

Council Highlights

Regular Meeting – February 10, 2026

Council met on February 10 and approved the agenda and previous meeting minutes. A Closed Session was held to discuss a matter under solicitor-client privilege, with direction provided to staff.

Building & Development

Council received the January Building Activity Report and an update on the Building Services deficit. Discussion included financial challenges related to septic re-inspection requirements and enforcement funding models.

Public Works

Council received the January Activity Report and requested increased public education on winter road maintenance due to the ongoing provincial salt shortage.

Contracts were approved for:

- Gravel supply and delivery
- 35% calcium chloride
- Purchase of a new plow truck

The Micro-Surfacing tender was not awarded as bids exceeded budget. Staff will re-tender and report back.

Custodial Services

Custodial contracts were approved for all districts. Three contracts were over budget due to inflation adjustments and expanded service requirements, including Sharbot Lake washroom cleaning, servicing a larger municipal office, and continued library cleaning. The Hinchinbrooke contract remained within budget.

Curbside Waste Collection – Cost Review

Council received a detailed cost analysis outlining both in-house and contractor delivery models for weekly garbage collection, with waste disposed of outside the Township to protect landfill lifespan.

Estimated costs:

- In-House Model: \$6.7M (Year 1), approx. \$2.4M annually thereafter
- Contractor Model: \$5.2M (Year 1), approx. \$2.2M annually thereafter

Both models project annual increases of approximately 15%. Council discussed the significant startup investment and potential cost savings through a bi-weekly collection model.

Other Business

- The Canadian Geese management report was deferred pending additional cost information.
- Updated parking arrangements at Crow Lake and Long Lake beaches were supported.
- Council reviewed zoning enforcement options and authorized a natural heritage consulting agreement.
- Additional public education on feral and free-roaming cats was requested.

2026 Municipal Election

Council approved placing two advisory questions on the 2026 ballot regarding municipal garbage collection and the septic re-inspection program. A public meeting, by-law, and legal review are required to proceed.

Alto High-Speed Rail

Council directed staff to explore the feasibility of establishing a government relations and advocacy position. Council also passed a resolution stating that, based on limited information to date, it does not support the proposed northern corridor route through Central Frontenac. The resolution will be circulated to federal and provincial officials and neighbouring municipalities.

The meeting adjourned to the Special Meeting of Council on February 11, 2026.