



Quality of Life Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 4:31 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver

Officials: Jeff Walters, Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Brendan Hardick, Solicitor II
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Dana Earle, Director – Customer Service
Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Dave Paxton, Fire Chief
Dave Tarini, Deputy Fire Chief
Kieran McMonagle, Manager – Indigenous Relations
Danielle Slongo, Climate Action Specialist
Yvonne Opoku, Council & Committee Clerk
Flo-Ann Track, Council & Committee Clerk

1. Quality of Life Standing Committee in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium (Council Chambers)

Chair: Councillor Kristen Oliver

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Shelby Ch'ng provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Kristen Oliver declared a conflict with respect to Report 011-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement, Community Efficiency Financing Design Study as their employer delivers funding to support program delivery.

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to the January 27, 2026 Quality of Life Standing Committee meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Deputations

5.1 HART Hub

Correspondence received on January 6, 2026 from Ashley McEwan - Norwest Community Health Centres, requesting to provide a deputation relative to the Thunder Bay HART Hub.

CEO, NorWest Community Health Centres Juanita Lawson and Director, Mental Health & Substance Use Programs Brittany D'Angelo appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1 Quality of Life Standing Committee Minutes

Minutes from the Quality of Life Standing Committee, held on December 16, 2025, for information.

7. Reports of Administration

7.1 311 Implementation

Report 045-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service providing information relating to the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline and requesting endorsement of the Quality of Life Standing Committee to forward the recommendation to City Council for approval.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to Report 045-2026-City Manager's Office-Customer Service Division, we request endorsement of the Standing Committee to forward the following recommendation to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT Administration be authorized to proceed with the implementation of a 311 service for the City of Thunder Bay in accordance with the Canadian N11 Notification & Implementation Guideline;

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

CARRIED

7.2 Community Efficiency Financing Design Study

Report 044-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement requesting feedback and endorsement from the Quality of Life Standing Committee on a Home Efficiency Improvement Loan Program, as outlined in the Community Efficiency Financing Design Study.

At the request of the Chair, Councillor Shelby Ch'ng assumed the Chair.

Councillor Kristen Oliver declared a conflict and refrained from discussing or voting on the following resolution.

Climate Action Specialist Danielle Slongo appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

Senior Consultant - Dunsky Energy Climate Advisors Janice Ashworth appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to Report 044-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement, we request endorsement from the Standing Committee to forward the following recommendation to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT Administration be directed to pursue funding to support the creation of a Home Energy Improvement Loan Program in the City of Thunder Bay;

AND THAT the City continue to explore opportunities to collaborate on a regional third-party financing program with other municipalities in Northern Ontario;

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

CARRIED

7.3 2025 Indigenous Relations Annual Report

Report 070-2026- Growth-Strategy & Engagement providing an annual update on Indigenous Relation activities and outcomes, including progress on the Seven Youth Inquest recommendations, for information.

Councillor Kristen Oliver resumed the Chair.

Manager, Indigenous Relations Kieran McMonagle appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

7.4 Revised Emergency Response Plan

Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue was distributed separately on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

The Deputy City Clerk advised that Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations has been withdrawn from the agenda by Administration, to be re-scheduled at a future date.

7.5 Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law Report

Report 025-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue seeking endorsement of the updated Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating

By-law which aligns with legislation, operational practices and Council approved service levels. Distributed separately on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to Report 027-2026-Infrastructure & Operations-Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, we request endorsement of the Quality of Life Standing Committee to forward the following recommendations to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT City Council approve the Draft Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law as attached to this report (Attachment A) to establish and regulate the Fire Department, its mandated services, authority structure, and fees for additional emergency services;
AND THAT By-law 50-1984, as amended be repealed;

AND THAT Chapter 890, titled Fire Service – Regulation of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code be repealed;

AND THAT City Council enacts the new Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Establishing and Regulating By-law;

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

CARRIED

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.