



Ward Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 5, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

North McIntyre Rec Centre

2051 Government Road

1. McIntyre Ward Meeting 01-2026

Chair: Councillor Albert Aiello

2. Resource Persons

Sergeant Justin Dubuc , Thunder Bay Police Service

Yvonne Opoku, Council & Committee Clerk

Lori Wiitala , Committee Clerk & Legislative Specialist

3. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed those in attendance, introduced Administration and the Guest, and provided introductory comments.

There were approximately 20 people in attendance.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the McIntyre Ward meeting held on October 1, 2025, for information.

5. 2026 Budget Overview

The Chair provided an overview of the new governance structure, including the Standing Committees, which were implemented in September.

Discussion was held relative to the capital and operating budgets. It was noted that the budget passed with an increase of 4% to the tax levy, which was above the 2.6% increase originally requested by Council. The Chair explained that this

resulted from cost increases associated with outside agencies, boards, and commissions that are beyond the City's direct control.

Further discussion was held relative to the specific factors driving the increase. It was noted that safety and security requirements have risen due to mental health issues, the opioid crisis, and domestic violence. Further, an attendee raised concerns regarding the City's overall spending, specifically citing the high cost of infrastructure such as bus shelters; in response, it was explained that rising global costs for materials and labour have significantly impacted the budgets for such projects.

6. Designated Truck Route Enforcement Review

Sergeant Justin Dubuc provided an overview of the Designated Truck Route (DTR), which came into effect on October 1, 2025. Discussion was held relative to the goal of the policy, which is to redirect heavy commercial trucks from residential and business areas onto the Trans-Canada Highway to improve safety, reduce noise, and decrease road wear.

Sergeant Dubuc noted that certain vehicles, such as passenger buses, vehicles operating on behalf of the City, and delivery vehicles, are exempt from these restrictions. Discussion was held relative to enforcement measures under the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. It was noted that the use of demerit points and impacts on a company's Commercial Vehicle Operator's Registration (CVOR) serve as effective deterrents. Residents expressed satisfaction with the current enforcement of the policy and were encouraged to use the non-emergency contact number to report any non-compliant truck traffic.

7. Ward & City Issues

7.1 Snow Removal

Concerns were raised regarding the frequency of snow clearing on local roads, specifically that snow is not cleared daily. The Chair clarified the City's policy, noting that priority is given to major roads, transit routes, and emergency routes, with local streets scheduled for completion within a maximum of 72 hours. The Chair encouraged residents to use the Snowplow Status Map and to reach out to him directly should delays exceed the established service levels.

7.2 Roads and Infrastructure

Discussion was held relative to the pothole situation within the City, with residents expressing concerns regarding the progressive deterioration of road conditions.

Concerns were raised regarding the unauthorized use of accessible parking spots. The Chair noted that enforcement measures, including ticketing, are actively utilized to deter unauthorized users and ensure spaces remain available for those with permits.

Regarding specific infrastructure projects, the Chair confirmed that the John Street project is scheduled for completion in 2026.

7.3 Encampment Sites

Discussion was held relative to proposed encampment sites, with residents raising concerns regarding the potential impact on homelessness in the area.

7.4 Environmental Concerns

Residents raised concerns regarding excessive salt application and potential water contamination in the Dog Lake Road area. It was noted that Administration will follow up on this matter.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.