CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a hybrid meeting on the 5th day of November, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean, 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 that there will be a Remembrance Day Service at the Horning's Mills Cenotaph on November 11th at 11 a.m. and Christmas in the Mills is November 28th at 2pm at the Horning's Mills Hall.

Additions

None.

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, 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 McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council approve the minutes of the October 15th, 2026 Council Meeting & October 23rd, 2026 Special Council Meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

Nanci Malek asked Council a number of questions regarding Strada Aggregates Permit To Take Water that was approved by the MNR.

Sherri Webster asked Council if they had discussed Bill 140 yet.

Public Works

Accounts

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the Public Works Accounts as presented. Carried.

Other

Nothing for this matter.

Planning

Applications to Permit

Council did not have any questions regarding the building permits on the spreadsheet.

Notice of Ontario Land Tribunal – Duivenvoorden Haulage Ltd. Request to amend the Official Plan and Zoning By-law – Appeal for Non-decision

Liam Morgan, Township Planner advised Council that a Case Management Conference is scheduled for November 30th, 2026 and the purpose of it will be to discuss the matters of the appeal and it will likely lead to a mediation conference.

Strada Aggregates - Virtual Public Information Session regarding Strada's Aggregate Resources Act Application

Council discussed their disappointment of this being a virtual meeting.

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 Police Service Board provided Council with an update from its October 28th Meeting. He advised that a Joint Police Service Board Meeting will take place in January 2027.

County Council Update

Nothing for this matter.

Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

Nothing for this.

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Shelburne & District Fire Board – September 1st, 2026
2. Infrastructure & Emergency Management – September 14th, 2026
3. Parks & Recreation Board – September 21st, 2026

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that Council receive the Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes Items 1-3 as information. Carried.

Items for Action

1. ROMA Conference Delegation Request

Staff were directed to request a Delegation at ROMA about tenant landlord disputes as the Province downloaded this to lower-tiers. It was discussed that we could request a Delegation for Highway 10 Enforcement Issues, if the County of Dufferin is not going to pursue a Delegation for this. Council would like a Delegation with the MNR to discuss the Strada and Duivenvoorden applications. There will be further discussion at the November 19th, 2026 meeting to finalize the requests.

General Business

Accounts

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

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Extending the Term of the Horning's Mills Community Hall Board and By-law to Extend the Term of Appointment for the Members of the Horning's Mills Community Hall Board

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to Extend the Term of Appointment for the Members of the Horning's Mills Community Hall Board and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 46-2026. Carried.

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Amendment to Canine By-law 17-2003 & 17-2015 and By-law to Amend By-law 17-2003 & By-law 17-2015

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to Amend Canine By-law 17-2003 & 17-2015 and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 47-2026. Carried.

Report from Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Open Air Burning By-law and By-law Regulating the Setting of Open-Air Fires, including Establishing the Time during which Open-Air Fires may be Set

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to Regulate the Setting of Open-Air Fires, including Establishing the Time during which Open-Air Fires may be Set and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 48-2026. Carried.

Report from Dave Pratt, Fire Chief, Shelburne and District Fire Department & Mat Waterfield, Fire Chief, Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Department – Establish and Regulate a Fire Department and By-law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department for the Township of Melancthon

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that leave be given to introduce a By-law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department for Township of Melancthon and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 49-2026. Carried.

New/Other Business/Additions

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Accessibility Report 2026 Municipal Election

Moved by Nielson, Seconded by McLean, that Council receive the Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk – Accessibility Report 2026 Municipal Election as information. Carried.

Family Transition Place – Woman Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

WHEREAS November is Woman Abuse Prevention Month and November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; and
WHEREAS violence is the greatest gender inequality rights issue for women, girls and gender-diverse individuals. Our community is committed to ending femicide and all forms of gender-based violence; and
WHEREAS Femicide rates are on the rise in Ontario, (34 in Ontario since November 26th, 2025; and
Whereas 29 different cities and towns in Ontario had a femicide occur in their community last year; and
WHEREAS Indigenous, Black, South Asian and Southeast Asian women and girls continue to experience high rates of violence, including femicide; and
WHEREAS men's violence has taken the lives of women and girls across the lifespan with femicide victims in the 2024/25 femicide list ranging between the ages of 20 to 87 years old; and
WHEREAS this month and throughout the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, we acknowledge our community's support of the Wrapped in Courage campaign and commitment to ending gender-based violence; and
WHEREAS there is an urgent need for greater investment and action to end gender-based violence in our community and throughout Ontario by all three levels of Government; and
Now, therefore, I, Darren White, Mayor of the Township of Melancthon proclaim and declare that November 25th, 2026, shall be known as "The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women" and urge all citizens to recognize this day by taking action to support survivors and becoming part of Ontario wide efforts to end gender-based violence.

North-South Environmental Inc – Natural Heritage Peer Review – 2025 Amphibian Monitoring Comment Responses for Melancthon Pit #2 and the Bonnefield Property Pit, Strada Aggregates Inc.

Councillor Neilson spoke to the Report we received back from North-South Environmental Inc.

New/Other/Addition(s)

None.

Unfinished Business

Invitation to Marit Stiles, Leader of the Official Opposition, to visit Melancthon/Dufferin County – Update

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk advised that the new date proposed for Marit Stiles visit is November 26th, and that her Staff have asked what the plan is for the visit. Council would like to do a Site Tour of the Township as well as a Town Hall Meet and Greet at the Township Office to hear resident's concerns.

Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

There were no reports or updates.

At this time, Mayor White thanked Councillor Plowright for her Service to the Township over the past four years.

Delegations

5:30 p.m. – Dave Pratt, Fire Chief, Shelburne and District Fire Department Regarding the Open-Air Burning By-law and the By-law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department in Melancthon Township

Dave Pratt, Fire Chief for the Shelburne and District Fire Department provided Council with an update regarding the Open-Air Burning By-law and the By-law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department in Melancthon Township and answered questions from Council.

Closed Session

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright, that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting at 5:44 p.m. pursuant Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reasons; (b) – Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual. Carried.

Rise With or Without Report from Closed Session

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that Council rise at 5:54 p.m. with Report. Carried.

The report being the directives given to staff in the Closed Session meeting.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean, that By-law 46-2026, 47-2026, 48-2026 and 49-2026 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 Plowright, 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 November 5th, 2026 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 50-2026. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright, that Council adjourn this meeting at 5:55 p.m., sine die. Carried.

Mayor White announced that the next meeting will be the Inaugural Council Meeting on Thursday November 19th, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. and all are welcome!

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MAYOR CLERK