

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LAURENTIAN HILLS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 10:50 a.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** - The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills was held on Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 10:50 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

The following members of Council were present:

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| Mayor | Anne Giardini |
| Deputy Mayor | Brenda Blimkie |
| Councillor | Bruce Boucher |
| Councillor | Gary McAnulty |
| Councillor | John Hoyle |

Also present:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk | Sherry Batten |
| Treasurer/Deputy Clerk | Tammy Whalen |

II. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

III. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- (a) Marvin Dupuis, NRSA Director/Land Use Coordinator spoke to Council regarding the rerouting of a snowmobile trail and a request for the installation of gates on the unopened road allowance for the protection of SAR's from April to October.
- (b) Town of Deep River Mayor Sue D'Eon and Reeve Glenn Doncaster spoke to Council regarding a request for a proportional financial contribution of \$319,000 to the community pool capital rehabilitation.

The delegations were moved to the beginning of the Protection to Persons and Property Committee meeting. (see Committee minutes)

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of 16 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 73-25

Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting of 16 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 74-25

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting of 29 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 75-25

V. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Protection to Persons and Property of 16 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 76-25

- (b) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Public Works of 16 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 77-25

- (c) Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Community and Social Services of 16 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 78-25

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (Cont'd)

- (d) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Finance and Personnel of 16 April 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 79-25

VI. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Councillor Blimkie asked for a follow up on the Clerks Note in the Public Works Committee meeting. Staff will contact MTO for further clarification on the Highway work proposed for 2025/2026.

VII. OTHER REPORTS

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT this Council does acknowledge receipt of the Chalk River Waste Water Treatment Plant Q1, 2025 Operations Report and the Chalk River Drinking Water System Q1, 2025 Operations Report from Veolia Water Canada.

CARRIED Resolution 80-25

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council does acknowledge receipt of the 2024 Annual Report – Chalk River Wastewater Treatment Plant prepared by Veolia Water Canada.

CARRIED Resolution 81-25

- VIII. MAYOR'S UPDATE** – The Mayor reported that on April 17 she attended an Airport Commission meeting; on the 23 she attended a County Council Meeting, D&P Meeting, Operations Committee Meeting; on the 25 she attended an OPP Service Board Meeting at LV; on May 1 she attended Garrison Petawawa Deployment Family Support Day – Change of Command Ceremony and Change of Appointment Ceremony for 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group and Celebration of Life for Madawaska Valley Mayor Mark Willmer at the Community Center in Barry's Bay; on May 7 she raised the Flag for Community Living; on the 9 she attended the Official Algonquin trail opening at Paquette Road and on the 14 she attended a County Council Meeting, Health Committee, Community Services Committee Meeting and Corporate Services Committee Meeting.

IX. BY-LAWS

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT By-Law No. 11-25 being a By-Law to adopt and approve the 2025 Tax supported and User-Pay budgets for the Town of Laurentian Hills do now be read a first, second and third time and passed.

CARRIED Resolution 82-25

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT By-Law No. 12-25 being a By-Law to adopt and establish the 2025 tax rates do now be read a first, second and third time and passed.

CARRIED Resolution 83-25

- X. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS** - None

- XI. PETITIONS** - None

- XII. CORRESPONDENCE**

ACTION ITEMS

- (a) Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT the Resolutions regarding opposition to the Strong Mayor Powers/designation received from the Town of Essex, Town of Amherstburg, Municipality of North Middlesex, Town of Parry Sound, Town of Greater Napanee, Town of Saugeen Shores, Municipality of South Huron, Municipality of Bluewater, City of Stratford, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, the Town of Deep River, the Town of Petawawa, the municipality of Kingsville, the municipality of North Perth, The Town of Goderich, the Township of Springwater and Town of Shelburne be endorsed.

CARRIED Resolution 84-25

- (b) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the resolutions from the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan requesting the Government of Ontario to end Daylight Savings time be endorsed.

CARRIED Resolution 85-25

- (c) Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor Hoyle

THAT the resolution from the Town of Parry Sound regarding support for the national call for stronger federal support for inclusive research that reflects diversity of Canadian communities be filed.

CARRIED Resolution 86-25

- (d) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the resolution from the Township of Champlain requesting the Government of Ontario to increase surveillance and spot checks of all heavy vehicles travelling on Ontario roads; as well as monitoring the testing standards maintained by privately owned heavy licensing facilities be filed.

CARRIED Resolution 87-25

- (e) Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario announced a proposal to expand the “Strong Mayor Powers”, as provided for by Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001, to the heads of Council in 169 additional municipalities effective May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS the Strong Mayor Powers has raised significant concerns regarding the centralization of power, reduced accountability and alters the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council and decision-making by weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule and diminishes the role of elected municipal Councillors;

AND WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities, elected officials and members of the public are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills formally expresses its opposition to the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers and requests that the Province of Ontario reconsider the legislation or alternatively permit municipalities to opt out;

AND THAT the Town of Laurentian Hills requests that any future proposed amendments to O.Reg 530/22 to expand strong Mayor Powers and Duties to additional municipalities NOT include the Town of Laurentian Hills as a designated municipality for such powers.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all Regional Members of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

CARRIED Resolution 88-25

INFORMATION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT all items of correspondence be filed.

CARRIED Resolution 89 -25

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the Integrity Commissioner Services Annual Report for 2024 from Cunningham Swan be received.

CARRIED Resolution 90 -25

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Laurentian Hills approves the request from Kayla Howes of Dragonfly Family and Learning Services to use the Chalk River Anne Crosson Park for a drop-in play meetup on August 8 from 3-5 pm and other dates that may come forward through the year.

CARRIED Resolution 91-25

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Laurentian Hills approves the date change of the October meeting change from 22 October to 23 October 2025.

CARRIED Resolution 92-25

XV. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor Hoyle

THAT the next portion of the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to section 239 (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

CARRIED Resolution 93-25

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT this meeting of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills does now move out of closed session to rise and report.

CARRIED Resolution 94-25

XVI. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTION - None

XVII. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT By-Law No. 13-25 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills meeting held on May 21, 2025 do now be read a first, second and third time and passed.

CARRIED Resolution 95-25

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT this meeting of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills do now adjourn at 11:15 a.m.

CARRIED Resolution 96-25

MAYOR

CLERK