

Council Meeting

NOVEMBER 2025

Highlights



www.acwtownship.ca 519-524-4669 82133 Council Line, RR5 Goderich, ON N7A 3Y2

Council Meeting | November 4, 2025

Councillor Remuneration By-Law

Council adopted By-Law 63-2025 to establish the rates of pay for members of Council. The annual stipends are as follows: the Mayor receives \$12,665, the Deputy Mayor receives \$8,929, and each Councillor receives \$8,183. In addition, all members of Council receive \$156.78 for each Council or Committee meeting they attend.

Annual Adjustment - 2026 Pay Grids

Under the Township's Pay Administration Policy, Council commits to an annual percentage increase to the pay grid each October. Based on Statistics Canada's reported annual adjustment of 2.0%, all employee pay grids will receive a 2% cross-board increase effective January 1, 2026.

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority - Memorandum of Understanding

By-Law 60-2025 authorizes the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and other member municipalities for the provision and cost-sharing of non-mandatory services. The accompanying multi-party agreement outlines the delivery of mandatory and non-mandatory services, such as natural hazard management, conservation area operations, watershed monitoring, source water protection, stewardship programs, and campground operations and establishes how costs are apportioned among members. It also confirms that MVCA will consult members before changing services, maintain annual budget approval processes, and provide services for a four-year term ending June 16, 2030.

Council Meeting | November 18, 2025

Zoning By-Law Amendment Application File Z01-2025 Smith Update

Council revisited the proposed zoning changes for the property located at 34696 Blyth Road; Concession Lake Road East, Part Lot 1; Plan 294, Lots 57-88, Colborne. Council had previously requested that the application be revised to better align with existing planning policies. The applicant returned with changes, and Council was satisfied with the revisions, and approved the application.

Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Allocation 2026

The Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) is the Province's main general assistance grant to municipalities. The program primarily supports northern and rural municipalities. In 2026, the Township will receive \$1,137,500 in OMPF funding, which is the equivalent of \$354 per household. This represents a 6% increase in funding compared to 2025.

Agricultural Property Standards Working Group Appointments

Council agreed to appoint Councillor Blake, Councillor Forster, and Councillor Snobelen to the Agricultural Property Standards Working Group (APSWG) and appoint Dan Hayden, Lynne Harris, Chris MacLennan and Doug Fines as citizen appointees. The first meeting of the APSWG will take place on Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

2026 Tree Order

Council directed staff to proceed with the annual tree order in accordance with the Township's policy, with a total of 450 trees to be purchased. These trees will be made available to residents for purchase through a lottery system. Township staff will provide details on how to register, along with the application deadline, through social media, the tax newsletter, and the municipal website in February.

Public Works Employee Appointments

Scott Rintoul has been appointed to the position of full-time Lead Hand.

Highway 21 Winter Closures

Following discussions with the MTO, several improvements will be implemented along Highway 21 in the Township for the 2025 - 2026 winter season.

- Portable variable message signs will be installed at Highway 21 with Blyth Road and Nile Road.
- Winter operations will be enhanced with a V-plow grader stationed in Kincardine
- Road closure trailer at Highway 21 and Blyth Road.
- Road closure trailer at Highway 21 and the Bluffs entrance.
- MTO will improve communication by posting provincial highway closures on Ontario 511.
- OPP, Huron County, and local municipalities will collaborate to provide coordinated closure updates through Municipal 511, creating a single reliable source for road condition information.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting – December 2, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting – December 16, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting – January 13, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.