

# **THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS**

**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council # 6  
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers  
March 18, 2026 @ 2:30 p.m.

## **1 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

## **2 ROLL CALL**

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor Brad Mountain, Councillor Kim Thain, Deputy Clerk Shawna Weston and 1 member of the public

## **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. 7.1.2, and 7.5

RESOLUTION NO. 040

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

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 March 4, 2026 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 041

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 at the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

C06-JO

5.2.1 September 25, 2025 – Joint Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

C06-JO

5.2.2 November 27, 2025 – Joint Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 042

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 of Committees numbered 5.2.1 to 5.2.2 at the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

None.

**6 TENDERS / PROPOSALS / QUOTES**

None.

**7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS**

7.1. Correspondence.

M06-ON

7.1.1 News Release from Ontario News, dated March 2, 2026, re:  
Ontario Releases Accelerated Plan to Complete Construction on  
Roads to the Ring of Fire Five Years Ahead of Schedule

M03-DO

7.1.2 Letter received March 3, 2026, from Highway 105 Tourism &

Marketing Board, re: Sponsorship request for Sportsman's Dinner.

Councillor Thain requested clarification on whether anyone from Council attends this event on behalf of the Municipality and what level of sponsorship is typically provided. It was noted that there has been no Council representation at the event in the past, and the Municipality usually contributes a door prize as its form of sponsorship.

M06-ON

7.1.3 News Release from Ontario News, dated March 6, 2026, re: Ontario Newsroom-Ontario Investing More Than \$10.7 Million to Build Bridges and Culverts Along Winter Roads in the North.

P03-EM

7.1.4 News Release from Ontario News, dated March 13, 2026, re: Province Welcomes Ontario Mine Rescue to Ontario Corps.

7.1.5 Letter received March 10, 2026, from Mayor Arie Hoogenboom, Rideau Lakes Township, re: Rideau Lakes Concerns - Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bil C-15 Budget).

C12-ON

7.1.6 Red Lake-Ear Falls Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment Board 2024-2025 Annual Report.

M06-ON

7.1.7 News Release from Ontario News, dated March 10, 2026, re: Ontario Taking Next Steps to Improve Conservation Authorities.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 043

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 documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.7 at the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

7.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – year to date (March 16, 2026)

Council reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - year to date (dated March 16, 2026) in accordance with By-Law 2283-20.

M03-DO

7.3 Letter from Charlene Henrie, President of the Royal Canadian Legion Ear Falls Branch 238, dated March 3, 2026, re: Request to reduce fees

for the Recreation Centre second floor for the Spring Classic on  
March 20-21, 2026

RESOLUTION NO. 044

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

WHEREAS the rental rate for the Second Floor of the Arena (with an  
S.O.P.) is currently \$55.00/hour; and

WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Legion Ear Falls Branch 238 has  
requested that the fees be reduced for the Spring Classic being held  
March 20-21, 2026;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the  
Township of Ear Falls hereby agrees to reduce the rental fees from  
\$55/hour to \$55/day for the Second Floor of the Arena (with an  
S.O.P) for the provision of Bar Services for the Spring Classic being  
held March 20-21, 2026.

Carried.

7.4 Remuneration and Expenses – Kenora District Services Board  
(KDSB)

RESOLUTION NO. 045

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township  
of Ear Falls hereby approves the attached Statement of Remuneration  
and Expenses paid to a Member of Council as a Kenora District  
Services Board (KDSB) Board Member for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup>  
to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Carried.

D12 – IN

7.5 Water Treatment Plant Low Lift Station Expansion

RESOLUTION NO. 046

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls  
authorizes and directs Acting Treasurer / Deputy Clerk, Shannon  
Jeffries, to execute the acceptance letter for the purchase of Crown  
Land for the Water Treatment Plant Low Lift Station Expansion and  
to take all actions required on behalf of the Township to bring forward  
an Agreement of Purchase to Council for approval.

Carried.

Council requested clarification on the anticipated timeline for this project's approval. Administration advised that an Agreement will be presented to Council once it is available and noted that the project remains in its early stages.

7.6 Remuneration and Expenses – Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)

RESOLUTION NO. 047

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby approves the attached Statement of Remuneration and Expenses paid to a Member of Council as a Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) Board Member for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Carried.

7.7 Remuneration and Expenses

RESOLUTION NO. 048

Moved by Brad Mountain. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby accepts the attached Statement of Remuneration and Expenses paid to Members of Council and the appointed Board and Committee Members of the Township of Ear Falls for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Carried.

P09-LA

7.8 Land Use Permit - Waterline

RESOLUTION NO. 049

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

RESOLVED THAT the Acting Treasurer / Deputy Clerk be hereby authorized and directed to sign Land Use Permit RLSL-2024-PLA-00005-LUP-003.

Carried.

**8 BY-LAWS**

8.1 By-Law No. 2697-26, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

L04-WA

- 8.2 By-Law No. 2698-26, a By-Law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement with Emcon Services Inc. for temporary use of the Ear Falls Waste Disposal Site.

L07-LA

- 8.3 By-Law No. 2699-26, a By-Law to Authorize the Purchase of Crown land, located on Waste Disposal Road, CL 20096, Plan 23R-15274.

F00-KI

- 8.4 By-Law No. 2700-26, a By-Law to Establish and Adopt the Ear Falls Late Bus Committee Bursary Policy for the Township of Ear Falls.

Council requested that Administration request that the committee consider adding language indicating that bursaries may also be offered for trade school attendance.

RESOLUTION NO. 050

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. 2697-26, 2698-26, 2699-26 and 2700-26 as passed.

Carried.

**PART II – OTHER ITEMS**

**9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION**

None.

**10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Mayor Kevin Kahoot

Sawmill Operations

- Met with Interfor's Vice President to discuss the future of sawmill operations. Severance packages have been issued, and four staff members will remain to oversee the mothballing of the site. Mayor Kahoot reiterated that Interfor remains responsible for cleanup of the hog pile and for paying property taxes until the property is sold. Wabauskang First Nation is exploring a potential purchase of the mill, and Mayor Kahoot requested ongoing updates as their plans progress. A feasibility study is currently underway.

Cottage Lot Project

- JFT Developments now has all required permits in place to construct access roads and install culverts at the development site. Still finalizing

the arrangements for completing an Environmental Assessment.

**11 CLOSED MEETING**

None.

**12 CLOSED REPORT**

None.

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 RESOLUTION NO. 051

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Brad Mountain.

RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 2:47 p.m.

Carried.

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Mayor

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Clerk