



**Township of Howick Council Minutes
Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
Howick Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order

Reeve Harding called the meeting to order at 7:01 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 February 24, 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: Councillor Rognvaldson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

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

4.1 February 10, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes

Carried.

5. Public Meetings/Hearings

6. Delegations and/or Presentations

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: Deputy Reeve Gibson

Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

7.1.1 FIN-2026-06, Accounts Payable Dec 31, 2025 Jan 22-Feb 17, 2026 For Information Only.

Question from Council about the phone bill at the Gorrie Pool, why is there a phone line when the pool is closed? Staff clarified that the phone line is not active during the off season, but we provide internet at the pool 12 months of the year.

Carried.

8. Regular Agenda

8.1 Planning – Huron County Planner Sarah Kurtz

9. Municipal Drains - Drainage Superintendent Scott Richardson

10. Staff Reports

10.1 Chief Building Official Ed Podniewicz

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

10.3 Manager of Public Works – Scott Price

10.3.1 PW-2026-03, Calcium Chloride Supply and Application

Reeve Harding called upon Manager or Public Works Scott Price to present his report. Calcium chloride was tendered in 2024 and extended in 2025 for the same price. Staff explained that the same contractor will honour the 2025 price for 2026. Staff explained that the product stands up and we are very happy with the service Da-Lee provides.

**Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson
Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson**

That Howick Council receives report PW-2026-03, Calcium Chloride Supply and Application, for information;

And Further that Council approve extending the contract with Da-Lee Dust Control for an additional year to provide Dust Control Services in the amount of \$154,340.49 (excluding HST)

And That Council authorize the CAO/Clerk to execute the required documents.

Carried.

10.4 Manager of Recreation and Facilities - Brady Ropp

10.5 Treasurer/Manager of Finance - Amy Van Meeteren

10.5.1 FIN -2026-07, 2025 Council Remuneration and Expenses

Reeve Harding called upon Treasurer Amy VanMeeteren to present her report. Section 284 of the Municipal Act requires that the treasurer provides council with a statement of the prior year's remuneration and expenses paid to each council member. It was also pointed out that under Local Boards & Committees Norm Wilson is listed under Wroxeter Cemetery Board, this was an error and was to be listed under Fordwich Cemetery Board.

Moved by: Councillor Grimes
Seconded by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

That the Council of the Township of Howick accept and adopt report FIN-2026-07, 2025 Council Remuneration and Expenses.
Carried.

10.6 CAO/Clerk Caitlin Gillis

10.6.1 ADM-2026-03, Restricted Acts of Council (Lame Duck) Delegation of Authority Bylaw

CAO/Clerk Caitlin Gillis called upon to present her report, A lame duck classification occurs if the new term of Council will include less than three-quarters of the members of the outgoing council. If four or more members are certain not to be re-elected, the restricted acts period is August 21-November 14. If fewer than four members are re-elected the restricted period is October 26 – November 14. The by-law is written that the delegation of authorities only taking effect should a certain criteria in Section 275 of the Municipal Act be met. Staff outlined the restricted acts and outlined that anything in the 2026 budget that has already been passed will not be affected.

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson
Seconded by: Councillor Hargrave

That Howick Council hereby receives the report ADM-2026-03, Restricted Acts of Council (Lame Duck) Delegation of Authority By-law for information;

And That Council consider By-law 11-2026, being a by-law to delegate certain authorities to the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk for certain acts during the Lame Duck Period for the Corporation of the Township of Howick.

Carried.

11. Committee and Board Reports

12. Correspondence

12.1 County of Huron – Request for Consideration and Consent Re: Smoking or Vaping By-law

staff outlined that all new signs were provided by Public Health in 2025 to include vaping. Enough signs were provided for all municipal buildings and vehicles.

Moved by: Councillor Rognvaldson
Seconded by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

The Council of the Township of Howick hereby consents, pursuant to Section 115 of the Municipal Act, 2001, to the enactment of an updated Smoking By-law by the Council of the County of Huron, including the repeal of County of Huron By-law No. 2003-021, respecting the regulation of smoking and vaping in public places and workplaces within the County of Huron;

And Further That:

A copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Clerk of the County of Huron for the purpose of satisfying the consent requirements under the Municipal Act, 2001.

Carried.

12.2 Maitland Valley Conservation – Meeting Minutes December 17, 2025

13. Unfinished Business

14. Council Reports

14.1 Council Member Reports

Reeve's Verbal Update from County Council

Reeve Harding provided an update from County Council, their proposed tax levy is sitting at 4.36%.

Verbal Update from Council Members

Verbal update from Councillor Grimes – Belmore is hosting their Wing Night this Friday February 27, 2026. Wings will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Council asked for additional clarification on the wheeled bins that are anticipated to be coming this summer. – How do we recoup the money when the wheeled bin is implemented. Staff outlined that right now it is

raised through taxation. Waste Management will be providing two bins one for garbage and one for recycling to all residents in the Township.

Everyone will be charged the same for garbage collection regardless of the number of members in the household and number of waste bags in your wheeled bin. This will be all calculated into the tax rate. Right now, the garbage collection fee is divided between all residents, and the purchase of bags tags is over and above that fee. Circular Materials is paying for our recycling service so there is no expense to the Municipality for curbside collection of recycling. These bins remain with the property when the property is sold. Waste Management replaces damaged bins. The municipality is not responsible for damaged bins.

Staff also outlined that there are only two providers for the municipality for curbside collection and Waste Management was the most cost effective.

Comment from the public that implementing these bins does not give any incentive to reduce.

14.2 Requests by Members

14.3 Notice of Motions

14.4 Announcements

15. Other Business

16. Enactment of By-laws – First, Second & Third Reading

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson

Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

16.1 By-Law 11-2026

That the Council of the Township of Howick give first, second, third and final reading to By-law 11-2026;

Being a By-law to Delegate Certain Authorities to the CAO/Clerk for the Period of August 21, 2026 to November 15, 2026.

16.2 By-Law 12-2026

That the Council of the Township of Howick give first, second, third and final reading to By-law 12-2026;

Being a By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement Between the

Corporation of the Township of Howick and His Majesty the King in tight of Ontario as Represented by the Ministry of Rural Affairs for funding under the Rural Ontario Development Program.

Carried.

17. Confirming By-law

17.1 By-law 13-2026

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Gibson
Seconded by: Councillor Rognvaldson

That the Council of the Township of Howick give first, second, third and final reading to By-law 13-2026;

Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council meeting held on February 24, 2026.

Carried.

18. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Hargrave
Seconded by: Councillor Grimes

That the Council of the Township of Howick adjourn the February 24, 2026 Special Council meeting at 7 :35 p.m.

Carried.

Reeve Harding

CAO/Clerk Caitlin Gillis