



## MINUTES

**DATE:** APRIL 15, 2026

**CLOSED MEETING:** 10:05 A.M.

**COUNCIL MEETING:** 10:00 A.M.

The April 15, 2026 Council Meeting was held on the above date and called to order at 10:00 a.m. via electronic participation and in-person at 7404 Wellington Rd, Puslinch.

### 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

### 2. ROLL CALL

#### ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Sara Bailey  
Councillor Russel Hurst  
Councillor Jessica Goyda  
Councillor John Sepulis  
Mayor James Seeley

#### STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Courtenay Hoytfox, CAO
2. Justine Brotherston, Director of Corporate Services / Municipal Clerk
3. Laura Emery, Manager of Corporate Services / Deputy Clerk
4. Mike Fowler, Director of Public Works, Parks and Facilities
5. Mary Hasan, Director of Finance/Treasurer
6. Michael Chant, Interim Fire Chief
7. Andrew Hartholt, CBO
8. Sarah Huether, Director of Community Services & Human Resources

### 3. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

#### Resolution No. 2026-109:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That Council approves the April 15, 2026 Agenda and Addendum as circulated; and**

**That Council approves the additions to the agenda as follows:**

**Consent Item 6.1.2 Questions received from Council seeking additional information and the corresponding responses provided by staff regarding the April 15, 2026 Council agenda.**

**CARRIED**

### 5. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

Councillor Hurst declared a potential conflict of interest related to Item 12.1.1 as I am a board member of Sunrise Therapeutic & Riding Centre and will refrain from discussion and any voting on this item.

Mayor Seeley declared a potential conflict of interest related to Confidential Item 14.5 as I own a property adjacent to the proposed development and will refrain from discussion and any voting on this item.

### 6. CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1 Adoption and Receipt of the Minutes of the Previous Council and Committee Meetings
  - 6.1.1 March 25, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes
- 6.2 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Spring Housing Bill 2026 House of Commons Notification Letter



- 6.3 AMO Policy Update – Funding Development Charge Reductions Bill 98 Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act
- 6.4 AMO Policy Update – Provincial Budget Spending Priorities and Build Canada Homes Operational Funding
- 6.5 AMO Policy Update - Regional Governance Changes, Finalized Buy Ontario Directive
- 6.6 AMCTO Advocacy Update - Province Announces Changes to Upper-Tier Composition
- 6.7 Grand River Conservation Authority Board Summary of the General Membership Meeting - March 27, 2026
- 6.8 Joint News Release - Grand River Conservation Authority to transfer Puslinch Tract to the Township of Puslinch
- 6.9 Conservation Halton Update on Consolidation to Western Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority
- 6.10 Municipality of Bluewater Support Avon Maitland District School Board Potential Changes
- 6.11 Town of Northeastern Manitoulin Resolution for The Ministry of the Environment to Reconsider Lighter Oil Tar and Chip
- 6.12 Township of Oro-Medonte support Association of Ontario Road Supervisors Health and Safety Request
- 6.13 Town of Lincoln Resolution Request Ontario to Extend Deadline Notices to Designated Listed Heritage Properties
- 6.14 County of Wellington Preferences and Requests Related to Future Recycling Services
- 6.15 Wellington County Ontario Provincial Police Detachment Board Report February 2026
- 6.16 Optimist Club of Puslinch 50th Anniversary Thank You Note
- 6.17 Puslinch Profile Feature April 2026

**Resolution No. 2026-110:** Moved by Councillor Hurst and  
Seconded by Councillor Goyda

**That the Consent Agenda items listed for April 15, 2026 Council meeting be received for information with the exception of 6.2, 6.11, and 6.12.**

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2026-111:** Moved by Councillor Sepulis and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That the Consent Agenda 6.2 be received for information; and**

**Whereas Council supports the changes included in the ERO-026-0302 regarding Communal drinking water and wastewater systems;**

**That Council direct staff to include posting in the report to Council regarding the various ERO postings on the May 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Agenda.**

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2026-112:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That the Consent Agenda item 6.11 be received for information.**

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2026-113:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That the Consent Agenda 6.12 be received for information; and**

**Whereas the Township is experiencing similar issues and that Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.**

**CARRIED**



**7. DELEGATIONS:**

7.1 Specific Interest (Items Listed on the Meeting Agenda)

7.1.1 None

7.2 General Interest (Items Not Previously Listed on the Meeting Agenda)

7.2.1 None

**8. PUBLIC MEETINGS:**

8.1 April 15, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. Public Information Meeting held in-person at the Municipal Office (7404 Wellington Road 34) and by electronic participation through Zoom regarding Zoning By-law Amendment Application D14-BAR (Bardwell) 6759 Laird Road West

8.2 April 15, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. Public Information Meeting held in-person at the Municipal Office (7404 Wellington Road 34) and by electronic participation through Zoom regarding Community Improvement Plan

**9. REPORTS:**

**9.1 Puslinch Fire and Rescue Services**

9.1.1 None

**9.2 Finance Department**

9.2.1 Presentation by pl.ural regarding Community Improvement Plan Update

**Resolution No. 2026-114:**

Moved by Councillor Bailey and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That the presentation by pl.ural regarding Community Improvement Plan Update be received for information.**

**CARRIED**

**9.3 Office of the CAO**

9.3.1 None

**9.4 Corporate Services Department**

9.4.1 Report COR-2026-014 ERO Postings Proposed Changes to Planning Act, Building Code Act, Municipal Act, City of Toronto Act

**Resolution No. 2026-115:**

Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That Report COR-2026-014 ERO Postings Proposed Changes to Planning Act, Building Code Act, Municipal Act, City of Toronto Act be received for information; and,**

**That Council direct staff to prepare comments in response to the ERO postings for Council's consideration at the May 6, 2026 Council Meeting; and,**

**That Council direct staff to prepare and submit comments in response to ERO posting 026-0300 on behalf of the Township in order to meet the April 29, 2026 ERO commenting deadline.**

**CARRIED**

**9.5 Building Department**

9.5.1 None

**9.6 Public Works Department**



9.6.1 None

**9.7 Community Services and Human Resources Department**

9.7.1 None

**10. CORRESPONDENCE:**

10.1 ERO 026-0290 Environmental Compliance Assessment Application McNally Pit (5497) and ERO 026-0291 Environmental Compliance Assessment Application CBM Aberfoyle Pit (5520)

**Resolution No. 2026-116:** Moved by Councillor Hurst and  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

**That Correspondence Item 10.1 ERO 026-0290 Environmental Compliance Assessment Application McNally Pit (5497) and ERO 026-0291 Environmental Compliance Assessment Application CBM Aberfoyle Pit (5520) be received for information; and,**

**That Council direct staff to submit objections to all Environmental Compliance Assessment Applications on a go forward basis to allow time for adequate review and comment; and,**

**That Council direct staff to continue engaging with County of Wellington Source Water Protection and the Township's consultants to prepare comments regarding the ECA Applications.**

**CARRIED**

10.2 County of Wellington Council Resolution regarding 2025 Residential Development Monitoring Report

**Resolution No. 2026-117:** Moved by Councillor Sepulis and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That Correspondence Item 10.2 County of Wellington Council Resolution regarding 2025 Residential Development Monitoring Report be received for information.**

**CARRIED**

10.3 Amrize Pit (5514) Approved Permit to Take Water Number 1775-DHLMHY March 31, 2026

**Resolution No. 2026-118:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That Correspondence Item 10.3 Amrize Pit (5514) Approved Permit to Take Water Number 1775-DHLMHY March 31, 2026 be received for information.**

**CARRIED**

**11. COUNCIL REPORTS:**

11.1 Mayor' Updates

11.1.1 Mayor Seeley remarked that OPA 131 passed at County Planning Committee as presented last week.

**Resolution No. 2026-119:** Moved by Councillor Sepulis and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That Council receive the Mayor's updates for information.**

**CARRIED**

**12. BY-LAWS:**

12.1.1 BL2026-019 Community Housing Development Fund Agreement

Councillor Hurst declared a potential conflict of interest related to Item 12.1.1 as I am a board member of Sunrise Therapeutic & Riding Centre and will refrain from discussion and any voting on this item.

**Resolution No. 2026-120:**

Moved by Councillor Bailey and  
Seconded by Councillor Goyda

**That By-law 2026-019 being a By-law to authorize the entering into Agreements with the County of Wellington for the Community Housing Development Fund be taken as read three times and finally passed in open Council.**

**CARRIED**

**13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Councillor Sepulis remarked on the Township clean-up day coming up.

Mayor Seeley remarked on the upcoming Mayor's Business Breakfast on May 13, 2026, 7:30-9:00a.m. at the Puslinch Community Centre.

Councillor Bailey remarked on the Aging in Place Solutions taking place at Mini Lakes on April 25, 2026.

**14. CLOSED SESSION:**

Council was in closed session from 10:05 a.m. to 1:29 p.m.

The Clerk stopped the recording and removed all public attendees from the webinar. The webinar was then 'locked' so no new participants are able to join.

Mayor Seeley declared a potential conflict of interest related to Confidential Item 14.5 as I own a property adjacent to the proposed development and left the Council Chambers during discussions on this item and did not participate in any associated vote.

**Resolution No. 2026-121:**

Moved by Councillor Hurst and  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

**That Council shall go into closed session under Section 239 of the Municipal Act for the purpose of:**

- 14.1 Confidential report regarding advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – By-law Complaint Policy Section 3.14 c)**
- 14.2 Confidential report regarding a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization – Infrastructure Expansion Feasibility**
- 14.3 Confidential report litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board – Potential Environmental Review Tribunal**
- 14.4 Confidential report regarding personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees – Senior of the Year Nomination**
- 14.5 Confidential report litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board – Ontario Land Tribunal Matter**
- 14.6 Confidential report regarding a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board – Township Road Allowance**
- 14.7 Confidential minutes from previous closed meetings:**
  - 14.7.1 March 25, 2026 Closed Council Meeting Minutes**
- 14.8 Confidential Report regarding litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board - Complaint Update Report**



**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2026-122:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That Council moves into open session at 1:29 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

Council resumed into open session at 1:29 p.m.

Mayor Seeley declared a potential conflict of interest related to Confidential Item 14.5 as I own a property adjacent to the proposed development and will refrain from discussion and any voting on this item.

**Resolution No. 2026-123:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

**That Council receives the following report for information:**

- 14.1 Confidential report regarding advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – By-law Complaint Policy Section 3.14 c)
- 14.2 Confidential report regarding a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization – Infrastructure Expansion Feasibility
- 14.3 Confidential report litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board – Potential Environmental Review Tribunal
- 14.4 Confidential report regarding personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees – Senior of the Year Nomination
- 14.5 Confidential report litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board – Ontario Land Tribunal Matter
- 14.6 Confidential report regarding a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board – Township Road Allowance
- 14.7 Confidential minutes from previous closed meetings:
  - 14.7.1 March 25, 2026 Closed Council Meeting Minutes
- 14.8 Confidential Report regarding litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board - Complaint Update Report; and

**That staff proceed as directed.**

**CARRIED**

**15. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION:**

None

**16. NOTICE OF MOTION:**

None

**17. NEW BUSINESS:**

None



**18. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW:**

18.1 By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch

**Resolution No. 2026-124:** Moved by Councillor Bailey and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That the following By-law be taken as read three times and finally passed in open Council:**

**By-law 2026-020 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch at its meeting held on the 15 day of April 2026.**

**CARRIED**

**19. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Resolution No. 2026-125:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

**That Council hereby adjourns at 2:47 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

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James Seeley, Mayor

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Justine Brotherston, Municipal Clerk