



**THE TOWNSHIP OF TARBUTT**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 3:00 pm**  
**Township Council Chambers, 27 Barr Road S.**

**PRESENT:** Lennox Smith, Mayor  
David Farrar  
Ursula Abbott  
Darren McClelland  
Jacqui Nagel

**STAFF:** Jillian Hayes Elliott, Treasurer (left the meeting at 5:26)  
Mike Pigeon, Road Superintendent (left the meeting at 4:50)  
Carol Trainor, CAO/Clerk

**GUEST:** Mitch Marinovitch, Auditor, Stefanizzi Professional Corporation

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the regular council meeting to order at 3:00 pm welcoming Auditor Mitch Marinovitch.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

**3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a. Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held March 18, 2026, and the Special Council meeting held March 23, 2026.

Resolution No: 2026 – 56

Moved by: D. Farrar                      Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the minutes of the regular council meeting of March 18, 2026 be adopted as circulated, and the special council meeting of March 23, 2026 be adopted as amended to rescind resolution 2026-52.

Carried

**4. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Mitch Marinovitch, Audit Manager, Stefanizzi Professional Corporation  
Presentation of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements



M. Marinovitch reviewed the financial statements with Council, noting the audit letter which states that all internal controls were met, there were no deviations, and no noted weaknesses in the process, nor in any functions.

The auditor advised that the large legal expenses had the most impact on the financial statements, and these costs can be expected to continue into 2026. Large levies to Policing, ADSAB and Algoma Public Health continue to outpace any increased taxation revenue.

There was discussion about the landfill, ongoing operating expenses and the potential closure costs. Both Councils should look closely at the long term cost of opening a new cell vs the cost of having the waste shipped away and preserving the site. He suggested obtaining a second opinion on the feasibility study and new cell as expansion will significantly increase the asset retirement obligation.

Mr. Marinovitch also noted that the move to ONE Investments should be a positive one, as he has seen their portfolios do very well with solid returns.

Resolution No: 2026 – 57

Moved by: U. Abbott

Seconded by: J. Nagel

Be it resolved that the presentation from the Township Auditor, and the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2025 be approved as presented.

Carried

## 5. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### a. Presentation of the Draft 2026 Budget

Treasurer J. Hayes Elliott advised Council of the amendments made since the budget and tax rate were previously approved at the March meeting. There was an omission of the roads capital in the previous calculation which has resulted in a deficit position but which does not affect any of the planned expenditures. Some savings were found in Transportation, and the actual bid amount for the resurfacing project is less than was budgeted. Councilor Abbott suggested that staff utilize as much of the CCBF and OCIF funding as possible to cover expenses.

Resolution No: 2026 – 58

Moved by: D. Farrar

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the final version of the amended 2026 Budget be approved as circulated with a 2026 tax rate increase of 5%; and

That Council Resolution 2026-52 approving the previous budget be rescinded.

Carried



b. Disbursements for the month of March, 2026

Resolution No: 2026 – 59

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: U. Abbott

Be it resolved that the disbursements for the month ending March 31, 2026 in the total amount of \$189,581.89 be approved.

Carried

**6. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Road Superintendent Report for April, 2026 and minutes of the Roads Committee meeting of February 12, 2026.

M. Pigeon advised that the slip tank that was offered fits into the truck and will work well, and he is grateful to have it. Other budget items:

- The ditching bucket may be straightened rather than replaced;
- Sweeping will be done in the next few weeks, except for Pine Island Road
- Will get quotes for the equipment to collect and reuse that gravel.
- Clay boils are coming up, and a post on Hardwood needs to be fixed;
- Emulsion has been ordered in bulk; shipping costs will be split six ways

Resolution No: 2026 – 60

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Roads Committee dated February 12, 2026 and the report from the Road Superintendent for April 2026 be received; and That the Road Superintendent be authorized to proceed with the purchase of the chainsaw, the pump, and the rebuild of the ditching bucket in accordance with the estimated budget amounts.

Carried

b. Road Resurfacing Bid Results

The Road Superintendent advised that he has spoken with Beamish about the multi municipal bid, and adjusting the bid price to remove the fog seal. The budget will be adjusted for this expenditure.

Resolution No: 2026 – 61

Moved by: U. Abbott

Seconded by: J. Nagel

Be it resolved that the report from the Road Superintendent regarding the 2026 Multi Municipality Road Resurfacing Bid Results be received; and

That the bid from Beamish Construction Inc. dated April 16, 2026 in the total amount of \$1,445,748.20 for all municipalities be received; and



That staff be authorized to advise coordinator Plummer Additional Township and Beamish Construction Inc. that The Township of Tarbutt approves the bid submitted for Tarbutt, as amended to remove the fog seal portion of the project with a final price to be negotiated.

Carried

c. Application for EASE Funding

Staff advised that this application process appears very competitive, and that the Ministry is looking for projects that are above and beyond the standard accessible features. Council felt that this effort might not result in reward and simply received.

Resolution No: 2026 – 62

Moved by: D. McClelland                      Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the report from the Treasurer regarding the Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant Application be received; and  
That the Township's Accessibility Policy and Plan be updated to clearly identify future accessibility projects.

Carried

d. Northern Ontario Heritage Fund (NOHFC) Application Resolution

Resolution No: 2026 – 63

Moved by: J. Nagel                              Seconded by: U. Abbott

Be it resolved that the Council of The Township of Tarbutt supports an application to the NOHFC under the Rural Enhancement Funding Stream for the *MacLennan Hall Rejuvenation* project, in the amount of \$200,000; and  
That the Township agrees to contribute 10% of the total project budget and any cost overruns.

Carried

e. Appointment to the Fire Liaison Committee

Resolution No: 2026 – 64

Moved by: U. Abbott                              Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding appointments to the Fire Liaison Committee be received; and  
That Council approve the composition of the Fire Liaison Committee to be Councilor Nagel, Councilor McClelland, Fire Chief Paul Ackland or designate, Captain L. Flood, and the Clerk or designate.

Carried



f. Review of Election Policies and Procedures

Resolution No: 2026 – 65

Moved by: U. Abbott

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding Election Policies and Procedures be received, and that the policies be affirmed by by-law.

Carried

g. 2026 Election Timelines Update

Resolution No: 2026 – 66

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding dates and information for the 2026 Municipal Election be received, with this information to be incorporated into the 2026 Candidates Guide.

Carried

h. Release of a Restriction on Pine Island Road

Resolution No: 2026 – 67

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: U. Abbott

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding the 1993 restrictive covenants on the Pine Island Properties be received; and

That the Council of the Township of Tarbutt authorizes the deletion of the Restrictive Covenants registered against the property described in PIN 31466-0528(LT) as Instrument LT188583Z, and

That the Mayor and the Clerk be authorized to sign documents required in order to effect the deletion of said Restrictive Covenants.

Carried

i. Report of the CAO/Clerk

Resolution No: 2026 – 68

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the Report from the Clerk dated April 22, 2026 be received; and That a Building Sub-committee be established with Councilors McClelland and Abbott, the Clerk or Designate, the CBO and other staff as needed to focus on projects, upgrades and funding at the MacLennan Hall; and

That the plumbing quotations, and the proposed work be reviewed by members of the building sub-committee before proceeding; and

That the funding to hire one youth worker under the Canada Summer Jobs program be declined.

Carried



## 7. BY-LAWS

- a. A By-law to set the Rates of Taxation for 2026.

Resolution No: 2026 – 69

Moved by: U. Abbott

Seconded by: J. Nagel

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026 - 10 being a By-law to set the rates of Taxation for the year 2026, and to repeal By-law 2025-14; and That said by-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed this Twenty Second day of April, 2026.

Carried

- b. A By-law to renew the Integrity Commissioner contract

The Integrity Commissioner contract expires in April 2026. Council agreed to defer a decision to renew the contract at this time.

- c. A By-law to Adopt Policies during Municipal Elections

Resolution No: 2026 – 70

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: U. Abbott

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026 – 11, being a By-law to adopt Policies for use during the Municipal Elections; and

That said by-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed this Twenty Second day of April, 2026.

Carried

- d. A By-law to Authorize the Delegation of Authority for Restricted Acts

Resolution No: 2026 – 71

Moved by: D. Farrar

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026 – 12, being a By-law to authorize the Delegation of Authority for Restricted Acts of Council during a Restricted Acts Period in an Election Year; and

That said by-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed this Twenty Second day of April, 2026.

Carried

## 8. INFORMATION / CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Information and Correspondence for Council's consideration

Resolution No: 2026 – 72



Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: U. Abbott

Be it resolved that correspondence items a. through m. on the Consent Agenda dated April 22, 2026 be received; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the letter from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors seeking legislative changes to improve municipal worker safety and restrict public interference with municipal roads operations; and

That the Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from NEMI requesting the Ministry of the Environment reconsider the grade of oil permitted for tar and chip surface treatment to extend the life of municipal roads; and

That The Township of Tarbutt support the resolution from Papineau-Cameron requesting that Ontario and Federal veterinary organizations, and OMAFA expand enrolment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians; and

That the letters from FONOM regarding Highways 11 and 17 safety, and an extension of NORDS funding be supported; and

That the resolution from the Municipality of Bluewater requesting that the province amend Blue Box O. Reg 391/21 so that producers are responsible for end of life recycling from small businesses and not for profit organizations in the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the City of Mississauga opposing changes that would reduce or eliminate democratically elected school board trustees; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the Region of Waterloo to request that Bill C-9 be amended to include the noose as a prohibited hate symbol; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the Planet Youth initiative of Algoma Public Health to build a community driven approach to youth engagement and authorize a one time donation in the amount of \$500; and

That Council approves the request from the Township of Johnson Recreation for an annual donation toward recreational programs and facility support as in previous years; and

That Council approves the donation request from the Central Algoma Land Trust at the \$250 sponsorship level.

Carried



## 9. OTHER BUSINESS / ADDENDUM

- a. A By-law to enter into a Shared Services Agreement for CEMC Services

Resolution No: 2026 – 73

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026 – 13, being a By-law to authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with The Township of St. Joseph for a Community Emergency Management Coordinator, and to appoint a Community Emergency Management Coordinator for The Township of Tarbutt; and

That said by-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed this Twenty Second day of April, 2026.

Carried

- b. Working Trailer

Councillor Farrar referenced quotes received for the 12 ft landscape trailer. Council agreed to the quote for the 7 tonne trailer from North Shore Tractor.

## 10. CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No: 2026 – 74

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: U. Abbott

Be it resolved that Council move into closed session at 5:26 pm under Sec. 239 (2) (e) of the *Municipal Act* to discuss litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or local board; and (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

Carried

- a. Decision of the Judicial Review re: Integrity Commissioner

Resolution No: 2026 – 75

Moved by: D. Farrar

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that Council rise from closed session at 6:18 pm; and

That the decision of the Judicial Review panel regarding the Township's Integrity Commissioner decision, and information from legal counsel be received; and

That Tony Fleming at Cunningham Swan Lawyers be approached with respect to providing adjudication on the Integrity Commissioner complaint; and

That staff be authorized to contact the Township's insurer regarding coverage for the claim.

Carried



## 11. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

Resolution No: 2026 – 76

Moved by: U. Abbott

Seconded by: J. Nagel

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026 – 14 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the regular council meeting of April 22, 2026; and That said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.

Carried

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No: 2026 – 77

Moved by: U. Abbott

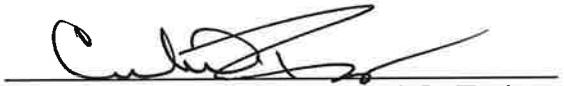
Seconded by: J. Nagel

Be it resolved that the Regular Council meeting of April 22, 2026 be adjourned at 6:23 pm, to meet again on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 4:00 pm for a Special Council meeting under the *Planning Act*.

Carried



Mayor Lennox G. Smith



Clerk Carol O. Trainor