



The Corporation of the Township of Perry

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday September 16th, 2026

6:00 p.m.

**Municipal Office and Electronic Attendance
(1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON)**

Any and all Minutes are to be considered Draft until approved by Council at a Regular Meeting of Council

In Attendance:

Council Chambers:

Acting Mayor Joe Lumley
Councillors: Paul Sowrey and Margaret Ann MacPhail
Beth Morton, Clerk-Administrator
Kim Seguin, Treasurer-Tax Collector
Erica Cole, Deputy Clerk
Mike Wilmon, CBO/By-law Enforcement Officer
Randy McLaren, Working Roads Supervisor
Douglas Holland, Fire Chief
Leah Perron, CEO/Librarian

Absent

Mayor Norm Hofstetter

Electronic Attendance:

Councillor Jim Cushman, Jeff Marshall

Members of the Public:

Cary Grant, Elizabeth Sowrey

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Paul Sowrey declared Pecuniary Interest on Agenda Item 4.1 at the September 16, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council due to his wife being on the Agenda.

Resolution No. 2026-344

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby approves the Addendum to Include Agenda Item 7.1. "*By-law 2026-63 Ontario Transfer Payment (NORDs Funding) Agreement*" and Item 8.9. "*Change Order 10 – Novar Rink Project – Entry Culvert Change*" on the September 16th, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-345

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry approves the Minutes of the following Meeting as presented:

3.1 Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday September 2nd, 2026

Carried

Councillor Sowrey, having previously declared Pecuniary Interest, left Council Chambers at 6:04 p.m.

Item 4.1. DELEGATION: Elizabeth Sowrey re: Exemption from Survey Requirements (556 Deer Lake Road)

Elizabeth Sowrey highlighted the following information to Council regarding the application to purchase the Original Road Allowance dissecting her property at 556 Deer Lake Road:

- Inquiry to purchase subject Original Road Allowance was completed in 2022 was sent via email to the Clerk-Administrator, no further action was taken by Ms. Sowrey;
- On December 8, 2025, Ms. Sowrey emailed the Clerk-Administrator requesting to purchase the subject Original Road Allowance. On December 17, 2025 Council approved a new policy for the Sale of Original Road Allowances. Ms. Sowrey submitted the application form and administration fee under this new policy on January 21, 2026. Ms. Sowrey noted she had already contacted Tulloch to conduct the survey of the subject Road Allowance;
- Ms. Sowrey submitted the draft survey in beginning of August 2026. Following this, the Township advised that structures on the property are required to be depicted as per the policy approved in December 2025. Ms. Sowrey noted that there are no encroachments on the subject Road Allowance;
- Ms. Sowrey requested that Council consider an exemption to Section 2.10 iii) of ORA/OSRA Policy #2025-03 for her application due to the fact of when she submitted her request to purchase via email on December 8, 2025 and the new policy being approved by Council on December 17, 2025. As under the old policy no structures were required to be located on the survey and the cost to have Tulloch return to the property to survey out the structures is costly.

Acting Mayor Lumley thanked Ms. Sowrey for her delegation and welcomed Council discussion regarding the exemption request.

Resolution No. 2026-346

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Jim Cushman

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry have received the report from Staff and the delegation from Elizabeth Sowrey for the application for purchase of road allowance and direct staff to proceed with the draft survey as submitted with no structures required, approving the exemption.

Carried

Councillor Sowrey returned to Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m.

Resolution No. 2026-347

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby receives and approves the Minutes and/or Reports from the following Municipal Boards and Committees:

5.1. District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board

5.1.1. August 2026 CAO Report

5.2. Perry Township Public Library Board

5.2.1. June 2026 Meeting Minutes

5.2.2. August 2026 CEO Monthly Report

5.2.3. August 2026 Pay List By Fund

5.2.4. August 2026 Library Year-To-Date Report

5.3. Joint Waste Management Committee

5.3.1. Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2026

5.4. Almaguin Community Economic Development (ACED) Committee

5.4.1. June 2026 Meeting Minutes

5.4.2. August 2026 DoED Report

5.4.3. Financial Statements 2025

5.4.4. Almaguin Brand Alignment Signage Project to Rural Ontario Development Program Update

5.4.5. Regional Strategic Plan: Report Design and Infographic Development

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-348

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry has received and accepts the Monthly Reports, as circulated, from the following Municipal Departments:

6.1. Fire Department

6.1.1. August 2026 Fire Chief Meeting/Training Report

6.2. Building Department/By-law

6.2.1. August 2026 Building Monthly Report

6.2.2. August 2026 By-Law Report

6.3. Transfer Station

6.4. Public Works

6.5. Finance Department

6.6. Planning

6.7. Health and Safety Update

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-349

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that By-law 2026-63 “Being a By-Law to authorize the Execution of an Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement between The Corporation of the Township of Perry and His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth” be given first and second reading.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-350

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that By-law 2026-63 “Being a By-Law to authorize the Execution of an Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement between The Corporation of the Township

of Perry and His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth” be given third and final reading and enacted in open Council.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-351

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby directs Staff to remove the National Flag of the United States of America from the Community Flagpole at the Municipal Office/Almaguin Highlands Information Centre and replace it with the Township of Perry flag;

And further that Staff be directed to amend the Township’s Flag Protocol Policy, as required, to reflect this change;

And further that Council affirm that this decision is a positive expression of Canadian identity, unity and pride and is not intended as a statement against American residents, visitors or businesses;

And further that this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario and to Scott Aitchison, Member of Parliament for Parry Sound–Muskoka;

And further that Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, be requested to raise this matter at the federal level and encourage municipalities throughout Canada to consider displaying the flags of Canada, their province or territory, and their local municipality on permanent municipal flagpoles as a united expression of Canadian identity.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-352

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby receives the report “*Civic Addressing Review – Issuing 9-1-1 Numbers on Vacant Land*” dated September 16th, 2026;

And further that Council provides direction to Staff regarding the Township’s current civic addressing framework and processes.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-353

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby receives the report regarding the potential licensing and seasonal use of travel trailers and recreational vehicles within the Township of Perry;

And further that Council direct Staff to obtain legal advice on this matter prior to Council proceeding further on the potential licensing.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-354

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry continue the practice of hosting a luncheon and providing a \$130 gift certificate from Hope's Clover Farms to all permanent, part-time, and temporary Township of Perry employees, in recognition of the holiday season;

And further that the Holiday Luncheon be held on Tuesday December 1st, 2026.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-355

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby receives and supports the resolution from the Municipality of Trent Hills regarding the Elimination of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's Second Injury and Enhancement Fund (SIEF);

And further that staff are directed to forward this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills, Graydon Smith, MPP – Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), the Association of Municipality of Ontario (AMO), the Municipality of Trent Hills, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-356

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

WHEREAS recent municipal infrastructure funding programs by the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario have tended to prioritize growth-related or housing-enabling infrastructure projects over infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has regulated municipal infrastructure asset management through O. Reg 588/17 (Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure) under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*;

AND WHEREAS municipal asset management plans and the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario have identified that municipalities have significant state-of-good-repair backlogs and renewal needs for infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario doubled the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) from \$200M/year to \$400M/year for 2021-2026 but has not publicly committed to maintaining this level of funding beyond 2026;

AND WHEREAS the OCIF has become a vital and indispensable resource for municipalities, assisting them with improving their asset management programs and meeting community-preserving infrastructure renewal needs;

AND WHEREAS increased geopolitical uncertainty is threatening the economic prosperity of Canada, Ontario, and every municipality;

AND WHEREAS municipal infrastructure is a key enabler and preserver of economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) has heard from its members and their municipalities concerns regarding the potential erosion of existing municipal infrastructure and thus service levels in light of the ongoing focus on housing-enabling infrastructure by grant funding programs;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the **Township of Perry** hereby supports MFOA's letter to the Ministry of Infrastructure requesting that the doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be made permanent in advance of the allocations for the 2027 calendar year, helping municipalities to continue building housing-enabling infrastructure while preserving the economic value provided by existing infrastructure.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-357

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby approves the repainting and minor maintenance of the Emsdale Little Free Library;

And further that Council directs the Perry Township Public Library to collaborate with municipal staff with regards to repainting and general repairs to the Little Free Library.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-358

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry receive this report regarding the unauthorized removal of boards from the east side of the Outdoor Rink and the use of the septic area during the 2026 Fall Fair;

And further that Council direct staff to request written confirmation from the Emsdale Agricultural Society's insurer or insurance broker addressing whether its liability coverage would have responded to a claim arising from activities undertaken contrary to the Township's written conditions and direction;

And further that Council direct staff to provide the report and related correspondence to the Township's insurer for review and advice regarding future risk management and insurance requirements for events held on Township property;

And further that before any future event or alteration to Township property is approved, the Emsdale Agricultural Society be required to provide a written event plan, satisfactory proof of insurance naming the Township as an additional insured, and written acknowledgment that all conditions imposed by the Township will be followed.

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-359

Moved by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Seconded by: Paul Sowrey

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby approves Change Order 10 for Contract 2025-011 with Greystone Project

Management Inc for the additional costs change the entry culvert for the Novar Rink Park at McCrandle Street with Township supplied culvert in the amount of \$ 6,812.20 plus HST

Carried

Resolution No. 2026-360

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Margaret Ann MacPhail

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby receives Correspondence Items 9.1. to 9.9. as outlined in the Agenda of Wednesday September 16th, 2026.

Carried

The Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:31 p.m.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2026.

"Originally Signed"

Joe Lumley, *Acting Mayor*

"Originally Signed"

Beth Morton, *Clerk-Administrator*