

Environmental Task Force Minutes

9:00 AM - Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Council Chambers

Present: Councillor Roy Huetl (Chair); Councillor Fred Fowler; Paul Asselin; Bruce Moore; Marlene Spruyt; and Katie Surra

Absent with Regret: Deputy Mayor John Inglis; and Mike Ward;

Also Present: Tara Mieske, Clerk/Planning Manager; and Darwyn Sproule, P.Eng. Public Works Manager.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Traditional Land Acknowledgement.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None declared.

4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- a) ***Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated April 28, 2026 as approved via email and received for information at the May 21, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.***

No comments.

5. Business Arising

a) ***Work Plan Update***

1. Short-term Rentals (STR) - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra and John Inglis

The Clerk/Planning Manager (CPM) provided an overview of the research completed including:

- the key reasons for implementing STR licensing in rural areas is to address environmental and health and safety concerns.
- public consultation is key to successfully implementing a STR licensing including targeted stakeholder meetings, surveys, open houses, etc.
- requirements for submitting an application vary between municipalities and are dependent on the reasons the program is being implemented. For example if

- septic use is a concern you may wish to request a septic inspection report.
- a fee comparison has been started and the fees range from \$350 to over \$1,000. As the program is to be cost neutral we need to determine what the costs to implement and operate the program are and how many licenses will be issued to determine the cost per license
 - enforcement varies by municipality and includes fines, court proceedings, administrative monetary penalties and demerit point systems.

Staff advised they do not have time to complete further research to provide a cost analysis or timeline for implementation and are recommending Council consider a consultant to assist with this. The Task Force requested an Administrative Report be provided to Council at the July 9, 2026 Council Meeting to request a consultant be considered to continue the project.

2. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler

The Public Works Manager (PWM) advised the current voluntary septic program has exceeded the budget for this year. The CAO approved an additional 20% being added to the budget to permit additional inspections; however there were more requests. A report is being provided to Council to request additional funding for 2026 to provide for a total of 65 inspections. This is the best response to the program for quite some time. There has been a lot of education on the voluntary program from the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance, Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office (MRSSO), etc. People are also aware of the mandatory program being discussed and are taking advantage of the voluntary program.

A report was provided to Council on the mandatory program at the time of sale which included four options. Council approved using a similar arrangement with the MRSSO as their office administers the voluntary program in the Township. The Township will be responsible for providing the list of properties to be inspected and MRSSO will be responsible for the administration and inspections. Enforcement will be completed by MRSSO in conjunction with the Chief Building Official (CBO). The costs for enforcement will be charged to the Township. A further report to Council will be provided with more details on the proposal including exemptions, proposed costs, user fees, agreement with MRSSO, etc. for further direction. It is anticipated these details will be provided to Council in August.

3. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt

Resolution #164-26

Asselin provided an overview of the proposal. It is assumed that North Frontenac Township must proceed with the current Hydro One EV charging contract in order to remain compliant with financial grant conditions. It is also assumed the majority operational cost is related to fixed delivery charges which are not related to the amount of grid power used by the installed EV chargers. As such, the cost of a battery system would be mostly in addition to existing Hydro One ongoing costs.

Powerwall system required to charge a typical passenger car EV

System configuration (not including solar generation system): 4 Powerwall units

Approximate cost (including installation): \$50,000 CAD

Maximum discharge rate: 46kW (approximately half of the existing L3 chargers)

Approximate time to charge car: 1 hour (twice as long as the existing L3 charger)

Powerwall system required to charge a typical pickup truck EV

System configuration (not including solar generation system): 4 Powerwall units + 3 DC expansion units

Approximate cost (including installation): \$80,000 CAD

Maximum discharge rate: 46kW (approximately half of the existing L3 chargers)

Approximate time to charge pickup: 2 hours (twice as long as the existing L3 charger)

The Powerwall battery system can be charged via a solar generation system (priced separately) or via grid power. Battery charging rates are approximately half the discharge rate, therefore, 2 hours to recharge after a car charge and 4 hours to recharge after a pickup charge. Higher capacity systems, such as a Tesla Powerpack, can be chosen at a significantly higher cost. Non Tesla based systems would be less costly.

Net Metering Presentation/Report

The PWM with assistance from Asselin will be doing a presentation to Council in August accompanied by a report outlining the two options being net-metering option or load distribution. It is recommended a staff or volunteer person be responsible to track the system. The time would be limited but it needs to be checked often to ensure the system is operating effectively and if it isn't the problem can be addressed.

4. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward

No update at this time.

5. Community Engagement

The Summer Newsletter will provide an update on the Blue Box Recycling transition.

b) *ALTO High Speed Train*

The Task Force discussed Alto's report on the comments received during the public consultation period. The northern route was found to have less impact on people and farmland but would have higher construction costs. They also discussed the Minister of Transport's direction to ALTO to develop a plan to assess a southern route option that includes a potential stop in Kingston. If Kingston is included as a stop the northern route would not be considered.

6. New Business

None.

7. Next Meeting Date

The Task Force decided due to the amount of business the July 28, 2026 meeting could be cancelled and they would meet again at their regularly scheduled August 25, 2026 meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Councillor Roy Huetl, Chair