



**Township of Howick Council Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
Howick Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order

Reeve Harding called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

2. Confirmation of the Agenda

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick hereby adopts the August 11, 2026, Council Agenda as presented.

Carried.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest under the “Municipal Conflict of Interest Act”

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick hereby adopts the following minutes:

4.1 July 14, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes

4.2 July 30, 2026, Special Council Meeting Minutes

Carried.

5. Public Meetings/Hearings

6. Delegations and/or Presentations

Reeve Harding called upon Paul Seebach from Seebach and Company to present the Howick Township's 2025 Consolidated Financial Statement.

No questions from Council

6.1 FIN-2026-21, 2025 Auditors Report

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson
Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

- Paul Seebach, Seebach & Company to present Howick Township's 2025 Consolidated Financial Statements

Carried.

7. Consent Agenda

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and are enacted in one motion. Prior to the motion being voted on, any Council Member may request that one or more items be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed and/or voted on separately.

Moved by: Councillor Rognvaldson
Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That Consent Agenda items 7.1 to 7.2 be received for information and approved.

7.1 PW-2026-20, August Department Update
For Information Only.

7.2 FIN-2026-22, July 7 to 30, 2026 Accounts Payable
For Information Only.

Carried.

8. Regular Agenda

8.1 Planning – Huron County Planner

8.1.1 PLN-2026-03, Consent Application C50-2026

Reeve Harding called upon Lauran Simpson to present her report.

Consent application C50-2026 Concession 17 Part Lot 11 90886

McIntosh Line, applicant and owner is Peters Pork Limited.

The purpose of this application is to create one lot under the surplus farm dwelling as well as an easement in favour of the retained lands for field access.

4 acres will be severed consisting of a house, two sheds and a small bank barn. 96 acres will be retained. No comments were received from the public or township staff, Huron County has viewed the easement with no concerns. Overall the application meets all requirements, there are no concerns for any minimum distance separations, easement will be referenced in the survey. Staff are recommending approval. No questions from council.

Moved by: Councillor Hargravin
Seconded by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

That Howick Council recommend to the County of Huron that consent application C50-2026 be approved with the attached conditions.

Carried.

9. Municipal Drains - Drainage Superintendent Scott Richardson

9.1.1 DRN-2026-06, Municipal Drain #10 Branch “C”

Drainage Superintendent Scott Richardson called upon to present his two reports. The Township received a request under Section 78 of the Drainage Act from Ken Wideman on June 19, 2026 to complete upgrades to the Municipal Drain #10 Branch C to bring it up to modern standard and efficient capacity.

Branch C begins at the lot line of the east half of 29 Concession 3 and runs southwest crosses Creamy Road into Lot 28, 27 and outlets at Lot 26 into Drain #10.

The tile north of Creamery Road is the original 1928 drain. The drain south was reconstructed in 1985. The drain was constructed to handle a half inch of rain which is not sufficient for today's standards. Staff are requesting that the engineer investigate both recommendations to twin the existing or abandon entirely and replace them with one pipe. There has been no request to improve Branch C south of Creamery Road known as the Van Den Braak Branch which was also built in 1985. Staff to discuss this at the onsite meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Grimes

Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

That Howick Council in accordance with Section 78 of the Drainage Act, proceed with the request for improvement for the Municipal Drain #10 Branch “C”

And That Council appoint Spriet Associates to investigate, design and prepare a new report for Branch “C” of Municipal Drain #10.

Carried.

9.1.2 DRN-2026-07, Merkley Municipal Drain Tender Results

Drainage Superintendent presented the Merkley Municipal Drain Tender Results, four submissions were received. The engineer has provided a recommendation to award this tender to Nichols Excavating Inc in the bid amount of \$203,130.00. The proposed construction consists of two sections of an open drain being closed and the instillation of a culvert.

Moved by: Councillor Grimes

Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

That Howick Council award tender HWK-2026-001 to Nichols Excavating Inc. for the construction of the Merkley Municipal Drain at the bid price of \$203,130.00 plus HST.

Carried.

10. Staff Reports

10.1 Chief Building Official Ed Podniewicz

Any member of the public would like more information on an agenda item please contact the Clerk's office at 519-335-3208 ext. 2 or email clerk@howick.ca, alternative formats of this publication available upon request

10.2 Manager of Development and Protective Services/Fire Chief - Josh Kestner

10.2.1 DPS-2026-21, Reallocation of Unused By-law Enforcement Waged

Manager of Development and Protective Services was called upon regarding the reallocation of unused by-law enforcement wages.

Staff advised that approximately \$35,000 in unused wages is anticipated due to the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer position remaining vacant. Staff proposed using a portion of these funds for required safety equipment and a dedicated vehicle for by-law enforcement.

Staff advised that discussions are underway with a neighbouring municipality for up to 12.5 hours per week of as-required by-law enforcement services, with costs recovered through the service agreement.

Council discussed the need for an identifiable by-law enforcement vehicle and agreed that Fire Department vehicles should remain separate from enforcement activities.

The potential assignment of dog-catching duties to the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer was also discussed. Existing contracted dog control services in Howick will remain unchanged.

Staff advised that the position is anticipated to be filled in late September.

Moved by: Councillor Rognvaldson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick receive report DPS-2026-21 for information purposes;

And that Council approve the reallocation of un-spent by-law enforcement wages towards the purchase of a uniform, vehicle and job related equipment for the planned Municipal Law Enforcement Officer

Carried.

10.3 Manager of Public Works – Scott Price

10.4 Manager of Recreation and Facilities - Brady Ropp

10.5 Treasurer/Manager of Finance - Amy Van Meeteren

10.5.1 FIN-2026-23, Fees and Charges By-Law Update

Staff advised that the landfill scale has now been installed and is almost

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operational. Schedule B outlines the updated landfill fees, including waste cart fees.

Council inquired about the fee for a custom weigh and whether a fee should apply during regular landfill hours.

Staff provided an update on the first two weeks of waste collection. The first Monday exceeded expectations, with the collection truck reaching capacity on the recycling side and requiring an additional trip to unload. The public open house and demonstration night was well attended.

Council acknowledged the Waste Management driver for going above and beyond to retrieve an ice cream container that had fallen from a cart.

Seconded by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick receive report FIN-2026-23 for information;

And That a by-law be enacted to amend Schedule B, G & H of that Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law 60-2024, to come into effect August 11, 2026.

Carried.

10.6 CAO/Clerk Caitlin Gillis

11. Committee and Board Reports

Move by: Councillor Grimes

Seconded by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

That Howick Council adopt the following Committee and Board Minutes:

11.1 Belmore Arena Board Meeting Minutes – May 5, 2026

11.2 Wroxeter Hall Board Meeting Minutes – June 4, 2026

Councillor Grimes announced that the Wroxeter Hall is hosting their Corn Roast on August 21, 2026 and the meal is complimentary free

Carried.

12. Correspondence

12.1 Wroxeter Parks Board – Request for Municipal Significance

Moved by: Councillor Rognvaldson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick hereby declares the Wroxeter Parks Association 5th Annual Day at the Park scheduled for Sunday August 23rd from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Hosted by the Rippers Men's Fastball

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Team to be of municipal significance.

Carried.

12.2 Clearview Township – Public Sector Salary Disclosure Inflation Adjustment

12.3 Municipality of Trent Lakes – Request for Provincial Action on the Accuracy of Municipal Voters' Lists

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

That the Council of the Township of Howick endorse the resolution received from the Municipality of Trent Lakes urging the Province of Ontario to immediately encourage prioritization of the review of data specifically related to non-resident property owners to ensure voter lists are as accurate as possible prior to August 14, 2026

Carried.

12.4 Tudor & Cashel Township – Request for Review EPR on One-Pound Single Use Propane Cylinders

12.5 Saugeen Conservation – 2027 Draft Budget Circulation

12.6 Maitland Valley Conservation – 2026 Work Plan Update and Invitation

12.7 Saugeen Conservation – Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

12.8 Saugeen Conservation – Quarter 2 Report

12.9 Huron OPP Detachment Meeting Minutes – May 25, 2026

12.10 Huron Perth Public Health – Annual Report 2025

12.11 Huron OPP Detachment Board Activities – 2025 Annual Report

12.12 Huron County Food Bank Distribution Centre – Better Together Gala Invitation

12.13 Maitland Conservation – Membership Meeting June 17, 2026

12.14 Drinking Water Source Protection – Newsletter for Municipalities

12.15 Town of Whitby – Ontario Land Tribunal Role and Mandate Review Request

12.16 Ontario Provincial Conservation Authority – Transition Committees

12.17 Western Ontario Wardens Caucus – Municipal Conference Invitation

13. Unfinished Business

14. Council Reports

14.1 Council Member Reports

Reeve's Verbal Update from County Council

Reeve Harding announced that tomorrow at County Council the Dickson farm severance severing a 100 acrea farm into two 50 acre parcels

Verbal Update from Council Members

14.2 Requests by Members

14.3 Notice of Motions

14.4 Announcements

15. Other Business

16. Enactment of By-laws

Moved by: Councillor Grimes

Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

That By-laws 56-2026 and 57-2026 both receive first, second, third and final reading and are finally passed.

16.1 By-law 56-2026

That the Council of the Township of Howick give first and second reading to By-law 56-2026;

Being a By-law to award tender HWK-2026-001 to Nichols Excavating Inc for the Merkley Municipal Drain Construction Tender

16.2 By-law 57-2026

That the Council of the Township of Howick give first, second third and final reading to By-law 57-2026;

Being a By-law to amend Schedule "B, G & H" of the Fees and Charges By-law 60-2024, to amend the Waste Collection and Disposal, Recreation and Township Board Fee Schedule

Carried.

17. Confirming By-law

17.1 By-law 58-2026

Moved by: Councillor Grimes

Seconded by: Councillor Rognvalds

That the Council of the Township of Howick give first, second, third and final reading to By-law 58-2026;

Being A By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Howick.

18. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Hargrave

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick adjourn the August 11, 2026, Regular Council meeting at 7 :58 p.m.

Carried.

Reeve, Doug Harding

Deputy Clerk, Alana Dick