

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a hybrid meeting on the 6th day of February, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean (Virtual), Councillor Ralph Moore (Virtual), Councillor Bill Neilson and Councillor Ruth Plowright were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk, Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer and Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator were also present. Mayor White presided and called the meeting to order.

Mayor White advised that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted to the Township's website under Council Agendas and Minutes.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Announcements

Councillor Neilson provided information on the 2025 Provincial Election Debates taking place in Shelburne and Orangeville.

Additions

None.

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore, that Council approve the Agenda as circulated. Carried.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Mayor White advised that disclosure of pecuniary interest can be declared at this time or anytime throughout the meeting by giving the general nature thereof and that declarations must be submitted to the Clerk in writing.

Minutes

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright, that Council approve the minutes of the January 16, 2025 Council meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

Harvey Lyon asked where Council is in the budget process and when the Public Budget Meeting would be. He was advised that Council would be discussing the budget later in the meeting and that the public meeting for the budget will take place at the Horning's Mills Hall on March 6th, 2025 where the Council meeting will take place.

Public Works

Accounts

Accounts Ending December 31, 2024 & Accounts January 2025

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the Public Works Accounts (Account Ending December 31, 2024 and January 2025) as presented by the Public Works Superintendent. Carried.

Report from Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent & Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator – Mennonite Signage Placement & Costing

Council discussed the map, and the locations of the signage and Deputy Mayor McLean asked if we could also add signage on the 2nd Line SW at 260 Sideroad and County Road 17 both directions 94 additional signs).

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright, that Council receive the Report from Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent & Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator regarding Mennonite Signage Placement & Costing and direct that \$8,000.00 be placed in the 2025 Operating Budget to allow for the purchase and installation of Mennonite signage in the Township to raise awareness. Carried.

Report from Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent & Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator – 2025 Public Works Capital Expenditure Recommendations

This was discussed during budget discussions.

Report from Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent & Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator – Five (5) Year Capital Plan Summary

This was discussed during budget discussions.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Planning

Applications to Permit

There were no questions or concerns with the one application on the spreadsheet.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Strategic Plan

Nothing for this matter.

Climate Change Initiatives

Nothing for this matter.

Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur

Al Blundell, Chair of the 3M Board advised Council that there are some staffing changes happening at the Dufferin OPP.

Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

The following verbal reports were given:

Councillor Neilson – Mulmur Melancthon Fire Board – January 21st, 2025 and Shelburne and District Fire Board – January & February 2025 Meeting.

Deputy Mayor McLean – Shelburne and District Fire Board – January & February 2025 Meeting.

Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board – December 2nd, 2024
2. Shelburne & District Fire Board – December 3rd, 2024
3. Roads Sub-Committee – December 2nd, 2024
4. Heritage Advisory Committee – December 3rd, 2024

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that the Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes Items 1-4, be received as information. Carried.

Items for Information Purposes

1. Email from Steve Murphy, Manager, 911 & Corporate Projects County of Dufferin Regarding 2024 Compliance for Dufferin County and Lower Tiers
2. Letter from RLB Charters Professional Accounts – 2024 Audit Plan
3. Email from County of Dufferin advising Melancthon’s Motion regarding Multi-Jurisdictional Fire Prevention and Protection Modernization Plan was received by County Council
4. County of Dufferin Council Highlights – January 9th, 2025
5. Ministry of Natural Resources – Update: Proposed Regulations regarding Minister’s Permit and Review Powers under the Conservation Authorities Act
6. Ministry of Rural Affairs – Ontario’s Rural Economic Development Strategy
7. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Media Release – Jonathan Scott and Gail Little Acclaimed as NVCA Chair and Vice Chair
8. Letter from Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation regarding ROMA Conference Delegation
9. Township of Southgate Notice of Virtual Public Meeting Concerning a Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment
10. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Opinion – Living out a Culture of Excellence and Continuous Improvement
11. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Opinion – Conservation Authorities are a Pillar in our Communities
12. RJ Burnside & Associates – Drainage Superintendent Services

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, that correspondence items 1-12, for information purposes, be received as Information. Carried.

Items for Council Action

1. Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex 2025 Approved Budget

Melancthon’s levy has already been included the 2025 Draft Budget.

2. 2025 Dundalk Fall Fair Sponsorship

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright, that Council support the request from the Dundalk Agricultural Society and donates \$750.00 to them for the 2025 Dundalk Fall Fair.

Discussion ensued on this motion and deputy mayor McLean moved a motion to reduce the donation to \$500. As there was not a seconder for the motion Deputy Mayor McLean withdrew the Motion.

Mayor White called the vote on the original motion, and it was carried.

3. 2025 Good Roads Conference – Request for Municipal Delegations

Jim Ellis, Acting CAO for Southgate Township contacted Staff to inquire if Melancthon Councillors would be interested in joining the Township of Southgate Council, as they are going to request a Joint Delegation with the MTO and the Solicitor General regarding Highway 10 traffic concerns. Mayor White is going to OGRA and would be interested in joining the Delegation.

General Business

Accounts

Accounts Ending December 31, 2024 & Accounts January 2025

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the General Accounts (Accounts Ending December 31, 2024 and January 2025) as presented by the Treasurer. Carried.

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law

By-law to Provide Remuneration, Allowances and Expenses for Members of Council

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to provide remuneration, allowances and expenses for Members of Council and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 6-2025. Carried.

New/Other Business/Additions

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk regarding Township Owned Properties

Councillor Neilson commented that he didn't realize that the Township owned that many properties and Councillor Moore thanked Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk for the report as he found it very informative.

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson, that the Report from Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk regarding Township Owned Properties be received as information. Carried.

Additions/Other

Nothing for this matter.

Unfinished Business

2025 Draft Capital and Operating Budgets, Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer

Mayor White and Deputy Mayor McLean gave an update on the County Council Budget meeting and advised that they both voted against the approval of the 2025 Budget.

Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer presented a third draft of Budget and reviewed her Budget summary, reserve schedules, development charge schedule, five-year capital plan, growth implications and impacts on assessment information with Council. The increase in this draft budget is 8.93% (6.85% with growth). Sarah advised that approximately 4% of the 6.85% increase presented is a result of the increases in recreation, OPP and

fire departments. Discussion ensued and it was determined that the 2024 surplus will be used to offset the cost of paving 260 Sideroad from Riverview to 2nd Line SW instead of splitting the project in half. After the changes made following the discussions the draft budget was brought down to 5.90% (3.82% with growth).

Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

ROMA Delegation with the Minister of Transportation – Update

Mayor White, Deputy Mayor McLean and Councillor Plowright met with the Minister of Transportation for a Delegation at ROMA to discuss the traffic issues on Highway 10 and the intersection of Highway 10 and County Road 17. They felt that the meeting was productive.

Denise Holmes – Email from Mulmur CAO regarding Team Building for the Mulmur Hockeyville competition – deadline is March 2nd).

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk spoke to this item and advised that Tracey Atkinson, CAO for the Township of Mulmur had reached out asking if Melancthon Staff and Council would like to participate in a team building hockey game for the Kraft Hockeyville Challenge. Staff was directed to advise Tracey that we would be interested in participating.

Councillor Neilson – Challenge Coin No. 2 Construction Battalion

Councillor Neilson presented the Challenge Coin to Council that was provided to the Township by Alethia O’Hara-Stephenson’s during the flag raising in recognition of Black History Month. The coin is presented to the Township of Melancthon in recognition of its ongoing collaboration with the Dufferin County Canadian Black Association (DCCBA) in ensuring Black history is recognized as an integral part of Canadian history. Given in appreciation of Melancthon’s continued support for Black History Month and educational initiatives, this coin stands as a symbol of remembrance, resilience, and excellence.

Mayor White – ROMA Conference

Mayor White provided Council with an update on the ROMA Conference and the sessions he attended.

Councillor Plowright - Strawberry Supper

Councillor Plowright advised Council that she had spoken with Township of Mulmur Mayor Janet Horner about the Horning’s Mills Hall hosting the Strawberry Supper this year on Canada Day and the proceeds would be going to the Honeywood Arena Upgrades.

Delegations

During the meeting, Council heard from the following Delegations:

5:30 p.m. – Chief Dave Pratt, Shelburne and District Fire Department – Report on Levels of Service

Shelburne and District Fire Department Chief Pratt spoke to Council about the levels of service review.

5:45 p.m. – Jessie Hooker, President and Barbara Dobreen, Secretary – Friends of the Dundalk Library – Presentation

Jessie Hooker, President and Barbara Dobreen, Secretary of the Friends of the Dundalk Library spoke to Council about all the exciting programming that they are facilitating at the Dundalk Library that Melancthon residents have access to.

Closed Session

No Closed Session for this meeting.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright, that By-laws 6-2025 now be read a third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed and engrossed in the By-law Book. Carried.

Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion for this meeting.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon at its Council meeting held on February 6, 2025 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 7-2025. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright, that Council adjourn this meeting at 7:13 p.m., to meet again on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.