

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a hybrid meeting on the 18th day of September, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean, Councillor Ralph Moore, Councillor Bill Neilson and Councillor Ruth Plowright were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk, 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 Plowright advised everyone that they have cancelled the Harvest Dinner due to low ticket sales however to stay tuned as they have more events that are in the works.

Councillor Neilson advised that he attended the Primrose Gospel Church for their Grand Opening at the Shrigley Church Property last weekend.

Additions

None.

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, 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 McLean, that Council approve the minutes of the September 4, 2025 Council Meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

Shaen Armstrong was in attendance and asked Council what the status of the OPA/ZBA Applications for Strada Aggregates was. Council advised that those applications had been deferred until we could work through the peer review process.

Public Works

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Award of Engineering Services – Paved Shoulder/Sidewalk in Horning’s Mills

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council award the quote for Design and Contract Administration for the Horning’s Mills paved shoulder/sidewalk project to R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited in the amount of \$60,000.00 + HST, with \$25,000.00 to be funded from the 2025 Budget and the balance to be drawn from the Working Capital Reserve. Carried.

Recommendation from Infrastructure & Emergency Management Committee Meeting September 11, 2025

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson, that Council accept the recommendation from the Infrastructure & Emergency Management Committee and award the quote to 519 Contracting to install heat cables on the roof of the Horning’s Mills Community Hall before winter at a cost of \$2,832.25, inclusive of HST. Carried.

Questions were raised about the electrical and how the cables will be run, which staff will follow up on with the contractor.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Planning

Applications to Permit

Council had no concerns with the applications on the spreadsheet.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Climate Change Initiatives

Nothing for this matter.

Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur

Al Blundel, Chair of the 3M Dufferin OPP Detachment Board was present and gave an update on what was discussed at their meeting this morning.

County Council Update

Mayor White and Deputy Mayor McLean gave an update on the County Council Meeting held last week.

Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Shelburne & District Fire Board – June 3rd, 2025
2. Infrastructure & Emergency Management Committee – August 14th, 2025
3. Heritage Advisory Committee – June 9th, 2025
4. Heritage Advisory Committee – August 11th, 2025

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

Items for Information Purposes

1. April to June 2025 – OPP Detachment Revenues
2. Email from Enbridge Gas Inc – Consultation on the Future of Natural Gas Expansion in Ontario
3. Town of Shelburne – Resolution regarding Shelburne & District Fire Board
4. Township of Clearview – Notice of Zoning By-law Review – Clearview Township’s Draft Zoning By-law Available for Comment until November 5th
5. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority – Media Release – NVCA Chair Calls for Provincial Action on Recycling and Waste Diversion

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright, that correspondence items 1-5, for information purposes, be received as information, except for items 2 & 3, pulled for further discussion. Carried.

Councillor Moore spoke to item 2 and would like to Council to Support the motion.

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by McLean, be it resolved that:

WHEREAS the Province has posted ERO 0250923, *Consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion*, seeking feedback from municipalities, Indigenous communities and other stakeholders on how Phase Three (3) could best support access to natural gas for community development.

AND WHEREAS expanding access to natural gas is identified as a tool to support affordability and economic growth in Ontario communities, with Phases One (1) and Two (2) estimated to enable connections for approximately 17,000 buildings across 59 communities, and 16 projects completed to date.

AND WHEREAS Township of Melancthon is working toward its housing and employment land goals that contribute to Ontario’s broader objective to build at least 1.5 million homes by 2031 and recognizes that timely servicing solutions (including natural gas where appropriate) can help enable these targets.

AND WHEREAS Ontario’s energy future relies on a balance of affordability, reliability, and sustainability by leveraging a mix of energy solutions—including natural gas, electricity, and emerging energy technologies, to meet growing community needs.

AND WHEREAS natural gas continues to play a critical role in supporting energy affordability, economic competitiveness, and enabling housing and employment growth across the province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council:

1. Supports the Ministry’s consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion (NGEP Phase 3) and endorses access to natural gas as an option to other energy solutions to advance the Township’s housing, employment lands, and economic development objectives.
2. Directs staff to submit comments to ERO 0250923 reflecting the Township’s priorities, including: priority application types, alignment with Official Plan/Secondary Plans, sites and corridors where gas access would enable development (housing/employment lands), any Phase 1 and 2 learnings (if applicable) and practical barriers (e.g., timing, permitting, costs, land access).
3. Forwards this resolution to Sylvia Jones, MPP, the Minister of Energy and Mines, the Ontario Energy Board, AMO, and neighbouring municipalities in Dufferin County. **Carried.**

Councillor Neilson, Deputy Mayor McLean and Mayor White spoke to item 3.

General Business

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law

Nothing for this matter.

New/Other Business/Additions

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Recognition of Lauren Smith’s Accomplishments

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Moore, that Council receive the Report from Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and approve the recognition of Lauren Smith’s accomplishments through the presentation of a commemorative plaque, to be presented to Ms. Smith at a future Council or Town Hall Meeting with the date to be determined at Ms. Smith’s availability. Carried.

South East Grey Community Health Centre Request for October 2025 Proclamation of Community Health & Wellness Month

Mayor White shared the following proclamation:

WHEREAS Ontario stands together to achieve equitable health and wellbeing for everyone living here;

WHEREAS health is much more than the absence of illness; it is the complete state of physical, mental, spiritual and social wellbeing;

WHEREAS community health is essential to the wellbeing of people, the places where we live, and our health system overall;

WHEREAS better health and wellbeing begins locally, in our homes, in our schools, in our workplaces, and in the community spaces where we live, work and play;

WHEREAS treating people’s illnesses and sending them back to the same conditions that produced their sickness will only result in continued ill-health and stress on our health and social systems;

WHEREAS by ensuring better health and wellbeing for all, and by creating collaborative, coordinated programs and services that confront health inequities across our entire community, we will ease pressures on our health care system and strengthen public health care across the province, part of our core values as a society;

WHEREAS community health care workers, including social workers, nurses, mental health staff, and others, continue to be paid less than their counterparts in other provinces and health care sectors, hurting the ability of the community health organizations our community depends on to retain and recruit vital personnel;

WHEREAS to achieve this future we need to transform Ontario’s health system to a Community Health and Wellbeing system rooted in comprehensive primary health care that promotes equitable health and wellbeing for everyone living in Ontario and supports community health workers and their organizations to keep people well and out of the hospital;

WHEREAS during the Month of October, 2025, people across the province will be standing together in support of community health organizations and workers to build a

health system with primary health care as the foundation, for the best possible and equitable wellbeing and health of all people in our community and in communities all across Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Melancthon Council does hereby proclaim the Month of October, 2025, to be "Community Health and Wellbeing Month".

Recreation Grant Opportunities from Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer (Deferred from Infrastructure & Emergency Management Committee)

Nothing for this matter.

Strada Aggregates – Proposed Quarry – Notice of ARA Application

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk gave an update regarding the consultation period for the ARA Application. She advised that it was just been posted to the ERO website as of late this afternoon and will be sending out the notification's tomorrow morning. Mayor White gave some clarification on the commenting process for the public.

Addition(s)

Nothing for this matter.

Unfinished Business

Six Nations of the Grand River Political Liaison Meetings for December

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk advised that no times have been provided for these meetings so this item was deferred to next Council meeting.

Fall Town Hall Meeting Update

Denise Holmes CAO/Clerk advised that the Fall Town Hall Meeting has been set for Monday November 10th 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Sylvia Jones, MPP will be in attendance for the Horning's Mills Community Hall Trillium Grant Recognition Event. An agenda will be drafted and sent out for the Town Hall Meeting.

Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

Councillor Moore – Rogers Communication Fiber Internet

Councillor Moore advised that has the contact information for the representative at Rogers that can be reached to find out when your address will be coming online for fiber internet. Staff were directed to put this information on the Township website for residents to access, once Councillor Moore provides the information.

Deputy Mayor McLean – Heritage Committee Update

Deputy Mayor McLean advised that the editing for the Schoolhouse Project is almost completed, and the Committee would like it posted on its own page on the Township Website once its done. He also advised that Member Thwaites has been doing research on Veterans who were raised in Melancthon and all the names will be read out at the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Horning's Mills.

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Administration Updates

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk advised that the advertisement for the Student Volunteer Award was dropped off at Centre Dufferin District High School today and the Award will be presented at the Christmas in the Mills Event at the Horning's Mills Hall.

Mayor White – Road Rationalization Study at County Council

Mayor White advised that discussions surrounding Red Bridge being downloaded to the Township were had at the County level and the Township's concerns were made clear.

Committee of Adjustment

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright, that we adjourn Council at 6:06 p.m. to move into Committee of Adjustment and reconvene as Council. Carried.

6:29 p.m. – Council Reconvened

Delegations

None.

Third Reading of By-laws

None.

Notice of Motion

Mayor White advised that he will be bringing a notice of motion forward at the next Council meeting asking Dufferin County to reconsider the Pilot Project which lowered the speed limit at County Road 124 to 40km/hrs and to install sidewalks along County Road 124 to the Sub-division.

Deputy Mayor McLean advised that he will be bringing a notice of motion forward at the next Council meeting calling on all Municipalities in Dufferin County to harmonize any by-laws that pertain to Fire Services.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, 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 September 18, 2025 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 31-2025. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright, that Council adjourn this meeting at 6:31 p.m., to meet again on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK