



**The Municipality of Mississippi Mills**  
**Council Meeting**  
**MINUTES**

**February 11, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**Hybrid**  
**3131 Old Perth Road.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Lowry  
Deputy Mayor Minnille  
Councillor Ferguson  
Councillor Holmes  
Councillor Souter  
Councillor Torrance

**ABSENT:** Councillor Lowe

**Staff Present** Ken Kelly, CAO  
Jeanne Harfield, Clerk  
Casey Munro, Deputy Clerk  
Kathy Davis, Director of Corporate Services  
Melanie Knight, Director of Development Services & Engineering  
Calvin Murphy, Recreation Manager  
Jon Wilson, Chief Building Official

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Lowry called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**B. CONSIDERATION OF A CLOSED SESSION**

**Resolution No 034-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson  
**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** Council enter into an in-camera session at 5:32 pm as per advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that

purpose (Municipal Act s.239 2(f)) and litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; (Municipal Act s.239 2(e))

**CARRIED**

**B.1 Building Matter Update**

**B.2 Litigation Matter Update**

**C. RISE AND REPORT**

**C.1 Building Matter Update**

Information was provided in camera.

**C.2 Litigation Matter Update**

Information was provided in camera.

**D. O CANADA**

Council stood for the playing of O Canada.

**E. MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION**

Council observed a moment of silent meditation.

**F. ATTENDANCE**

The Clerk announced attendance.

**G. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Resolution No 035-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson

**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**H. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

Mayor Lowry declared a conflict of interest on the following L.2 - Community Benefits Agreement BESS 6299 County Road, L.3. - Recommendation Report - D14-COM-24 (6299 County Road 29), and N.1- Bylaw 25-007 D14-COM-24

(6299 County Road 29) as all matters relate to a property owned by a family member. Mayor Lowry also declared a conflict of interest on item L.7 - Elected Official Remuneration Policy Review as the matter is related to her current role.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Resolution No 036-25**

**Moved by** Deputy Mayor Minnille  
**Seconded by** Councillor Ferguson

**THAT** the Council minutes dated January 28, 2025 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**J. DELEGATIONS, DEPUTATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

**J.1 Mississippi Mills Youth Centre**

Emery Schaettgen, Warner Schaettgen, Maeve Kerwin, and Charlotte Kennedy members of the Thrive Committee from the Mississippi Mills Youth Centre, presented information to Council including: the goals of the committee, identifying community needs, overview of recent survey result, what youth need in Mississippi Mills, and next steps.

Members posed questions including: Thrive Committee as a model for other communities, association with Planet Youth, survey participation base, solutions, how to connect with youth, attending committee meetings, working with the school boards, Youth Advisory Panel, including youth in decision making, and sharing survey findings.

**Resolution No 037-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter  
**Seconded by** Councillor Torrance

**THAT** the delegation from Emery Schaettgen, Warner Schaettgen, Maeve Kerwin, and Charlotte Kennedy Members of the Thrive Committee from the Mississippi Mills Youth Centre be received as information;

**AND THAT** the survey results be shared with staff to promote and the consultant for the Community Services Master Plan.

**CARRIED**

## **J.2 Learning Again In Almonte**

Jane Ellens, Learning Again in Almonte, presented actions of the Learning Again in Almonte November Symposium including: goal and vision of the symposium, number of participants, findings of the symposium, community interests and needs, opportunities for community involvement and partnerships, follow-up session and maintaining an on-going dialogue.

Members then posed questions including: municipal involvement and community input, council involvement, and sharing findings from the symposium.

### **Resolution No 038-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson

**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** the delegation from Jane Ellens of Learning Again in Almonte be received as information;

**AND THAT** the document prepared by Learning Again in Almonte be circulated to staff for their awareness.

**CARRIED**

Council recessed at 7:05 pm and resumed at 7:13 pm

## **K. PUBLIC MEETINGS**

### **K.1 Background Report - D14-MM1-25 - Housekeeping**

Melanie Knight, Director of Development Services and Engineering presented the background report on the proposed zoning amendment. The Chair then invited members of the public to speak. No one spoke.

## **L. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

### **Resolution No 039-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter

**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**THAT** Council approve the Committee of the Whole motions from the January 28, 2025 meeting.

**CARRIED**

**L.1 Employee Benefit Information**

**Resolution No 040-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter

**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**THAT** Council remain with Mosey and Mosey and join the LAS consortium for employee benefits for a potential cost savings of \$71,771;

**AND THAT** staff bring back additional information on ASO prior to the next renewal date.

**CARRIED**

**L.4 Recommendation Report - D14-283-24 (3020 Ramsay Concession 11B)**

**Resolution No 041-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter

**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**THAT** Council approve the Zoning By-law Amendment to amend the zoning of the subject lands which are municipally known as 3020 Ramsay Concession 11B, Ramsay Ward, Municipality of Mississippi Mills, to rezone the subject lands from Rural (RU) to Rural, Special Exception (RU-XX), similar in effect to Attachment A

**CARRIED**

**L.6 Mid-Term Governance Review**

**Resolution No 042-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter

**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**THAT** Council receive this report as information;

**AND THAT** staff be directed to bring back related policies, plans and by-laws to future meetings for consideration

**CARRIED**

## **L.5 Revisions to By-Law No. 02-27 – Traffic and Parking By-Law**

### **Main motion:**

**THAT** Council amends By-Law 02-27 as follows;

#### Schedule B – No Parking

- Add - John Street, from Water St. to Reserve St. on both sides.
- Add - Any highway/street where a Municipally managed Sanitary Pump Station or Water treatment facility is located; a No Parking area shall be established for 15m directly in front of the facility.

#### Schedule C – Restricted Parking

- Remove - Permitted 10 minute parking on Little Bridge Street on the North Side between 73 and 77 Little Bridge.

#### Section 14

- Amendment: Include Authorized Agents of the Municipality.

**AND THAT** Council direct staff to identify alternative 10 min parking options near Little Bridge St.

### **Motion to Amend**

**Moved by** Councillor Torrance

**Seconded by** Councillor Souter

strike out: Schedule C - Restricted Parking: Remove - Permitted 10 minutes parking on Little Bridge Street on the North Side between 73 and 77 Little Bridge.

insert: **AND THAT** Council direct staff to reinstate 10min parking on Little Bridge Street on the North Side between 73 and 77 Little Bridge.

**Not voted on**

Councillor Torrance mover, and Councillor Souter seconder, agreed to a friendly amendment of the proposed amendment to remove the proposed insert: **AND THAT** Council direct staff to reinstate 10min parking on Little Bridge Street on the North Side between 73 and 77 Little Bridge.

**Motion to Amend:  
Resolution No 043-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Torrance  
**Seconded by** Councillor Souter

strike out: Schedule C - Restricted Parking: Remove - Permitted 10 minutes parking on Little Bridge Street on the North Side between 73 and 77 Little Bridge.

**DEFEATED**

**Resolution No 044-25**

**Moved by** Deputy Mayor Minnille  
**Seconded by** Councillor Ferguson

**THAT** Council amends By-Law 02-27 as follows;  
Schedule B – No Parking

- Add - John Street, from Water St. to Reserve St. on both sides.
- Add - Any highway/street where a Municipally managed Sanitary Pump Station or Water treatment facility is located; a No Parking area shall be established for 15m directly in front of the facility.

Schedule C – Restricted Parking

- Remove - Permitted 10 minute parking on Little Bridge Street on the North Side between 73 and 77 Little Bridge.

Section 14

- Amendment: Include Authorized Agents of the Municipality.

**AND THAT** Council direct staff to identify alternative 10 min parking options near Little Bridge St.

YAS (4): Mayor Lowry, Deputy Mayor Minnille, Councillor Ferguson, and Councillor Holmes

NAS (2): Councillor Souter, and Councillor Torrance

Councillor Torrance requested a recorded vote

**CARRIED (4 to 2)**

Deputy Mayor Minnille took over as Chair.

Council considered all matters that Mayor Lowry declared a conflict on.

**L.2 Community Benefits Agreement BESS 6299 County Road**

Mayor Lowry declared a conflict of interest on the following item. Mayor Lowry left Council Chambers and did not participate in the vote or discussion.

**Resolution No 045-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson

**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** Council to accept the community benefits agreement for the Battery Energy Storage System located at 6299 County Road 29, Mississippi Mills.

**CARRIED**

**L.3 Recommendation Report - D14-COM-24 (6299 County Road 29)**

Mayor Lowry declared a conflict of interest on the following item. Mayor Lowry left Council Chambers and did not participate in the vote or discussion.

**Resolution No 046-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson

**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** Council approve the Zoning By-law Amendment to amend the zoning of the subject lands, municipally known as 6299 County Road 29, from Rural, Special Exception 42-h (RU-42-h) to Rural, Special Exception 42 (RU-42) in order to permit the development of a two-phase, 14.98 megawatt battery electric storage system, similar in effect to Attachment A.

**CARRIED**



**L.7 Elected Official Remuneration Policy Review**

Mayor Lowry declared a conflict of interest on the following item. Mayor Lowry left Council Chambers and did not participate in the vote or discussion.

**Resolution No 047-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson

**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** Council direct staff to investigate the option of a full-time Mayor and bring back a report for consideration;

**AND THAT** Council direct staff to conduct the regular review including increasing allotment for council training of By-law 24-023 Elected Official Remuneration and bring back a report prior to 2026 for approval.

**CARRIED**

**N. BY-LAWS**

Only by-law 25-007 was considered as Mayor Lowry declared a conflict on this matter. Remaining two by-laws considered under the By-law section of the agenda.

**N.1 Bylaw 25-007 D14-COM-24 (6299 County Road 29)**

Mayor Lowry declared a conflict of interest on the following item. Mayor Lowry left Council Chambers and did not participate in the vote or discussion.

**Resolution No 048-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Torrance

**Seconded by** Councillor Souter

**THAT** By-law 25-007 being a by-law to amend By-law No. 11-83 being the Zoning By-law for the Municipality of Mississippi Mills for the lands which are legally described as Concession 8 East, Part of Lot 8, Ramsay Ward, Municipality of Mississippi Mills be read, passed, signed and sealed.

**CARRIED**

**M. COUNCIL REPORT**

Mayor Lowry returned to Council Chambers and resumed as Chair

**M.1 Municipal Resolution - Request for Support**

**Resolution No 049-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter

**Seconded by** Councillor Torrance

**WHEREAS** the Federal and Provincial governments are formulating plans in response to the threatened tariffs on Canadian goods and services exported to the U.S.;

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipality of Mississippi Mills will support and assist the governments of Ontario and Canada as partners, including in times of challenges and uncertainty;

**AND WHEREAS** Mississippi Mills stands with the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario and its members in every part of Ontario to work together to continue to build our shared social and economic prosperity;

**AND WHEREAS** our local economies, businesses and industries in Ontario municipalities are the foundation of Ontario's economy, fundamental to the national economy and to Canada's prosperity;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Municipality of Mississippi Mills supports the provincial and federal governments on the measures they have put in place in response to the proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods and ask that they take strong measures to protect the interests of Ontario in any upcoming trade negotiations;

**AND THAT** the federal and provincial governments remove any impediments to municipalities preferring Canadian companies and services for capital projects and other supplies;

**AND THAT** the provincial and federal governments work vigorously to remove trade barriers between provinces as a response to US tariffs and support Canadian businesses;

**AND THAT** the CAO be directed to bring back a report detailing a temporary purchasing policy that integrates and addresses these concerns;

**AND THAT** Council encourages residents to adopt a “buy local” and “buy Canadian” practice and support local businesses where they are able to do so;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT** copies of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Hon. Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- The Hon. Nate Erskine-Smith, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities
- The Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Rebecca Bligh, President, FCM and Councillor, City of Vancouver
- Robin Jones, President, AMO and Mayor of Westport
- MPP John Jordan
- MP Scott Reid

**CARRIED**

M.1.a Peterborough County re: Proposed Tariffs on Canadian Goods

**M.2 Proclamations - None**

**M.3 Time Sensitive Items**

M.3.a Adopt the 2025 Operating Budget

**Resolution No 050-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Holmes

**Seconded by** Councillor Ferguson

**THAT** Council approve the 2025 Operating Budget as presented.

**CARRIED**

**M.4 Notice of Reconsideration**

None

**N. BY-LAWS**

**N.1** considered earlier in the agenda

**N.2 Bylaw 25-008 Traffic and Parking (amends 02-27)**

**Resolution No 051-25**

**Moved by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**Seconded by** Councillor Ferguson

**THAT** By-law 25-008 being a by-law to amend Traffic and Parking By-law 02-27 be read, passed, signed and sealed.

**CARRIED**

**N.3 Bylaw 25-009 D14-283-24 (3020 Ram Conc 11B)**

**Resolution No 052-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Holmes

**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**THAT** By-law 25-009 being a by-law to amend By-law No. 11-83 being the Zoning By-law for the Municipality of Mississippi Mills for the lands which are legally described as Concession 11, West Part of Lot 25; Part 3 of Reference Plan 27R9641, Ramsay Ward, Municipality of Mississippi Mills be read, passed, signed and sealed.

**CARRIED**

**O. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS**

The following was shared:

- Mayor Lowry commended the Fire Department and Public Works Department regarding an incident that occurred at the Ramsay Public Works Garage for their swift response.
- Scouting and Guide Breakfast at the Civitan
- Mississippi Mills Community Fund will be launched on Feb 20th at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum
- Business Breakfast February 19

**O.1 211 Day**

February 11th is 211 day.

**P. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

**Resolution No 053-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Souter

**Seconded by** Deputy Mayor Minnille

**THAT** By-law 25-010 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills at its regular meeting held on the 11th day of February 2025, be read, passed, signed and sealed in Open Council this 11th day of February 2025.

**CARRIED**

**Q. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution No 054-25**

**Moved by** Councillor Ferguson

**Seconded by** Councillor Holmes

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Christa Lowry, MAYOR

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Jeanne Harfield, Clerk