



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 11, 2025, 4:30 p.m.

McNaughton Room

1. Open Special Session

Present:

Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Mark Bentz
Councillor Kasey Etrene
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials:

Krista Power, Director - Legislative Services & City Clerk
Jeff Walters, Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor

Chair: Councillor Andrew Foulds

1.1 Amendment - Establishment of Committee of the Whole - Closed Session

At the July 21, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting the following resolution was passed to establish a Committee of the Whole - Closed Session Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025:

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

THAT a Committee of the Whole - Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2025 at 4:30 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;

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;

(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

(i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;

(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

Amendment - Establishment of Committee of the Whole - Closed Session

The following recommendation will be presented to amend the purpose of the Monday, August 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole - Closed Session meeting

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to the resolution to establish the Monday, August 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole - Closed Session, we recommend:

THAT the following reasons be removed:

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board; and

(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

CARRIED

Amended - Establishment of Committee of the Whole - Closed Session

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

THAT a Committee of the Whole – Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2025 at 4:30 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;

(i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;

(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

CARRIED

2. Closed Session in the McNaughton Room 4:34 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Mark Bentz
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials:

Krista Power, Director - Legislative Services & City Clerk
Jeff Walters, Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor

Chair: Councillor Andrew Foulds

Closed Session Agendas were distributed separately to Members of Council and ELT only.

3. Disclosures of Interest

None.

4. Reports of Municipal Officers

4.1 Administrative Matter - Turf Naming Rights

Report 2025CLS.031 (Community Services-Recreation & Culture) relative to the above noted was distributed to Members of Council, City Manager, City Solicitor, and Commissioner – Community Services only.

Commissioner - Corporate Services & City Treasurer Keri Greaves and Director - Recreation & Culture Leah Prentice entered the meeting room.

Leah Prentice provided an overview relative to the above noted and responded to questions.

City Manager John Collin responded to questions.

Keri Greaves and Leah Prentice left the meeting room.

4.2 Appointments to Standing Committee and Appointments to Chair/Vice Chair and Speaker/Deputy Speaker

Memorandum from Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power dated August 5, 2025 relative to the above noted was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager, the Executive Leadership Team and City Solicitor.

Krista Power provided an overview and a PowerPoint Presentation relative to the above noted and responded to questions.

An amendment recommending alternate appointments was defeated.

It was the consensus of Committee that Administration proceed as directed.

The City Clerk advised that the motion would be presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting to be held later in the evening.

At 6:12 p.m. the Closed Session concluded. It was the consensus of Committee that Open Session reconvene at 6:30 p.m.

5. Open Session (Operations) in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Rajni Agarwal
Councillor Albert Aiello
Councillor Mark Bentz
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Brian Hamilton
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials:

Jeff Walters, Deputy City Clerk
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
Brad Loroff, Acting Commissioner - Community Services
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Matthew Miedema, Director – Engineering
Andrea Morrison, Director - Finance
Leah Prentice, Director - Recreation & Culture
Matthew Lawrence, Mobility Coordinator
Rilee Willianen, Specialist - Drug Strategy
Flo-Ann Track, Council & Committee Clerk

Vice-Chair: Councillor Albert Aiello

6. Disclosures of Interest

None.

7. Confirmation of Agenda

The Deputy City Clerk advised that the Memorandum dated July 28, 2025 from Mayor Ken Boshcoff relative to Advocacy - Bill 49 - Northern Highways 11 and 17 Safety Act, 2025 has been withdrawn from the agenda to be presented at a future date.

MOVED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

WITH RESPECT to the August 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed, as amended.

CARRIED

8. Presentations

8.1 Citizens of Outstanding Achievement Awards

The Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay has established a policy to officially recognize citizens, groups and organizations who have achieved outstanding achievement and contribution to the City of Thunder Bay.

Memorandum dated July 29, 2025 from Director - Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power requesting an opportunity to present the Citizens of Outstanding Achievement Awards - Community Champion Award to Acadia Broadcasting, recognizing their efforts towards 36 Hours of Cheer; and to Noah Filice the Sport Achievement Award as the first member of Team Canada's Cross-Country Ski Team to compete in the World Special Olympic Games, at the August 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Chair Anthony Foglia - Official Recognition Committee and Acting Mayor Councillor Greg Johnson appeared before Committee and presented the Citizens of Outstanding Achievement - Monthly Awards to the following individuals:

Noah Felice
Acadia Broadcasting

9. Items Arising from Closed Session

9.1 Appointments to Standing Committee and Appointments to Chair/Vice-Chair and Speaker/Deputy Speaker

Memorandum from Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power dated August 5, 2025 relative to Appointments to Standing Committee and Appointments to Chair/Vice-Chair and Speaker/Deputy Speaker was previously presented at the Committee of the Whole - Closed Session meeting held earlier in the evening.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to the memorandum from Krista Power, Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk, dated August 5, 2025, we recommend the following appointments as required by By-law 128-2025;

Standing Committee on Quality of Life

1. Mayor Ken Boshcoff
2. Councillor Andrew Foulds
3. Councillor Kristen Oliver
4. Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
5. Councillor Greg Johnsen

AND THAT Councillor Kristen Oliver be appointed as Chair of the Standing Committee on Quality of Life;

AND THAT Councillor Shelby Ch'ng be appointed as the Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Quality of Life;

Standing Committee on Growth

1. Mayor Ken Boshcoff
2. Councillor Trevor Giertuga
3. Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
4. Councillor Kasey Etrene
5. Councillor Rajni Agarwal

AND THAT Councillor Trevor Giertuga be appointed as Chair of the Standing Committee on Growth;

AND THAT Councillor Kasey Etreni be appointed as the Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Growth;

Standing Committee on Finance & Administration

1. Mayor Ken Boshcoff
2. Councillor Albert Aiello
3. Councillor Mark Bentz
4. Councillor Michael Zussino
5. Councillor Brian Hamilton

AND THAT Councillor Mark Bentz be appointed as Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance & Administration;

AND THAT Councillor Albert Aiello be appointed as the Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance & Administration;

AND THAT the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance & Administration be appointed to these roles for the Special Committee of the Whole – Annual Budget process meetings;

AND THAT Councillor Brian Hamilton be appointed as Chair of all other Special Committee of the Whole meetings including Closed Session meetings;

AND THAT Councillor Albert Aiello be appointed as Vice Chair of all other Special Committee of the Whole meetings including Closed Session meetings;

AND THAT Councillor Andrew Foulds be appointed as the Speaker for all City Council meetings;

AND THAT Councillor Greg Johnsen be appointed as Deputy Speaker for all City Council meetings;

CARRIED

10. Reports of Municipal Officers

10.1 Transportation Master Plan and Active Transportation Plan Update

Report 173-2025-Infrastructure & Operations-Engineering providing an update of the Transportation Master Plan and Active Transportation Plan, for information.

Memorandum from Matthew Miedema, Director - Engineering dated May 12, 2025 requesting an opportunity to provide a presentation relative to the above noted.

Director - Engineering Matthew Miedema and Mobility Coordinator Matthew Lawrence appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation of the Transportation Master Plan and Active Transportation Plan, and responded to questions.

10.2 2026 Budget Direction

Report 216-2025-Corporate Services-Finance providing a recommendation relative to the preparation of the proposed 2026 Operating and Capital Budgets, for Council's consideration.

MOVED BY: Councillor Michael Zussino

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

WITH RESPECT to Report 216-2025-Corporate Services-Finance, we recommend that Administration prepare the proposed 2026 Operating and Capital Budgets consistent with this report;

AND THAT the 2026 Tax-Supported Operating Budget include a Municipal Tax Levy increase of no more than 2.6% before growth, for those programs and services within the City's direct control;

AND THAT the City Manager provide communication to local and outside boards and agencies, encouraging each organization to prepare their 2026 budgets in line with the 2.6% target;

AND THAT the Tax-Supported Operating Budget include a provision for growth revenues to be budgeted in accordance with the Assessment Growth Policy;

AND THAT Administration prepare a 2-year Capital Budget spanning the 2026 and 2027 years;

AND THAT the 2026 Tax-Supported Capital Budget include a Municipal Tax Levy increase of no more than 2.6%;

AND THAT the 2027 Tax-Supported Capital Budget include a Municipal Tax Levy increase of no more than 2.1%;

AND THAT Administration will include a provision in the 2026/27 Tbaytel Dividend Policy to supplement the total Tax-Supported Capital Budget increase to 5% each year;

AND THAT the dates for Special Committee of the Whole meetings to deliberate the 2026 Capital and Operating Budgets for the City of Thunder Bay be approved in accordance with Table 1: 2026 Budget Calendar, contained in this Report;

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

CARRIED

11. Outstanding Items

11.1 Outstanding Items List for Operations

Memorandum from Director-Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power, dated July 28, 2025, for information.

12. Open Session (Community Services)

Vice-Chair: Councillor Kristen Oliver

13. Reports of Municipal Officers

13.1 Naming Rights Policy Exception

Report 176-2025 Community Services – Recreation & Culture recommending that an exception be granted to the Sponsorship and Naming Rights Policy to allow Administration to negotiate a naming rights agreement with a potential sponsor of the Multi-use Indoor Turf Facility without formally advertising this opportunity, for Council's consideration.

MOVED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to Report 176-2025 Community Services – Recreation & Culture we recommend that an exception be granted to the Sponsorship and Naming Rights Policy to allow Administration to negotiate a naming rights agreement with a potential sponsor of the Multi-use Indoor Turf Facility without formally advertising this opportunity;

AND THAT the Commissioner Community Services be authorized to execute the associated Naming Rights Agreement to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor;

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

CARRIED

14. Petitions and Communications

14.1 Allowable Tent Encampment Areas

Memorandum dated July 11, 2025 from Councillor Kristen Oliver providing a Motion relative to the development of criteria to determine areas where tent encampment areas would be permitted to exist, for Council's consideration.

At the request of the Chair, Councillor Andrew Foulds assumed the Chair.

MOVED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni

SECONDED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

THAT Councillor Andrew Foulds assume the Chair for the duration of the above noted item.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

WITH RESPECT to the memorandum from Councillor Kristen Oliver, dated July 11, 2025 we recommend that Administration be directed to create criteria for Allowable Tent Encampments in the City of Thunder Bay and report back to City Council for approval;

AND THAT once criteria are approved, Administration work with agency partners, and individuals living in encampments to determine where Allowable Tent Encampments are located;

AND THAT Administration continue to update City Council on this work and share information with the public to provide education, support and assistance related to the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan;

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

Amendment - Allowable Tent Encampment Areas

MOVED BY: Councillor Rajni Agarwal

SECONDED BY: Councillor Mark Bentz

WITH RESPECT to the Motion as contained in the Memorandum dated July 11, 2025 from Councillor Kristen Oliver relative to Allowable Tent Encampment Areas, we recommend that paragraph 2 and paragraph 3 be deleted;

LOST

Allowable Tent Encampment Areas

MOVED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

WITH RESPECT to the memorandum from Councillor Kristen Oliver, dated July 11, 2025 we recommend that Administration be directed to create criteria for Allowable Tent Encampments in the City of Thunder Bay and report back to City Council for approval;

AND THAT once criteria are approved, Administration work with agency partners, and individuals living in encampments to determine where Allowable Tent Encampments are located;

AND THAT Administration continue to update City Council on this work and share information with the public to provide education, support and assistance related to the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan;

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

LOST

Councillor Kristen Oliver assumed the Chair.

14.2 The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board - Advocacy

Memorandum from Councillor Brian Hamilton, Chair - The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board dated July 28, 2025 providing a Motion with respect to the endorsement of advocacy documents (position papers) Conference Delegates will be presenting to various Ministries at the upcoming AMO Conference, for Council's consideration.

The Deputy City Clerk advised that the resolution will be presented for ratification at the City Council meeting to be held later in the evening and would require a two-thirds vote.

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor Brian Hamilton, Chair – District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB), dated July 28, 2025, we recommend that the following Position Papers:

- Child Care Workforce Development RECE Wage Structure
- COCHI & OPHI Investment in the District of Thunder Bay
- Community Housing Providers Challenges in LTB Application Processes
- 2-Year Community Policing Pilot Project
- Developing Supporting Housing Stock

as attached to this memorandum, be endorsed in their entirety;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the TBDSSAB, Minister Rob Flack – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Sylvia Jones – Ministry of Health; and Minister Michael Parsa – Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services;

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

CARRIED

14.3 Advocacy - Bill 49 - Northern Highways 11 and 17 Safety Act, 2025

The Deputy City Clerk advised that the Memorandum dated July 28, 2025 from Mayor Ken Boshcoff has been withdrawn from the agenda to be presented at a future date.

14.4 Support for Thunder Bay and the Rural Ontario Development Program

Memorandum dated July 29, 2025 from Councillor Kristen Oliver, Chair – Intergovernmental Affairs Committee providing a recommendation in support of the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commissions advocacy that the Province re-evaluate and reconsider the eligibility of Thunder Bay in the Rural Ontario Development Program, for Council's consideration.

The Deputy City Clerk advised that the resolution will be presented for ratification at the City Council meeting to be held later in the evening and would require a two-thirds vote.

MOVED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor Kristen Oliver, Chair – Intergovernmental Affairs Committee dated July 29, 2025, we recommend that the position of the CEDC regarding the Rural Ontario Development Program be supported;

AND THAT the province shall re-evaluate and reconsider Thunder Bay's eligibility in the Rural Ontario Development Program, redefining "rural" to include geographic, economic and service-delivery considerations;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Minister Lisa Thompson – Minister of Rural Affairs, Minister George Pirie – Ministry of Northern Development and Economic Growth, Kevin Holland – MPP Thunder Bay – Atikokan, Jamie Taylor - CEO, Thunder Bay CEDC;

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

CARRIED

15. Outstanding Items

15.1 Outstanding Items List for Community Services

There are currently no listed Outstanding Items for the Community Services Session.

16. New Business

16.1 Establishment of Committee of the Whole - Closed Session - August 25, 2025

The following resolution will be presented to establish Committee of the Whole – Closed Session Meeting on August 25, 2025:

MOVED BY: Councillor Michael Zussino

SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

THAT a Committee of the Whole – Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Monday, August 25, 2025 at 4:30 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;
- (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
- (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; and
- (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

CARRIED

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.