



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 6:50 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials: Krista Power, Director – Legislative Services & City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Cynthia Olsen, Acting Commissioner - Growth
Katie Piché, Council & Committee Clerk

1. City Council

Deputy Speaker: Councillor Greg Johnsen

2. Opening Ceremonies

2.1 Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Shelby Ch'ng provided a land acknowledgement.

2.2 Moment of Silent Reflection

2.3 National Anthem

Berlyn Hergert, youth soloist from All the Daze Productions performed the National Anthem.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Aside from those disclosures already recorded in the previous minutes as presented here, no additional disclosures of interest were announced.

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Confirmation of Agenda

Confirmation of Agenda - March 17, 2026 - City Council

4.2 Minutes of Previous City Council Meeting

The Minutes of the following Meetings of the Thunder Bay City Council, to be confirmed:

1. The Thunder Bay City Council held on March 3, 2026 was distributed separately on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.3 Minutes of Previous Special Committee of the Whole Meeting

Minutes of Special Committee of the Whole-Closed Session held on March 3, 2026, to be confirmed was distributed separately on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.4 Finance & Administration Standing Committee Minutes

Minutes of the March 10, 2026 Finance & Administration Standing Committee, for information was distributed separately on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.5 Non-Business Meeting Minutes

Non-Business Meeting Minutes, held on March 10, 2026, for information was distributed separately on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.6 Northwood Ward Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Meeting 01-2026 of the Northwood Ward, held on February 26, 2026, to be confirmed.

4.7 The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board Minutes

Minutes of Meeting 01-2026 of the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board, held on January 15, 2026, for information.

4.8 Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Minutes

Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, held on January 28, 2026, for information.

4.9 Mayor's Taskforce on Building More Homes Advisory Committee Minutes

Minutes of Meeting 01-2026 of the Mayor's Taskforce on Building More Homes Advisory Committee, held on January 21, 2026, for information.

4.10 Application for Cancellation, Reduction or Refund of Taxes Under Section 357 of the Municipal Act

Report 033-2026-Corporate Service-Revenue recommending that the cancellation, reduction or refund of taxes totaling \$15,361.00 as outlined in the Report be approved.

Confidential Memorandum from Manager-Billing & Collection Chantal Harris, dated March 3, 2026, for information was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager, City Solicitor and Commissioner-Corporate Services only on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.11 Application for Cancellation, Reduction or Refund of Taxes Under Section 358 of the Municipal Act

Report 035-2026-Corporate Services-Revenue recommending that the cancellation, reduction or refund of taxes totaling \$3,201.89 due to gross or manifest errors in the preparation of the assessment rolls as outlined in the Report be approved.

Confidential Memorandum from Manager-Billing & Collection Chantal Harris, dated March 3, 2026, for information was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager, City Solicitor and Commissioner-Corporate Services only on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.12 Uncollectible Accounts 2025

Report 036-2026-Corporate Services-Revenue recommending that the uncollectible accounts, which remain unpaid on the 2025 receivable files, be written off.

Confidential Memorandum from Manager-Billing & Collection Chantal Harris, dated March 3, 2026, for information was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager, City Solicitor and Commissioner-Corporate Services only on Friday, March 13, 2026.

4.13 Consent Agenda Resolution

MOVED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etrene

WITH RESPECT to the Consent Agenda for the March 17, 2026 City Council meeting, we recommend that the following items be confirmed:

1. Confirmation of Agenda
2. Minutes of Previous City Council Meeting
3. Minutes of Previous Special Committee of the Whole Meeting
4. Finance & Administration Standing Committee Minutes
5. Non-Business Meeting Minutes
6. Northwood Ward Meeting Minutes
7. The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board Minutes
8. Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Minutes
9. Mayor's Taskforce on Building More Homes Advisory Committee Minutes

10. Application for Cancellation, Reduction or Refund of Taxes Under Section 357 of the Municipal Act

11. Application for Cancellation, Reduction or Refund of Taxes Under Section 358 of the Municipal Act

12. Uncollectible Accounts 2025

For (10): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etrene, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, Councillor Dominic Pasqualino, and Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Gieruga

CARRIED (10 to 0)

5. Items Arising from Closed Session

5.1 Contract Related Matter - Contribution Agreement

2026CLS.006 (Community Services-Transit) was previously presented in Special Committee of the Whole-Closed Session held earlier in the evening.

MOVED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to Report 2026CLS.006 (Community Services-Transit), we recommend that the Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay receive the funding as indicated in this Report;

AND THAT the Commissioner, Community Services be authorized to execute any agreements in relation to this funding.

For (10): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etrene, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, Councillor Dominic Pasqualino, and Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Gieruga

CARRIED (10 to 0)

5.2 Property Related Matter - Art Gallery Update

2026CLS.008 (Corporate Services/Growth) was previously presented in Special Committee of the Whole-Closed Session held earlier in the evening.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

WITH RESPECT to Report 2026CLS.008 (Corporate Services/Growth), we recommend that the Funding Agreement between The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay Art Gallery dated the 3rd day of October 2025, be amended as set out in this Report, including a deferral of the Weather Tight milestone from April 30, 2026 to August 31, 2026 and such other related amendments to the Funding Agreement, where impacted by the deferred date, as needed;

AND THAT the City Treasurer be authorized to execute the Funding amendment agreement, and any related documentation to enact the amendments to the Funding Agreement;

AND THAT the lease between The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay Art Gallery dated the 24th day of April 2023, be amended as set out in this Report, including deferral of the Weather Tight milestone from April 30, 2026 to August 31, 2026;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

For (9): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etreni, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, and Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

Against (1): Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Giertuga

CARRIED (9 to 1)

5.3 Board Appointment - Tbaytel Board of Directors

Confidential Memorandum from Councillor Albert Aiello Chair-Thunder Bay Recruitment Committee dated March 11, 2026 was previously presented

in Special Committee of the Whole-Closed Session held earlier in the evening.

MOVED BY: Councillor Michael Zussino

SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to the Confidential Memorandum from Councillor Albert Aiello-Chair- Thunder Bay Recruitment Committee, dated March 11, 2026, we recommend that the following person be appointed:

- Paul Fitzpatrick be appointed for a 3 year term, expiring June 30, 2029, or until such time as a replacement has been appointed.

For (10): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etreni, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, Councillor Dominic Pasqualino, and Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Giertuga

CARRIED (10 to 0)

6. Reports of Administration

6.1 Annual Report on Council Board and Committee Expenses 2025

Report 081-2026-Corporate Services-Finance, reporting on remuneration and expenses as required under Section 284 of the Municipal Act, 2001, for information was distributed separately on Friday, March 13, 2026.

6.2 Cargo Van for Temporary Shelter Village Operations - Budget Appropriation 9-2026

Report 147-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement recommending that Appropriation 9-2026, to create a capital project in the amount of \$70,000 for a cargo van to support the Temporary Shelter Village operational transportation needs, funded through the Health Canada – Emergency Treatment Fund Grant, be approved was distributed separately on Friday, March 13, 2026.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

WITH RESPECT to Report 147-2026, we recommend that Appropriation 9-2026, to create a capital project in the amount of \$70,000 for a cargo van to support the Temporary Shelter Village operational transportation needs, funded through the Health Canada – Emergency Treatment Fund Grant, be approved;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

For (10): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etreni, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, Councillor Dominic Pasqualino, and Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Giertuga

CARRIED (10 to 0)

7. New Business

7.1 Establishment of a Special Committee of the Whole - Open Session Meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 and a Special Committee of the Whole - Closed Session Meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Memorandum from Jeff Walters, Manager – Legislative Services and Deputy City Clerk, dated March 12, 2026 containing a recommendation to establish a Special Committee of the Whole - Open Session Meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 to receive information on Designated Encampment Sites and the Use of Public Spaces By-law.

The following resolution is presented to establish a Special Committee of the Whole - Open Session Meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 and a Special Committee of the Whole - Closed Session Meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2026.

MOVED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Jeff Walters, Manager – Legislative Services and Deputy City Clerk, dated March 12, 2026, we recommend that a Special Committee of the Whole meeting be established on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 to commence at 6:30 p.m.;

AND THAT the 2026 Calendar of Meetings be updated accordingly;

AND THAT a Special Committee of the Whole – Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in order to receive information pursuant to the Municipal Act (Section 239 (2)) relative to:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

For (10): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etrene, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, Councillor Dominic Pasqualino, and Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Gieruga

CARRIED (10 to 0)

8. Confirming By-law and Confirming By-law Resolution

8.1 By-law 105-2026 – Confirming By-law – March 17, 2026

A By-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of Council, this 17th day of March 2026.

8.2 Confirming By-law Resolution

Confirming By-law Resolution - March 17, 2026 - City Council

MOVED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etrene

THAT the following By-law be introduced, read, dealt with individually, engrossed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed and numbered:

By-law Number: 105-2026

1. A By-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of Council, this 17th day of March, 2026.

For (10): Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Councillor Rajni Agarwal, Councillor Albert Aiello, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Councillor Kasey Etrene, Councillor Brian Hamilton, Councillor Greg Johnsen, Councillor Kristen Oliver, Councillor Dominic Pasqualino, and Councillor Michael Zussino

Absent (3): Councillor Mark Bentz, Councillor Andrew Foulds, and Councillor Trevor Gieruga

CARRIED (10 to 0)

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Deputy Speaker

City Clerk