

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a hybrid meeting on the 2nd day of October, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean (virtual), Councillor Ralph Moore, Councillor Bill Neilson and Councillor Ruth Plowright (virtual, arrived in person at 6:32pm) were present. Kaitlin Dinnick, Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer 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

None.

Additions

Kaitlin Dinnick - Email from Jen Parkinson, Horning's Mills Hall Board Resignation

Deputy Mayor McLean – Discussion on the composition of the new Shelburne & District Fire Board Agreement

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore, that Council approve the Agenda as amended. 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 Moore, Seconded by McLean, that Council approve the minutes of the September 18, 2025 Council Meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

Linda Polosky was present and inquired about the new council chamber system.

Public Works

Accounts

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the Public Works accounts as presented. Carried.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Planning

Applications to Permit

Council had no concerns with the applications on the spreadsheet.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Strategic Plan

None.

Climate Change Initiatives

None.

Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur

None.

Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

Mayor White – Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Meeting Update

Mayor White advised that the 2026 draft budget had been brought forward but was sent back for further reductions.

Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Shelburne Public Library Board – July 15th, 2025
2. 3M Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – May 29th, 2025

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore, that the Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes Items 1 & 2, be received as information. Carried.

Items for Information Purposes

1. 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Allocation Notice
2. Town of Shelburne – Notice of Complete Application and Public Meeting Z25/03
3. Dufferin County – Council Highlights September 11th, 2025
4. Township of Amaranth Resolution Regarding the Shelburne & District Fire Board

5. Township of Amaranth Resolution Regarding the Aerial Spraying of Glyphosate
6. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Media Release – Bass Pro Shops and Cabela’s Outdoor Fund Supports Reshaping Rivers for Resiliency in the Nottawasaga Watershed
7. Town of Shelburne Resolution Regarding the Fire Protection Agreement – Shelburne & District Fire Board

Moved by Moore, Seconded by McLean, that correspondence items 1-7, for information purposes, be received as information, except for items 1 & 7, pulled for further discussion. Carried.

Councillor Neilson spoke to Items 1 & 7 and Council discussed these items further.

Items for Council Action

Email from Shayna Pacheco – Resignation from the Horning’s Mills Community Hall Board & Email from Jen Parkinson, Horning’s Mills Hall Board Resignation (Addition)

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by McLean, that Council accept, with regret, the resignation of Shayna Pacheco and Jen Parkinson from the Horning’s Mills Community Hall Board and extends our thanks for their valuable contributions to the Board. Carried.

General Business

Accounts

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the General Accounts as presented. Carried.

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law

Nothing for this matter.

New/Other Business/Additions

Notice of Motion regarding the harmonizing of fire related By-laws throughout Dufferin County (Deputy Mayor McLean)

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, Whereas all eight municipalities within Dufferin County have differing fire permit rules and open-air fire By-law requirements;

And Whereas local fire chiefs have emphasized that misalignment between By-laws creates confusion and uncertainty for residents and fire departments alike;

And Whereas the County-commissioned fire services review recommended greater coordination across municipalities on matters pertaining to fire services;

Therefore be it resolved that Melancthon Council request that the CAOs of Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur, Orangeville, and Shelburne form a committee - by the end of 2025 - to harmonize fire-related By-laws throughout Dufferin County.

And further, that the Fire Chiefs from Grand Valley Fire Department, Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Department, Orangeville Fire Department, Rosemont Fire Department, and Shelburne and District Fire Department be invited to provide input and advice to the committee as it works to harmonize fire By-laws across Dufferin County. Carried.

Notice of Motion regarding the County of Dufferin Pilot Project for County Road 124 in Shelburne and Sidewalks along County Road 124 to the Subdivision (Mayor White)

Moved by White, Seconded by Moore, Whereas the County of Dufferin undertook a pilot project to reduce speed limits in an attempt to increase public safety along County Road 124 from Highway 10 in Shelburne to Wansborough Way;

And Whereas safety would be further improved by the creation of a sidewalk that links walking trails and sidewalks in the town of Shelburne along the 124 corridor to the development at Wansborough Way;

And Whereas the pilot project has resulted in number of unintended consequences such as highway traffic using side streets, highway traffic, taking alternate routes through rural residential areas, highway traffic taking back country roads in an attempt to avoid the reduced speed limit zone among others;

Therefore, be resolved that the Council for the Township of Melancthon request the County of Dufferin to end the pilot project early, restore the speed limit to 60 on County Road 124 in the affected area and immediately undertake to create a sidewalk separated from the highway that joins the affected areas.

And that upon completion of the construction of the sidewalk apportion the cost of the sidewalk to the appropriate parties.

And that this motion be sent to all Dufferin County municipalities asking for their support.

And this motion be sent to Dufferin County for consideration. Carried

Addition(s)

Deputy Mayor McLean - Discussion on the composition of the new Shelburne & District Fire Board Agreement

Deputy Mayor McLean spoke to this item and the composition of the Board only allows for one member from Melancthon now. Discussion ensued and the following motion was passed:

Moved by White, Seconded by Neilson, that Deputy Mayor McLean be appointed as the Melancthon Township Member of the Shelburne and District Fire Board. Carried.

Unfinished Business

Six Nations of the Grand River Political Liaison Meetings

Staff advised that the next meetings are November 10th, November 24th and December 8th and all meetings start at 9:00 a.m. Discussion ensued and Staff were directed to advise the Six Nations of the Grand River that they would like to attend the November 24th meeting. Staff were also directed to remind them about the deadline for comments on the Strada ARA Application and to invite them to our Town Hall Meeting on November 10th, 2025.

Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

Councillor Neilson – Mulmur Melancthon Fire Board

Councillor Neilson provided an update to Council on their meeting last Tuesday.

Councillor Moore – Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex Board

Councillor Moore advised that the arena has a new Facilities Manager, as the previous Manager has retired, and that he has been appointed to the Arena Board's finance committee.

Delegations

5:20 p.m. – Beckie Connell and Lisa Thompson, North of 89 Alliance – Requesting funds from Melancthon Township for North of 89 Alliance, and to explain who they are and what they hope to do in our community with funds they are requesting.

Beckie Connell and Lisa Thompson, of North of 89 Alliance presented to Council regarding its initiatives as a not for profit in the Community. They are asking Council to consider donating \$5000 annually over the next three years to their organization. Council asked some questions and advised that they would take their request into consideration during their 2026 budget discussions.

5:30 p.m. – Mack Chiasson and Chris Knechtel, RJ Burnside and Associates – Presentation of the 2025 OSIM Report

Chris Knechtel and Mack Chiasson, RJ Burnside and Associates presented to Council the 2025 OSIM Report and provided Council with an update on what was found during these inspections.

Mayor White brought up the two bridges that will be downloaded to us from the County of Dufferin, through the Road Rationalization Study. This item was deferred for further discussion at the next Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee Meeting.

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the 2025 OSIM Report prepared by RJ Burnside and Associates. Carried.

6:00 p.m. – Statutory Public Meeting for a Zoning By-law Amendment on the East Part of Lot 11, Concession 2 OS – 585401 County Road 17 – A & J Nicholson Enterprises Inc.

A Public Meeting was called to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment on East Part of Lot 11, Concession 2 OS – 585401 County Road 17. The purpose of the application to rezone the subject lands from General Agricultural (A1) to General Agricultural (A1) – Exception and Open Space Conservation (OS2). In addition, the site-specific exception being proposed is to add an agriculturally related truck repair and detailing facility as a permitted use under the A1 zone. Kristine Loft (the Agent) and Liam Morgan, Township Development Planner, were in attendance for the Public Meeting. Kristine Loft presented to Council the application. Liam Morgan spoke to his Report which recommends the application be deferred. There were no concerns from Council or members of the public.

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that Council received Report P2025-05 as information and that Council defers Zoning By-law Amendment Application Z25-03 until such time as the EIS is finalized and the NVCA has the opportunity to review and offer comments and/or sign-off on the findings presented in the EIS report. Carried.

6:15 p.m. – Statutory Public Meeting for a Zoning By-law Amendment on East Part of Lot 25, Concession 4 OS – 438280 4th Line – Dennis Kidd

A Public Meeting was called to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment on East Part of Lot 25, Concession 4 OS – 438280 4th Line. The purpose of the application is to restructure the existing General Agricultural (A1) and Open Space Conservation (OS2) zones. In addition, the amendment also seeks to implement a site-specific regulation for a portion of the subject lands that would permit the establishment of an auction house within the General Agricultural (A1) zone. Kristine Loft (the Agent) and Liam Morgan, Township Development Planner, were in attendance for the Public Meeting. Kristine Loft

presented to Council the application. Liam Morgan spoke to his Report which recommends the application be approved. There were no concerns from Council or members of the public.

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to amend By-law 12-1979 as amended for property legally described as the East Part of Lot 25, Concession 4 OS and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 32-2025. Carried.

Closed Session

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore, that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting at 7:05 p.m. pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reasons: (f) advice that is subject to Solicitor/Client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – Strada ARA application, retained Peer Reviewers – discussion on a Terms of Reference for each Peer Review and review of a legal opinion. Carried.

Rise With or Without Report from Closed Session

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that we rise from Closed Session at 8:39 p.m. with report. Carried.

Report:

That Staff be directed as per the discussions in Closed Session.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, that By-law 32-2025 now be read a third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed and engrossed in the By-law Book. Carried.

Notice of Motion

None.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, 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 October 2, 2025 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 33-2025. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore, that Council adjourn this meeting at 8:41 p.m., to meet again on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK