

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council # 8
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
April 15, 2026 @ 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, Councillor Doug Woolsey, Acting Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Shannon Jeffries, Deputy Clerk Shawna Weston, Manager of Water and Wastewater Operations Brigitte Jette and 2 members 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.)

RESOLUTION NO. 061

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

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 April 1, 2026 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 062

Moved by Doug Woolsey. 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 April 15th, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

None.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

A01-HO

5.3.1 January 29, 2026 – Kenora District Home for the Aged Meeting Minutes

A01-HO

5.3.2 March 5, 2026 – Kenora District Home for the Aged Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 063

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

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 and 5.3.2 at the April 15th, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

6 TENDERS / PROPOSALS / QUOTES

None.

7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS

7.1. Correspondence.

M06-ON

7.1.1 News Release from Ontario News, dated April 1, 2026, re: Ontario Raising Minimum Wage to Protect Workers and Support a Competitive Economy.

D05-TI

7.1.2 Notice from Ministry of Natural Resources, dated March 12, 2026, re: Inspection of Approved 2026-2027 Work Schedule for Dryden and Wabigoon Forests.

M06-ON

7.1.3 News Release from Ontario News, dated April 8, 2026, re: Ontario Expanding Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) Coverage to More Frontline Care Workers.

M06-ON

7.1.4 News Release from Ontario News, dated April 9, 2026, re: Northlander Begins Critical Testing Phase in Northern Ontario.

RESOLUTION NO. 064

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.4 at the April 15th, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

7.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – year to date (April 10, 2026)

Council reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - year to date (dated April 10, 2026) in accordance with By-Law 2283-20.

D00-FO

7.3 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 for the 2026 Tax Year.

RESOLUTION NO. 065

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls has no objection to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 of the Municipal Act, 2001 for the 2026 Tax Year regarding the property identified as:

ROLL NUMBER	CURRENT PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT	REVISED PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT
6042-000-001-38100-0000	\$4,300 RT	\$4,300 E

Carried.

D00-OA

- 7.4 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation’s Response to the Application made under Section 357 for the 2026 Tax Year.

RESOLUTION NO. 066

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls has no objection to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 of the Municipal Act, 2001 for the 2026 Tax Year regarding the property identified as:

ROLL NUMBER	CURRENT PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT	REVISED PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT
6042-000-001-17244-0000	\$4,300 RT	\$4,300 E

Carried.

H07-UN

- 7.5 Letter of Understanding with Unifor Local 324-4

RESOLUTION NO. 067

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes and directs the Acting Treasurer / Deputy Clerk to execute the Letter of Understanding with Unifor Local 324-4 re: Landfill Site Operator.

Carried.

F00-SC

- 7.6 Report to Council from the Manager of Water and Wastewater Operations, dated April 8, 2026, re: Schedule of Fees Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 068

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

WHEREAS Council accepts the Report to Council presented at the Regular Meeting of Council held on April 15th, 2026; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls approves the amendment to Schedule “W-04” – Water and Sewage Fee Schedule – within the 2026 Schedule of Fees, as attached, effective April 15th, 2026.

Carried.

F18-RF

7.7 Water Treatment Plant Reactivator Resurfacing Project

RESOLUTION NO. 069

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls accepted the bid from Clara Industrial Services for the Water Treatment Plant Reactivator Resurfacing Project in the amount of \$297,000 plus HST; and

WHEREAS any concrete or steel repairs required for the Water Treatment Plant Reactivator Resurfacing Project necessitated additional pricing; and

WHEREAS a quote in the amount of \$16,820 plus HST was accepted from Venshore Mechanical Ltd. for the Reactivator 1 steel repairs; and

WHEREAS a quote in the amount of \$20,929 plus HST was accepted from Industrial Tools and Technicians Inc. for the Reactivator 2 steel repairs; and

WHEREAS additional surface preparation due to steel repairs in both reactivators is required in the amount of \$18,699.50 plus HST by Clara Industrial Services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls authorizes the Acting Treasurer / Deputy Clerk to execute the necessary agreements related to the Reactivator Resurfacing Project repairs; and

FURTHER THAT the associated costs be funded through the Water/Wastewater Reserves, GL60-6000-9742.

Carried.

8 BY-LAWS

8.1 By-Law No. 2702-26, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 070

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby considers By-Law No. 2702-26 as passed.

PART II – OTHER ITEMS

9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

9.1 Summer Pavilion / Parks and Playground Plan

For discussion.

Councillor Woolsey requested clarification regarding the intended use of the Pavilion, noting that seniors have expressed interest in activities such as pickleball and lawn bowling at this location. He will meet with the Seniors Ad Hoc Committee in the coming month to identify the types of equipment and activities they would like to see and to develop a plan moving forward.

D05-MI

9.2 Letter received from Kinross Great Bear Resources Ltd, dated March 11, 2026, re: Community Safety and Well Being Plan

For discussion.

Mayor Kahoot reported that Kinross has provided donations to Wabauskang First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, and the Municipality of Red Lake in support of similar initiatives. Further discussions will be held to determine how Kinross would like these funds to be allocated.

C07-EL

9.3 Report to Council dated April 10, 2026, from Acting Treasurer / Deputy Clerk Shannon Jeffries re: Election 2026 – Council Use of Municipal Resources / Employee Requirements

RESOLUTION NO. 071

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls accepts the Report to Council dated April 10, 2026, from Acting Treasurer / Deputy Clerk Shannon Jeffries re: Election 2026 – Council Use of Municipal Resources / Employee Requirements.

Carried.

9.4 Winter Road Maintenance

For Discussion.

Council discussed concerns regarding road conditions and winter maintenance. Members requested clarification on current maintenance processes, emphasized the need for timely grading during thawing periods, and suggested exploring options such as subcontracting

certain snow removal activities as well as training/certification of Public Works employees on operating the grader.

Administration to work with the Public Works Manager to prepare a report for Council outlining what aspects of this year's operations were effective, what challenges occurred and the reasons behind them. The report will also identify proposed changes for future seasons, measures to reduce recurring issues, and any support required from Council to achieve these improvements.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Mayor Kahoot

Kinross

- Exploring the establishment of an on-site camp to accommodate the significant number of contractors expected over the coming year.
- The next Community Information Session will be June 17.

Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA)

- Attended OGRA conference at the end of March in Toronto. The Manager of Public Service and Operations also attended and participated in a number of workshops offered at the conference.

Mayor Kahoot received a letter from a community member requesting that the Township consider purchasing a gaga ball pit for local children, accompanied by a petition of support with 63 signatures. Mayor Kahoot will follow up with the resident to discuss the request further.

Councillor Kim Thain

Community Health Centre Board (CHC)

- There was a board meeting yesterday and new office furniture including a privacy curtain will be arriving on May 2 ready for installation.

11 CLOSED MEETING

None.

12 CLOSED REPORT

None.

13 ADJOURNMENT

13.1 RESOLUTION NO. 072

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 3:30 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk