



***Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 21, 2026
1 Johnson Drive, Desbarats***

The following minutes are comprised of resolutions and the Clerk's interpretation of the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: R. McKinnon, J. Kern, K. Stobie, G. Grant, E. McKinnon (6:04 PM)

Staff: J. Maguire, J. Boucher, R. Smith, D. Methot, P. Trotter, F. Labelle, R. Ford, C. Goertzen, M. Brisson

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest were filed at this time by:

- Councillor Stobie for item 7 as he has a pecuniary interest in the payment of accounts as his company, Stobie Mechanical, did mechanical work on municipal equipment.
- Mayor McKinnon for item B4 – landfill professional services – his employer, Tulloch Engineering, was considered for consulting services.
- Neither Council member stayed in the room when the matters were discussed, they did not participate in the discussion, and did not vote on the matters.

Res. 2026-001 K. Stobie, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL called the regular meeting to order at 6:00pm. (cd)

Res: 2026-002 G. Grant, J. Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts the Minutes of the December 19, 2025 meeting as presented. (cd)

Councillor McKinnon joined the meeting at 6:04 PM.

Councillor Stobie left the room at 6:05 PM as item 7, was being voted on.

Res: 2026-003 G. Grant, J Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL adopts the statements for the month of December, 2025. (cd)

Councillor Stobie returned to the meeting at 6:07 PM.

Res: 2026-004 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the report from Johnson Township Fire Chief be received regarding proposed training expenses for the year 2026; and

That Council authorize the Fire Chief to proceed to register Fire Department Members to attend the North Eastern Fire Education Conference as well as other training opportunities;

And that Council authorize payment of firefighter training expenses, prior to the formal approval of the 2026 Municipal Budget, to cover expenses of the Ontario Fire Marshal certification courses, the Northeastern Firefighter Educational Conference, and other training expenses as determined by the Fire Chief, as presented. (cd)

Res: 2026-005 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL of the Township of Johnson does agree to tender for the following items through the amalgamated tender:

- 8250m² double surface treatment (Gordon Lake Road)
- 8450m² single surface treatment (Diamond Lake Road)
- 950m² double surface treatment (Old Soo Road Apron)
- 108,000 liters (2 loads) of liquid calcium

(cd)

Res: 2026-006 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts the Staff and Committee Reports for December 2025, as presented. (cd)

Res: 2026-007 J. Kern, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopt By-law 2026-1159 being a by-law to authorize the Municipality to borrow from time to time, until taxes are collected and other revenues are received, the amount Council considers necessary to meet the current expenditures of the municipality, as presented. (cd)

Res: 2026-008 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts By-law No. 2026-1160, being a by-law to set the taxation ratios for 2026 to be born by each property class, as presented. (cd)

Res: 2026-009 E. McKinnon, J. Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts By-law No. 2026-1161 being a By-law to provide for an interim tax levy and to provide for payment of taxes and to provide for penalty for unpaid taxes for 2026, as presented. (cd)

The Joint Landfill Committee meeting was held on 2026 01 14 at Johnson Township Council Chambers. The following resolution was adopted to receive the minutes as presented.

Res: 2026-010 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL receive the Joint Landfill Committee minutes from 2026 01 14, as presented. (cd)

Mayor McKinnon, having declared a Conflict of Interest regarding Item B4, regarding the 2026 Landfill Work Schedule, left the room at 7:15 pm. Councillor Grant assumed the Chair as Acting Mayor. With the Mayor absent the following resolution was discussed and voted on.

Res: 2026-011 E. McKinnon, J. Kern

WHEREAS the proposed work Schedule for 2026 was received from Tulloch Engineering, and recommended for approval by the Landfill Committee.

THEREFORE, Johnson Township does support the Proposed work plan for 2026, including:

- The Annual Operations Report
- Hydrogeological Report on Groundwater and Surface Water Testing, and
- Sampling and Testing of the groundwater/surface water sites

(cd)

Mayor McKinnon returned to the regular meeting at 7:20 pm and resumed the Chair.

A news release was received from the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities regarding the homelessness crisis in Northern Ontario. Council adopted the following resolution, in support of FONOM requesting the Province of Ontario to work with municipal partners to address this timely matter.

Res: 2026-012 G. Grant, K. Stobie

WHEREAS homelessness is increasing at an alarming rate in Northern Ontario, driven in part by untreated mental illness and substance use disorders, and is placing significant strain on municipal services and community safety; and

WHEREAS municipalities lack the legislative tools and sustainable funding needed to respond effectively;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Johnson supports the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities' call for urgent provincial action, including amendments to the Mental Health Act, collaboration with the federal government on housing-focused interventions for acute intoxication, and long-term investment in supportive housing and mental health and addictions services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the appropriate Provincial Ministers, the local MPP(s), AMO, and FONOM. (cd)

Res: 2026-013 G. Grant, E. McKinnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL goes into a closed meeting at 7:25 PM

- Labour relations or employee negotiations (Section 239 (2) (d))
(cd)

Res: 2026- 014 G. Grant, K. Stobie

RESOLVED that we agree to come out of closed meeting AT 7:40 PM and that the recommendations per the staff report be approved as presented. (cd)

Res: 2026-015 E. McKinnon, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL pass By-law number 2026-1162, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council on 2026 01 21, as presented. (cd)

Res: 2026-016 E. McKinnon, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL agrees to adjourn and meet again 2026 02 18 or at the call of the Mayor, as presented. (cd)

Mayor: Reg McKinnon

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer: Janet Boucher