



## October 8, 2025 Council Meeting

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**Addition to the Agenda Questions received from Council seeking additional information and the corresponding responses provided by staff regarding the October 8, 2025 Council agenda items.**

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6.5 AMO Policy Update Call to Amplify Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy 2026  
Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation

-will move to use template for motion and letter to MPP **Staff will have a draft motion prepared.**

6.7 Bluewater Recycling Association regarding Proposed Amendments to the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act

-do our township businesses have this concern?

**Staff received the following response from County Staff:**

*Many Puslinch Township businesses have access to curbside collection recycling services through the County's downtown business recycling collection programme. The businesses located outside of the downtown areas of Aberfoyle and Morriston can use the County's waste facilities to drop off recycling materials at no charge, if they register to receive a minimum fee exemption card. These recycling supports have been provided through decisions made by County Council.*

*The correspondence from Bluewater, which you attached, speaks to concerns related to a proposal to allow a limited number of businesses located along residential recycling routes to participate in curbside recycling collection, as part of the producer-led recycling system. This proposal has been revoked and so there will be no expansion of recycling to businesses through the producer-led system.*

*So, to answer your question, I would suggest that most businesses in Ontario would share concerns that they do not necessarily have access to convenient recycling services, unless the municipality they are located in has decided to take on additional costs to provide these services.*



#### 6.17 City of Kitchener Council Resolution regarding Cost Recovery Fees for Paper Billing for Tax and Utility Bills

-is this worthwhile for us to consider?; what is the cost of sending out tax bills on an annual basis? *The Township issues both interim and final tax bills annually. Billing services, including postage, printing, envelopes, paper, and stuffing, are provided through a third-party vendor at an annual cost of approximately \$10,429. Monthly tax arrears statements are also issued through the vendor, at a cost ranging from \$431 to \$982 per month. Supplemental billings and tax write-offs are processed internally by Township staff throughout the year.*

#### 6.12 Town of Mapleton Council resolution regarding the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion (NGEP Phase 3)

*Staff reached out to our contact at Enbridge and received the following response: “The ERO that our team did outreach on was to garner support for Phase 3 as we understand that many municipalities want natural gas. The Township of Puslinch will still be able to submit an application for Phase 3 if this comes to fruition. I cannot confirm but I would assume the application process will be similar. Since the ERO has closed, we are asking any municipalities that still wish to support a potential Phase 3 to submit a resolution or a letter of support to the Ontario Ministry of Energy and Mines and your local MPP.”*

*Our contact advised they would be happy to attend at a Council meeting to provide a deputation.*

-is this part of the rollout which we had provided previously on two occasions support for submission of an application to Enbridge?; if yes what do we need to do to get on the list for Phase 3?

-if a motion is required would the suggested motion noted below be appropriate?

-although the ero 025-0923 has closed, as a municipality would a motion by our Council still be accepted? If so a suggested motion similar to Mapleton as follows;

“WHEREAS the Province has posted ERO 0250923, Consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion, seeking feedback from municipalities, Indigenous communities and other stakeholders on how Phase Three (3) could best support access to natural gas for community development.

AND WHEREAS expanding access to natural gas is identified as a tool to support affordability and economic growth in Ontario communities, with Phases



One (1) and Two (2) estimated to enable connections for approximately 17,000 buildings across 59 communities, and 16 projects completed to date.

AND WHEREAS The Township of Puslinch is working toward its housing and employment land goals that contribute to Ontario's broader objective to build at least 1.5 million homes by 2031 and recognizes that timely servicing solutions (including natural gas where appropriate) can help enable these targets.

AND WHEREAS Ontario's energy future relies on a balance of affordability, reliability, and sustainability by leveraging a mix of energy solutions—including natural gas, electricity, and emerging energy technologies, to meet growing community needs. And whereas natural gas continues to play a critical role in supporting energy affordability, economic competitiveness, and enabling housing and employment growth across the province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council:

1. Supports the Ministry's consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion (NGEP Phase 3) and endorses access to natural gas as an option to other energy solutions to advance Puslinch's housing, employment lands, economic development objectives, and agricultural properties.
  2. Directs staff to submit comments to ERO 0250923 reflecting Puslinch priorities, including: OPA 131 which includes the identification of 139 hectares of Secondary Agricultural Area land to be redesignated Rural Employment Areas, expansion of Aberfoyle's Urban Boundary to permit more housing and Rural Residential Severance Cut-off Date date from March 2005 to May 2025.
  3. Forwards this resolution to MPP Joseph Racinsky, the Minister of Energy and Mines, the Ontario Energy Board, AMO, and neighbouring municipalities."
- lastly given that Enbridge had delegated to Mapleton Council would it be beneficial for us to request a similar delegation?

## 9.2 Finance Department

### 9.2.1 Report FIN-2025-021 2024 Development Charges and Cash in Lieu of Parkland ≠

-re "The Township expects to incur a total of \$20.7 million in growth-related capital expenditures during this period. This is lower than the \$27.5 million anticipated in the 2024 DC Background Study, as the Township continues to closely monitor and adjust the capital cost estimates of capital projects based on new information available to staff as part of the annual budget process and as master plans are



approved and formalized in the budget process.”; has this situation occurred previously? Should we be taking action now?

Yes, this situation has occurred in the past and is common. The Development Charges (DC) Background Study provides flexibility to adjust project timing and cost estimates as new information becomes available through the annual budget process or as master plans are updated. This ensures that growth-related capital forecasts remain current and aligned with approved budgets. The specific provisions noted in the DC Background Study were summarized in Schedule D of the Report. No further action is required currently beyond the standard annual review and update of the capital forecast. The Township will be updating its DC Background Study in 2027 following the completion and Council approval of the master plans, as outlined in Report FIN-2025-020 presented at the June 18, 2025, Council meeting.

9.4.1 Report COR-2025-040 2026 Municipal and School Board Election Voting Method -re “Staff have reviewed and compared alternative voting methods and do not recommend the use of internet/telephone voting in Puslinch until such a time that reliable internet service is improved across the Township.”; what couldn’t internet mailing be another way for residents to vote or there a requirement to provide one additional means of voting only? We have provided tax billing by email. What was the uptake percentage wise?

The Township only needs to provide one approved voting method for the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election. Staff are not recommending internet and telephone voting at this time for a number of reasons including concerns regarding access to broadband internet within the Township, the costs of providing this as an additional voting method, as well as security concerns related to online elections. In addition, staff would not recommend internet and telephone voting at this point in time as the cyber security risks are constantly changing.

There was a recent study completed by Brock, Carleton and Western universities which identified that in the 2022 municipal election, of the municipalities that used internet voting, 70 per cent were at “high or extreme risk” of compromise. A link to the study is available here: [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-032-05036-6\\_9](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-032-05036-6_9)

By offering Vote by Mail as the Voting Method for the Municipal and School Board Election, staff will be able to run the election using a single voting method, that will be supplemented by in person options through the Voter Assistance/Voter Drop Off locations.



Since the Township has launched its tax billing by email, there have been 30 residents who requested to have the tax bills sent by email.

9.4.6 Report COR-2025-046 – Recreation and Community Wellness Committee  
Goals/Objectives Update - Seniors Drop-in Programming

-re “2. Another type of activity would be more physical. Over a period of weeks in April, there would be fewer restrictions on driving by this age group. Once again, a Tuesday afternoon could be used from 1 to 2:30. An introduction to a variety of activities such as Zumba, line dancing, pilates and/or yoga. These activities were listed on the engagement survey as some things seniors would like to try. Each of these programs comes with a price tag of \$100 an hour, therefore, over the course of a month, a budget request of \$400 is being put forward for the 2026 calendar year”; would this equate to \$3.6K per year or are there additional cost

-will staff be applying for a grant under the  
MINISTRY FOR SENIORS AND ACCESSIBILITY 2025-26 SENIORS COMMUNITY GRANT  
PROGRAM for 2026?

Staff are only recommending that a drop-in time slot be scheduled, as noted in the report, for non-physical activities that do not require an instructor or additional costs. Senior Recreation Programming, such as Zumba, line dancing etc., is recommended to be reviewed through the Recreation and Parks Master Plan. As part of that review staff will investigate funding opportunities for programming such as the Ministry for Seniors Accessibility Community Grant Program.