

**THE CORPORATION OF  
THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY  
MINUTES  
COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY June 19, 2024 5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ZOOM CONFERENCING**

**PRESENT** Mayor Jennifer Murphy  
Deputy Mayor Brent Patrick  
Councillor John Epps  
Councillor Tracey Sanderson  
Councillor Merv Buckwald  
CAO Annette Gilchrist  
Deputy CAO Sandra Barr

**REGRETS**

**GALLERY** None

**INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Jennifer Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA:** None

**24.103 MOVED BY** John Epps  
**SECONDED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**THAT:** the agenda be accepted as amended.

Carried

**PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**24.104 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** John Epps

**THAT:** The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 5, 2024 as presented be hereby adopted.

Carried

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**(A) Correspondence "A"**

1. AMO Policy
2. AMO Watchfile June 6 2024
3. AMO Watchfile June 13 2024
4. May 2024 County Council Summary

**(B) Correspondence "B"**

1. Letter of Support - Household Food Insecurity
2. Letter of Support Jurisdiction of Ontario's Ombudsman
3. Letter of Support - National Fire Fighting Strategy
4. Town of The Blue Mountains Re Ridesharing Services - Resolution dated June 3, 2024

**(C) Correspondence "C"**

**24.105 MOVED BY** Merv Buckwald  
**SECONDED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**WHEREAS** direction has been given to staff;

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** the correspondence be filed.

Carried

### **NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

9.1 Cheque Register and Board Report

9.2 Resolution to exempt Emergency Vehicles from Emission Standards

**24.106 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** Merv Buckwald

**WHEREAS** By-Law 2013-017 is a by-law to establish and regulate a Fire Department for the Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley;

**AND WHEREAS** fire vehicles and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services, authorized by Council in By-Law 2013-017, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

**AND WHEREAS** fire vehicles and equipment are governed by industry best practices and the application of law, including the National Fire Protection Association Standards, the Environmental Protection Act and On-Road Vehicle and Engine Emission Regulations;

**AND WHEREAS** no funding is available for new trucks and small and rural municipalities must meet the same as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

**AND WHEREAS** the cost of fire vehicles and equipment along with the cost to heat our halls and fuel our trucks is becoming prohibitive for volunteer services, which account for the majority of firefighters in Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** fire departments are also challenged with fewer volunteers to help raise money at a time when the cost and demand of equipment is rising and the supply of fire apparatus including fire trucks is shrinking due to raw materials and finished material supply chain delays, along with labour shortages which are preventing the truck manufacturers from ramping up production and meeting their production costs;

**AND WHEREAS** these green initiatives and standards have removed the industries go to motor, the Cummins L9 which has increased the price of the chassis as much as \$25,000.00 which will continue to increase under the 2027 EPA standards for diesel engines which will see the Cummings L9 replaced with the new generation X10, which is 2027 EPA compliant but will cost up to \$100,000 more just for the new engine and technology which historically has proven to be unreliable;

**AND WHEREAS** Freightliners with the Cummings L9 have run out of carbon credits in Canada meaning these trucks can not be sold in Canada if the L9 engine was produced after May 31/2023;

**AND WHEREAS** many of the Freightliners that are built have the L9, all these trucks manufactured are unavailable for use in Canada, creating a Canadian supply issue;

**AND WHEREAS** most Ontario and Canadian municipalities currently have the L9s in their fleet of trucks, including roads and fire departments just to illustrate the how popular this engine and set up is for municipalities;

**AND WHEREAS** the cost of heating our halls, fueling our vehicles and the purchase of Fire Trucks will continue to increase at a predicted rate of at least 12% per year. This could mean a 60% increase over the next 5 years;

**AND WHEREAS** any apparatus over 20 years of age significantly impacts our insurance grade leading to additional insurance costs for our residents through their personal insurance if our department is unable to sustain a high enough rating;

**AND WHEREAS** we currently have two Pumpers that are less than 20 years of age. One is turning 20 next year and the other is turning 20 in 2032 which will impact the township's insurance rating should we decide not to purchase a replacement truck in the next 5 years;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** in these times of financial uncertainty, costly mandates such as the emission standards should be rolled back and reviewed for emergency vehicles to confirm realistic timelines, reliability of new technology and reduce the impacts on the supply chain and cost to the public to ensure success;

**AND FURTHERMORE THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs and The *Honourable Steven Guilbeault* Minister of Environment and Climate Change, The Honourable Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, *Jagmeet Singh*, Leader of the New Democratic Party and MP Cheryl Gallant;

**AND FINALLY RESOLVE THAT** this resolution be shared with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Rural Ontario Municipal Association and all municipalities within Renfrew County.

Carried

### 9.3 Resolution to approve purchase of Media Filter

**24.107 MOVED BY** John Epps  
**SECONDED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**WHEREAS** the Manager of Water and Sewer was only able to obtain two quotes and deems the purchase necessary at the lowest obtainable prices as per Part IV Section 3 of Procurement By-Law 2023-17;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Township of Bonnechere Valley approve the purchase and installation of a new Filter Media from Continental Carbon Group for \$68,820 plus HST.

Carried

### 9.4 Resolution to approve an adjustment of taxes

**24.108 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** John Epps

**THAT:** the application for an adjustment of taxes for 34254 Highway 41 be approved due to Exemption. And further that an adjustment of taxes in the amount of \$16,114.32 be made to the property for 2024.

Carried

**CLOSED SESSION – NONE**

**BY-LAWS**

**24.109 MOVED BY** Merv Buckwald  
**SECONDED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**THAT:** THAT: By-Law 2024-032 being a by-law to authorize a Franchise Agreement with Enbridge

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

**24.110 MOVED BY** John Epps  
**SECONDED BY** Brent Patrick

**THAT:** By-Law 2024-033 Being a By-Law to Appoint a Treasurer and Deputy Clerk

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

**24.111 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**THAT:** By-Law 2024-034 Being a By-Law to Appoint Deputy Treasurer

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

**24.112 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** John Epps

**THAT:** By-Law 2024-035 Being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of council

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

**24.113 MOVED BY** Merv Buckwald  
**SECONDED BY** Tracey Sanderson

**THAT:** This Council meeting be adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Carried

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Mayor Jennifer Murphy

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CAO Annette Gilchrist