAS The POA Advisory Committee, on May 28, 2026, recommended that the Town of Parry Sound Council, along with the Councils of the 18 municipalities within the Parry Sound Catchment Area support the *POA Advisory Committee Report – Advocacy for Set Fines & Costs Payable Under the POA* and call upon the Attorney General of Ontario requesting a review of the set fine amounts, and the costs payable upon conviction set out in *Ontario Regulation 915* under the *Provincial Offences Act*; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Kearney call upon the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario to request a review of the set fine amounts, and the costs payable upon conviction set out in *Ontario Regulation 915* under the *Provincial Offences Act*; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario be urged to modernize set fines as necessary to ensure penalties remain meaningful as a deterrent and as a community safety device, in addition to ensuring the sustainability of administering POA court services at the municipal level; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario regularly review and adjust set fines to keep pace with inflation and maintain their effectiveness as a deterrent; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, OMTRA and ROMA
CARRIED

7.5 DRAFT Bylaw to Appoint a Deputy Chief Building Official – Scott Woodworth
Resolution 2026-130
Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
WHEREAS the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25* as amended, authorizes the Council of any municipality to appoint certain officers and employees as may be necessary for the purposes of the corporation, or for carrying into effect or enforcing any Act or By-law of the Council;
AND WHEREAS the *Building Code Act, 1992,* S.O. 1992, c.23, s.3(2) provides that the Council of each municipality shall appoint a Chief Building Official and such Inspectors as are necessary for the enforcement of the Building Code Act in the areas in which the municipality has jurisdiction; NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the passing of a bylaw to appoint Scott Woodsworth as Deputy Chief Building Official for the Town of Kearney, which will be passed later in the meeting..
CARRIED

7.6 DRAFT Bylaw to Adopt the 2026 Budget and DRAFT Bylaw to Regulate Tax Rates and Ratios

Resolution 2026-131
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney accepts the 2026 Budget as proposed AND FURTHER will pass this bylaw later in the meeting.
CARRIED

Resolution 2026-132
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Rickward; Seconded by: Councillor Beaucage
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney approves the DRAFT Bylaw to Regulate Tax Rates and Ratios as proposed; AND FURTHER THAT a Bylaw to this effect will be passed later in the meeting.
CARRIED

7.7 Discussion re: Kearney & McMurrich Monteith exclusion from an Ontario Health Team

Resolution 2026-133
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
WHEREAS access to primary healthcare services is a critical component of the health, safety, and well-being of residents in the Town of Kearney and the Township of McMurrich/Monteith; AND WHEREAS the Burk's Falls and District area serve as the local catchment area for primary healthcare services, including physician recruitment and retention initiatives; AND WHEREAS the local physicians have raised the issue with Ontario Medical Association and the Ministry that the Town of Kearney and the Township of McMurrich/Monteith have been excluded from the current contract with the local physicians which is used to determine the number of physicians allocated to serve the area; AND WHEREAS such exclusion, negatively impacts equitable access to healthcare services for residents of these municipalities by reducing the physician complement by 0.5FTE; AND WHEREAS it is essential that population data used for healthcare planning accurately reflects all communities served within a defined catchment area to ensure fair and adequate physician resourcing; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney formally requests that the Ministry of Health undertake a review to:

1. An amendment of their contract with the Ontario Medical Association and the local physicians to add Kearney and McMurrich Monteith urgently.

AND FURTHER THAT Council supports Mayor Philip and Councillor Sharer in their delegation to the Minister of Health at AMO to get this on the Ministry of Health's list of urgent priorities; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Minister of Health; Graydon Smith, local MPP; The Township of McMurrich/Monteith; The Almaguin Highlands Health Council; Muskoka Almaguin Ontario Health Team; The Ontario Medical Association; and all municipalities in the Almaguin area.
CARRIED

7.8 Memo regarding Emergency Culvert Repair

Resolution 2026-134
Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives and accepts the Memo regarding the replacement of the double culvert on Rain Lake Road at Pine Drive; AND FURTHER THAT Staff be directed to amend the capital budget and award this project to the low bidder as long as it is under $50,000; AND FURTHER THAT the funds for the project be taken from year-end surplus or reserves.
CARRIED

8. Notice of Motion – nil

9. Correspondence for Information

Resolution 2026-135
Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives correspondence list from June 11, 2026 for information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to write letters of support for the following items:

- 9.5 Halton Hills Resolution re Provincial Municipal Framework
- 9.7 Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns
- 9.8. Support Resolution Regarding End Opposition to change to FIPPA
- 9.9. Support Resolution - Conservation Authority Consolidation and Future Funding

9.10. Support Resolution Regarding Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario
9.11. Support Resolution Integrated Living and Participation Model for Adults with Developmental Disabilities
9.12. Support Resolution Regarding Outdated Property Tax Reassessment
9.13. Support Resolution Regarding Traffic Calming Letter
9.14. Support Resolution-Regarding Consent Item 6.8 Finlay's Law on Emergency Room Reform
9.15. Support Resolution Regarding Province Proposed Harmonization of Municipal Road Construction Standards Request for Support - Ontario Firefighter Certification Requirements

CARRIED

10. By-laws

Resolution 2026-136
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Beaucage
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 Bylaw 2026-28 Bylaw to create a Community Engagement Policy
10.2 Bylaw 2026-29 being a Bylaw to Appoint a Deputy Chief Building Official – Scott Woodworth
10.3 Bylaw 2026-30 being a Bylaw to adopt the 2026 Budget
10.4 Bylaw 2026-31 being a Bylaw to Regulate Tax rates and Ratios

CARRIED

Councillor Beaucage recused herself from discussion regarding Bylaw 2026-27 regarding the Bylaw to create a Communications Policy. The bylaw was removed from the bylaw list for separate passing

Resolution 2026-137
Moved by: Councillor Sharer; Seconded by Councillor Pateman
BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney passes Bylaw 2026-27, being a bylaw to create a Communications Policy; AND FURTHER THAT this Bylaw be passed a first, second and third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk , sealed with the seal of the seal of the corporation and engrossed in the Bylaw Book
CARRIED

Councillor Beaucage returned to the table.

11. Closed Session - nil

12. Confirming By-law
Resolution 2026-138
Moved by: Councillor Beaucage; Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Rickward
BE IT RESOLVED that By-law 2026-32 being a by-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 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 2026-139
Moved by: Councillor Pateman; Seconded by: Councillor Sharer
BE IT RESOLVED that the Regular Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adjourn at 6:55 pm
CARRIED

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KEARNEY

Mayor

Clerk