

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council #18
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
October 15, 2025 @ 2:30 p.m.

1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2 ROLL CALL

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor Brad Mountain, Councillor Daniel Sutton (electronically), Councillor Kim Thain, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Shannon Jeffries and Deputy Clerk Shawna Weston.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None Declared.

4 DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

PART I – CONSENT AGENDA

(For the purpose of convenience and for expediting Meetings, matters of business of repetitive or routine nature are included in the Consent Agenda, and all such matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

A particular matter of business may be singled out from the Consent Agenda for debate or for a separate vote upon the request of any Member of Council. In the case of a separate vote, the excluded matter of business is severed from the Consent Agenda, and only the remaining matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

Each and every matter of business contained in the Consent Agenda is recorded separately in the Minutes of the Meeting.)

Council requested clarification on Item No. 7.3, 7.5

RESOLUTION NO. 203

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby adopts the Items in Sections 5 – 7 of Part 1 – Consent Agenda.

Carried.

5 MINUTES

C04-MI

5.1 The review and passing of the Minutes of the previous Meetings.

5.1.1 September 17, 2025 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes

5.1.2 September 29, 2025 – Special Meeting of Council Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 204

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls accepts the Minutes of the previous Meetings of Council numbered 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 at the October 15th, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

None.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

A01-HO

5.3.1 June 26, 2054, District of Kenora Home for the Aged Regular Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 205

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations numbered 5.3.1 at the October 15th, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS

7.1. Correspondence.

H12-FI

7.1.1 Email from Ontario Newsroom, received September 15, 2025, re: Ontario Investing More Than \$746,000 to Train and Protect Firefighters

M06-ON

7.1.2 Email from Ontario Newsroom, received September 16, 2025, re: Ontario Investing \$8 Million to Support First Nations Economic Opportunities and Jobs

E08-LE

7.1.3 Letter from Township of Ear Falls Water Treatment Department dated September 16, 2025, re: Drinking Water Test Results-Community Lead Sampling Program

M06-ON

7.1.4 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated September 17, 2025, re: Province Building and Upgrading More Than 1,000 Ontario Parks Campsites

A01-NA

7.1.5 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated September 22, 2025, re: Ontario Newsroom-Ontario Investing More Than \$5 Million to Protect Forest Sector Jobs in Northern Ontario

M06-ON

7.1.6 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated September 29, 2025, re: Ontario Raising Minimum Wage

*P00-OP

7.1.7 Letter from Solicitor General, dated September 26, 2025, re: OPP Cost Recovery Model

RESOLUTION NO. 206

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.7 at the October 15th, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

7.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – year to date (October 9, 2025).

Council reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - year to date (dated October 10, 2025) in accordance with By-Law 2283-20.

F11-NO

7.3 Covered Pavillion Project – Change Order 02

Council inquired about the status of this project – cement will be poured on Friday and the rest of the project should go fairly quickly.

RESOLUTION NO. 207

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

WHEREAS the Township of Ear Falls is working with Solid Construction Inc. to complete the construction of the Covered Pavillion at 2 Willow Crescent and;

WHEREAS Solid Construction has issued Change Order No. 02 for the Ear Falls Covered Pavillion project due to the revision to the structural foundation drawings as attached and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls authorizes Shannon Jeffries, Treasurer / Deputy Clerk, to execute Change Order No. 02 for the Ear Falls Covered Pavillion project as attached and;

FURTHER THAT funds for the work that exceeds the 2025 Budget allocation shall be funded through Reserves.

Carried.

M02-PR

- 7.4 Letter from New Starts for Women, dated October 2, 2025 re: Request for Proclamation and Flag Raising

RESOLUTION NO. 208

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

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, with over 31 femicides in Ontario since November 26th, 2024; and

WHEREAS 37 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 2023/24 femicide list ranging between the ages of 2 months old to 89 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

WHEREAS a Wrapped in Courage Campaign flag will be raised during Woman Abuse Prevention Month in recognition that the courage of a woman alone is not enough, it takes an entire community to end gender-based violence; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Ear Falls hereby proclaims and declares that November 25th, 2025 shall be known as “The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women” and urges all citizens to recognize this day by taking action to support survivors and becoming part of Ontario wide efforts to end gender-based violence; and,

FURTHER THAT the Township of Ear Falls will raise the Wrapped in Courage Flag on November 1st as a symbol of the community’s commitment to support survivors and address rising rates of gender-based violence, including femicide.

Carried.

F11-FI

7.5 Application to the Ministry of the Solicitor General for the Fire Protection Grant

Mayor Kahoot requested clarification on what initiative this funding project would be for. Administration advised this is for the purchase of an Extractor, Dryer and Commercial sink for the Fire Department

RESOLUTION NO. 209

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

RESOLVED THAT Acting Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Shannon Jeffries is hereby authorized and directed to submit an application for funding to the Ministry of the Solicitor General for the Fire Protection Grant Program to purchase and install an Extractor, Dryer and Commercial Sink for the Ear Falls Fire Department.

Carried.

P09-LA

7.6 Land Use Permit - Stables

RESOLUTION NO. 210

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Treasurer / Deputy Clerk be hereby authorized

and directed to sign Land Use Permit 20204-PLA-00262-LUP-001.

Carried.

M02-PR

7.7 Seniors Month Proclamation

RESOLUTION NO. 211

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Mountain.

WHEREAS RTOERO (Retired Teachers of Ontario/Les enseignantes et enseignants retraités de l'Ontario) District 35 Dryden & Area Retired Educators recognizes October as Seniors Isolation Prevention month; and,

WHEREAS Seniors have contributed, and continue to contribute to the life and vibrancy of our community; and,

WHEREAS Seniors continue to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers, and important and active members of our community; and,

WHEREAS Seniors' contributions past and present warrant appreciation and recognition, and their stories deserve to be told; and,

WHEREAS the health and well being of Seniors is in the interest of all, and further adds to the health and well being of our community; and,

WHEREAS the knowledge and experience Seniors pass on to us continues to benefit all;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls does hereby proclaim October to be Seniors Month and encourage all citizens to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of our Seniors.

Carried.

F22-TA

7.8 Notice of Vesting Property – taxes / penalties / write-offs – Roll Number 6042-000-001-24700-0000

Council inquired about the status of the property in question. Administration advised that following an unsuccessful tax sale with no qualifying bids, the property will now be vested into surplus inventory. The existing structure on the site is scheduled for demolition and once cleared, the land will be advertised for sale as part of the Township's surplus property disposition process.

RESOLUTION NO. 212

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 373 (1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, a Tax Arrears Certificate was registered on June 18, 2024 against Roll No. 6042-000-001-24700-0000; and

WHEREAS the Township of Ear Falls has completed the Sale of Land for Tax Arrears process and was unable to find a successful purchaser;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the amount of \$14,288.66 be written off from Roll No. 6042-000-001-24700-0000 in accordance with Section 354 (2) and (3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended; and

FURTHER THAT the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and register in the name of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls, an Acknowledgement and Direction regarding the registration of a Notice of Vesting, Statement of Compliance and Land Transfer Tax Statements for Roll No. 6042-000-001-24700-0000 in accordance with Section 379 (5) (b) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended; and

FURTHER THAT the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to charge back to the School Boards its proportionate share of the unpaid taxes that are written off in accordance with Section 353 (3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended; and,

FURTHER THAT the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to demolish the building(s) on the property following the transfer of ownership to the Township of Ear Falls.

Carried.

8 BY-LAWS

8.1 By-Law No. 2676-25, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

L04-ST

8.2 By-Law No. 2677-25, a By-Law to Authorize the Execution of a Streetlight Maintenance Agreement with Hydro One Networks Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. 213

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby considers By-Law No. 2676-25 and 2677-25, as passed.

Carried.

PART II – OTHER ITEMS

9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

M03-DO

- 9.1 Letter received from Glenna-Lynn Wigle, dated September 22, 2025, re: Memorial Tree Planting

For Discussion.

Council sought clarification regarding a personal request from Glenna to plant a memorial tree at the golf course. Mayor Kahoot expressed support for the initiative and recommended that the Town designate a specific area to accommodate similar requests in the future. Council directed Administration to gather more information and submit a report to Council with a recommendation. Things to consider when reporting: Determine what other memorial plaques currently exist on the golf course, Collaborate with Public Works to develop a formal plan for memorial tree placements and ongoing maintenance, area to be used for this initiative.

C03-RE

- 9.2 Museum Operations

For Discussion.

Councillor Thain emphasized the importance of maintaining an active working group to rotate museum displays, go through the current items at the museum and have the museum open to the public. In response, Council directed administration to organize an open meeting with the current working group to:

- Review the status of ongoing and upcoming display projects
- Brainstorm new ideas for future exhibits
- Explore opportunities to expand the group with new members

To support this initiative, Council has advised administration to advertise an open house event. Members of the current working group will be invited to attend, and the event will serve as a recruitment opportunity for volunteers interested in contributing to museum displays.

C01-BY

- 9.3 Draft Building By-Law and Code of Conduct from RSM Building Consultants (RSM)

For Discussion.

Council had questions regarding item #5.5 – Inactive Permit Applications – the term should be changed to 12 months. The concern is to avoid idle permits that linger without activity or updates.

Administration to get further clarification on item 13 – Limiting Distance Agreements.

Administration will get clarification on item #15 - Enforcement and Penalties of the Draft By-Law. The Township wants to ensure it retains sole discretion over whether to initiate legal proceedings if a permit holder is found in violation, rather than having that authority rest with RSM or any other external party.

Administration will give RSM feedback on the above items, RSM will make the adjustments and prepare a presentation to Council to adopt the final by-law.

9.4 Letter from Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW)-Canada Post Mandate Review

For Discussion.

For information purposes only.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Mayor Kahoot

Meeting with Wabauskang

- Met with Chief Petiquan of Wabauskang to discuss the status of the proposed seniors housing project in town. The conversation focused on identifying any progress and exploring opportunities to advance the project. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for November, where Mayor Kahoot and Chief Petiquan will engage with Greg Rickford to discuss the initiative further.

Kinross

- A meeting is scheduled with Kinross for Friday, October 17th to discuss their strategic plans for 2026. The meeting is expected to cover potential developments, community impacts, and opportunities for collaboration with the Town.

MNR

- Mayor Kahoot and Administration had conversations regarding the Cottage Lot Project with Jack Jamieson as well as the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)-the survey has come back for cottage lots. We've been communicating with Chris Jones, Planner addressing National Heritage Values. We've received indication that lot pricing information from the MNR can be expected to be available by spring 2026.

11 CLOSED MEETING

None.

12 CLOSED REPORT

None.

13 ADJOURNMENT

13.1 RESOLUTION NO. 214

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 3:08 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk