



DRAFT - Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 17, 10:00 a.m.
Dunchurch Community Centre and Zoom Video Conferencing

Present: Mayor George Comrie
Councillor Janice Bray
Councillor Joe Lamb
Councillor Scott Nash
Councillor Brian Woods

Staff: Nigel Black, CAO/Clerk
Mike Huggins, Manager of Public Works
Paula Macri, Planning Assistant
Wendy Schroeder, Deputy Clerk
Jessica Sinkowski, Treasurer / Tax Collector
Bob Whitman, Fire Chief

Invited Guests: Alenna Stirpe, North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit
Patrick Christie, Parry Sound Area Planning Board
Colin Ross, Azimuth Environmental Services

Other Guests: 4 in person; 13 by Zoom

1. Roll Call and Call to Order 10:07 a.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Mayor Comrie requested that any pecuniary interest be declared, for the record.

Councillor Nash declared a pecuniary interest with item 5.2, Consent Application B05/2026(W) – NASH

Councillor Lamb declared a pecuniary interest with item 9.5, Staff Report ADMIN-2026-02, Building Department Inactive Permits

Councillor Bray declared a pecuniary interest with item 9.5, Staff Report ADMIN-2026-02, Building Department Inactive Permits

3. Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No. 2026-075

Moved by: Councillor Nash

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

WHEREAS the Members of Council have been presented with an agenda for the March 17, 2026 Regular Council meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for this meeting be adopted as presented.

Mayor Comrie advised Items 5.1 and 10.1 must be removed from the agenda due to an Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal.

Amendment to the agenda

Resolution No. 2026-076

Moved by: Councillor Nash

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

THAT Item 9.5 ADMIN-2026-02, Building Department Inactive Permits be removed from the agenda and placed on a subsequent agenda.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-075 as amended

Moved by: Councillor Nash

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

WHEREAS the Members of Council have been presented with an agenda for the March 17, 2026 Regular Council meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for this meeting be adopted as presented, with the removal of Items 5.1, 9.5, and 10.1.

Carried

4. Presentations and Delegations

4.1 North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

- Alenna Stirpe – Harmful Algae Blooms information

Matters Arising from Presentations and Delegations

Resolution No. 2026-077

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

4.1 **THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives, with thanks, the presentation from Alenna Stirpe of the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit regarding blue-green algae, for information.

Carried

Recess 11:55 to 12:07

Move into Committee of the Whole

Resolution No. 2026-078

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone moves into Committee of the Whole at 12:09 p.m.

Carried

5. Committee of the Whole

5.1 ROTHAM-ROBERTS, Will (Proposed Zoning By-law amendment)
• MHBC Planning Limited Memorandum for the March 17, 2026 agenda
This matter removed from the agenda as per Resolution 2026-075

5.2 Consent Application B05/2026(W) – NASH
• Report from Parry Sound Area Planning Board dated March 5, 2026

Reconvene into Regular Meeting

Resolution No. 2026-079

Moved by: Councillor Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone reconvenes into the Regular Meeting at 12:51 p.m.

Carried

Matters Arising from Committee of the Whole

Councillor Nash declared a pecuniary interest with agenda Item 5.2 did not participate in the discussion.

5.2 Consent Application B05/2026(W) – NASH

Resolution No. 2026-080

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

WHEREAS Patrick Christie, C.P.T., has prepared a report for the Parry Sound Area Planning Board regarding Consent Application No. B05/2026(W) – NASH, Scott, and has provided a copy to the Municipality of Whitestone.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives this report as information; and

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone recommends this Consent Application for approval in principle, subject to the following conditions:

1. **THAT** payment of a parkland dedication fee be made in accordance with the current Municipal Fees and Charges By-law;
2. **THAT** the newly created lot receive 911 addressing from the Municipality;

3. **THAT** the applicants enter into a Section 51(26) Consent Agreement with the Municipality of Whitestone to be registered on title by the applicant to implement the septic system design criteria as set out in the Official Plan; and
4. **THAT** payment of all Municipal planning consultant fees and all other fees associated with the processing of this application be paid.

Mayor Comrie relinquished the chair to move the following amendment to Item 5.2; Councillor Bray assumed the Chair:

Proposed amendment to Item 5.2

Resolution No. 2026-081

Moved by: Mayor Comrie

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

- 5) **THAT** the applicant be required to make arrangements for a new private access point for the newly created lot.

Recorded vote as per Procedural By-law 80-2023 s.3.20

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
<u>4</u> Councillor Bray		X	
<u>1</u> Councillor Lamb		X	
____ Councillor Nash			Pecuniary interest - recused
<u>2</u> Councillor Woods		X	
<u>3</u> Mayor Comrie	X		

Defeated

Mayor Comrie resumed the chair.

5.2 Consent Application B05/2026(W) – NASH

Resolution No. 2026-080

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

WHEREAS Patrick Christie, C.P.T., has prepared a report for the Parry Sound Area Planning Board regarding Consent Application No. B05/2026(W) – NASH, Scott, and has provided a copy to the Municipality of Whitestone.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives this report as information; and

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone recommends this Consent Application for approval in principle, subject to the following conditions:

1. **THAT** payment of a parkland dedication fee be made in accordance with the current Municipal Fees and Charges By-law;

2. **THAT** the newly created lot receive 911 addressing from the Municipality;
3. **THAT** the applicants enter into a Section 51(26) Consent Agreement with the Municipality of Whitestone to be registered on title by the applicant to implement the septic system design criteria as set out in the Official Plan; and
4. **THAT** payment of all Municipal planning consultant fees and all other fees associated with the processing of this application be paid.

Recorded vote as per Procedural By-law 80-2023 s.3.20

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
<u>2</u> Councillor Bray	X		
<u>3</u> Councillor Lamb	X		
<u> </u> Councillor Nash			Pecuniary interest - recused
<u>1</u> Councillor Woods	X		
<u>4</u> Mayor Comrie		X	
Carried			

Recess 1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Item 9.1 was heard after the recess to accommodate the scheduling of Azimuth representative

- 9.1 Report PW-2026-01, Update on the York Street and Auld's Road Landfills

Resolution No. 2026-082

Moved by: Councillor Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Bray

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information Report PW-2026-01, Update on the York Street and Auld's Road Landfills.

Carried

6. Public Meeting – None

7. Consent Agenda

Resolution No. 2026-083

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone has reviewed the Consent Agenda as presented in the March 17 agenda package,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone hereby approves the following Council Meeting Minutes:

7.1 Council Meeting Minutes

- 7.1.1 Regular Council Budget Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2026

- 7.1.2 Regular Council Budget Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2026
- 7.1.3 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2026

AND THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information:

- 7.2 Council Committee and Board Minutes
 - 7.2.1 Whitestone Library and Technology Centre Board – January 19, 2026
 - 7.2.2 Belvedere Heights Board of Management – December 10, 2025
 - 7.2.3 Parry Sound EMS Advisory Committee – February 26, 2026
 - 7.2.4 Parry Sound Area Planning Board – January 26, 2026
 - 7.2.5 Parry Sound Area District Social Services Board – January 8, 2026
- 7.3 Unfinished Business (listed on pages 4 and 5 of the agenda)
Carried

8. Accounts Payable

Resolution No. 2026-084
Moved by: Councillor Woods
Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information the Accounts Payable listing in the amount of \$454,669.20 for the period ending March 1, 2026.
Carried

9. Staff Reports

- 9.2 Report FIN-2026-05 - Council Remuneration and Expenses 2025

Resolution No. 2026-085
Moved by: Councillor Woods
Seconded by: Councillor Bray

THAT the Council for the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information Report FIN-2026-05, Council Remuneration and Expenses 2025.
Deferred

- 9.3 Report FIN-2026-06 – 2026 Draft Consolidated Operating and Capital Budget – Additional Revisions

Resolution No. 2026-086
Moved by: Councillor Lamb
Seconded by: Councillor Bray

THAT the Council for the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information Report FIN-2026-06, 2026 Draft Consolidated Operating and Capital Budget – Additional Revisions; and

THAT Council directs staff to incorporate the recommended changes and any other changes arising from the March 17, 2026 regular Council meeting into a final budget for consideration and adoption at the April 21, 2026 regular Council meeting.

Carried

9.4 Report FIN-2026-07 – 2026 Annual Donations

Resolution No. 2026-087

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

THAT the Council for the Municipality of Whitestone, receives Report FIN-2026-07 Annual Donations 2026 for information; and

THAT Council approves the following donations for requests received in 2026:

West Parry Sound District Museum	\$2,000.00
Ardbeg Community Club	\$3,000.00
Rotary Club of Parry Sound	\$500.00
Parry Sound Chamber of Commerce	\$1,040.00
Sail Parry Sound	\$1,000.00
Cramadog Snowriders Corp	\$2,460.00
	\$3226.20
Total	\$9766.20

and the following organizations were added:

Dunchurch Agricultural Society	\$500.00
Parry Sound High School L.Woods Bursary	\$500.00
Parry Sound High School graduation gifts	\$250.00
Whitestone Lake Central School Citizenship Award	\$500.00
Whitestone Rod and Gun Club	\$500.00
Almaguin Baseball League	\$500.00
Total	\$2750.00

Total 2026 Donations \$12,516.20

Carried

9.5 Report ADMIN-2026-02 - Building Department Inactive Permits

This item was deferred as per Resolution 2026-076

10. By-laws

10.1 *Item deferred as per Resolution 2026-075*

Recess 3:40 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

11. Business Matters

11.1 ROMA Conference Update

Resolution No. 2026-088

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

THAT the Council for the Municipality of Whitestone receives with thanks the update from Councillor Bray and Mayor Comrie regarding their attendance at the ROMA Conference.

Carried

11.2 2026 FONOM Conference May 11 to 13, Timmins

Resolution No. 2026-089

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Bray

THAT the Council of the Municipality approve the following Council Members / Staff to attend the FONOM Conference in Timmins from May 11 to 13, 2026:

Councillor Nash
Councillor Woods
CAO/Clerk Black

Carried

11.3 Resolution of Support - South River Request for Revocation or Exemption from Mandatory Firefighter Certification Requirements (Item D from February 17 meeting Matters Arising from Correspondence)

Resolution No. 2026-090

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

WHEREAS Council of the Village of South River passed a resolution urging the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of the Solicitor General, requesting that the Province revoke O.Reg.343/22 in its entirety, or in the alternative, implement exemptions for small, rural and northern municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Municipality of Whitestone is a small, rural, northern municipality that does not have the financial or logistical capacity to meet the regulation as written;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone declares their support for the Village of South River, urging Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of the Solicitor General, to revoke O.Reg.343/22 in its entirety, or in the alternative, implement exemptions for small, rural and northern municipalities; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to:

Premier Doug Ford
Solicitor General Michael Kerzner
Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Graydon Smith
Carried

11.4 Belvedere Heights Board of Management request to Council

Resolution No. 2026-091

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Nash

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives the Memorandum from CAO/Clerk Black.

Carried

11.5 Parry Sound Area Planning Board

Resolution No. 2026-092

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Nash

THAT Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information the Parry Sound Area Planning Board 2026 Budget.

Carried

12. Correspondence

Resolution No. 2026-093

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone has reviewed the Correspondence Items as listed on page 6 of the March 17 Council Meeting agenda,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the correspondence items for information, with the following extracted for further discussion / action:

B	Cochrane	Establishment of a provincial bail notification program	Motion of support to be brought
C	Papineau-Cameron	Expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College	Motion of support to be brought
D	McKellar	Opposition to the demolition of the Jones Island Rear Lighthouse	Motion of support to be brought

Carried

13. Councillor Items

Councillor Nash

- question re. Shawanaga Lake Road by-law enforcement
- asked that the parking and traffic by-law be brought to Council for review
- Ontario is amalgamating provincial Conservation Authorities

Councillor Woods

- provided an update from the meeting re. High School / Megaschool built, held by Minister of Education

Mayor Comrie

- indicated heads of Council were promised monthly updates through conference calls with the Minister of Education regarding progress of the High School build

14. Questions from the Public – none

15. Closed Session

Move into Closed Session

Resolution No. 2026-094

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Nash

THAT this meeting be adjourned into a Closed Session meeting at 4:51 p.m. for the following matters:

15.1 Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting February 17, 20206

15.2 Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose, pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act, Section 239 (2) (d)

Carried

RECORDING PAUSED

Reconvene into Regular Meeting

RECORDING RESUMED

Resolution No. 2026-095

Moved by: Councillor Nash

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

THAT this meeting be reconvened to a Regular Meeting at 5:19 p.m.

Carried

RECORDING RESUMED

Matters Arising from Closed Session

15.1 Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Closed Session Council meeting of Tuesday February 17, 2026

Resolution No. 2026-096

Moved by: Councillor Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Lamb

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone hereby approves the Regular Closed Session Council meeting minutes of Tuesday February 17, 2026.

Carried

15.2 Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose, pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act, Section 239 (2) (d)
This matter was addressed in closed session.

16. Confirming By-law

Resolution No. 2026-097

Moved by: Councillor Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Woods

THAT By-law No. 14-2026 being the Confirmatory By-law for the Regular Council Meeting of the Municipality of Whitestone on March 17, 2026 is hereby enacted this 17th day of March, 2026.

Carried

17. Adjournment

Resolution No. 2026-098

Moved by: Councillor Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Bray

WHEREAS the business of this Meeting has concluded;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 5:23 p.m. until the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday April 21, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. or at the call of the chair.

Carried

George Comrie

Mayor

Nigel Black

CAO / Clerk