



## **MUNICIPALITY OF ARRAN-ELDERSLIE**

### **Council Meeting**

### **MINUTES**

**Monday, November 10, 2025, 9:00 a.m.**

**Council Chambers**

**1925 Bruce Road 10, Chesley, ON**

Council Present: Mayor Steve Hammell  
Deputy Mayor Jennifer Shaw  
Councillor Ryan Nickason  
Councillor Darryl Hampton  
Councillor Brian Dudgeon  
Councillor Moiken Penner  
Councillor Peter Steinacker

Staff Present: Christine Fraser-McDonald - Clerk  
Julie Fenton - Coordinator of Infrastructure and Development  
Scott McLeod - Public Works Manager  
Steve Tiernan - Fire Chief  
David Munro - Treasurer  
Jennifer Isber-Legge - Economic Development &  
Communications Coordinator  
Emily Dance, CAO  
Jackson Penner - Chief Building Official & Manager of Building  
and Planning Services  
Devan Acton - Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk

#### **1. Call to Order**

Mayor Hammell called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. A quorum was present.

#### **2. Mayor's Announcements (If Required)**

- Tomorrow is Remembrance day and there are services being held in Chesley, Tara and Paisley.
- The Village of Paisley presents the Late Night Social on November 21st from 5 to 9 PM.
- The Light of Christmas is presented at the Paisley Knox United Church on November 23rd at 7:30 PM.
- Mayor Hammell noted that former employee and firefighter Hans Hagermeier had passed away.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**275-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Dudgeon

**Seconded by:** Councillor Nickason

Be It Resolved that the agenda for the Council Meeting of Monday, November 10, 2025 be received and adopted, as distributed by the Clerk.

**Carried**

**4. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

**4.1 Councillor Hampton - REC-2025-20 Chesley Kinsmen Club – Proposed Improvements**

Councillor Hampton is a member of Chesley Kinsmen Club.

**5. Unfinished Business**

**5.1 Paisley Ward Councillor - Notice of Motion - Cost Estimate to Remove Raised Garden Bed in Town Square**

Councillor Penner presented her Notice of Motion to Council.

**276-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

**Seconded by:** Councillor Hampton

WHEREAS, a consensus exists among local community groups that the removal of the raised garden bed in the Town Square would enhance the usability of the area;

AND WHEREAS, the removal of this structure would significantly open the area for community gatherings at the cenotaph;

AND WHEREAS, the spruce in the raised bed has outgrown its space and is beginning to look straggly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs the Roads Department to provide a cost estimate for the removal of the raised garden bed in the centre of the Town Square;

AND FURTHER THAT this cost estimate be itemized to clearly separate:

The cost of removing the spruce only

The estimated cost of in-house work (removal and disposal of the raised bed structure).

The estimated cost of external contract work (re-laying of paving stones or resurfacing the vacated area), to allow local groups to potentially fundraise for contractor costs.

**Carried**

## **5.2 Paisley Ward Councillor - Notice of Motion - Bridge Study**

Councillor Penner presented her Notice of Motion to Council.

**277-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

**Seconded by:** Councillor Hampton

Whereas on June 9, 2025, Council defeated the motion to endorse the preliminary preferred approach (Alternative 2) of the Bridge Infrastructure Master Plan, which proposed the closure of certain crossings while replacing or repairing others; and

Whereas Alternative 2 would have allowed several bridges to be repaired and maintained as long as feasible, with eventual closure and removal once no longer viable; and

Whereas the defeat of this motion resulted in the cancellation of a second public meeting scheduled for summer 2025, which was intended to present the findings of the Bridge Infrastructure Master Plan and gather community input on proposed strategies; and

Whereas no direction was provided to staff to develop a comprehensive financial plan to support phased implementation of the Bridge Master Plan, including cost estimates for priority projects and identification of potential funding sources such as grants, reserves, and partnerships; and

Whereas the absence of a clear decision has left the Municipality without a defined path forward, potentially defaulting to a “do nothing” approach that does not serve the long-term interests of the community; and

Whereas the lack of a financial strategy for future bridge repairs and infrastructure maintenance limits the Municipality’s ability to advocate for external funding and plan proactively; and

Whereas an alternative approach could be considered, one that proposes the replacement of all crossings when and if financially feasible and follows proper research and investigation which may better serve the needs of residents, including members of the Mennonite community, and provide a more definitive infrastructure strategy;

Therefore, be it resolved that I, Councillor Moiken Penner, am asking Council to reconsider the decision regarding the Bridge Infrastructure Master Plan pursuant to Section 18.10 of the Procedural By-law.

For (7): Mayor Hammell, Deputy Mayor Shaw, Councillor Nickason, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Dudgeon, Councillor Penner, and Councillor Steinacker

**Carried (7 to 0)**

## **6. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

### **6.1 October 27, 2025 - Regular Council Minutes**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**278-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Deputy Mayor Shaw

Be It Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie adopt the minutes of the Regular Council Session held October 27, 2025.

**Carried**

## **7. Minutes of Sub-Committee Meetings**

### **7.1 South Bruce OPP Detachment Board Minutes - September 2, 2025**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**279-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Councillor Dudgeon

Be It Resolved that Council receives the south Bruce OPP Detachment Board Minutes of September 2, 2025 for information purposes.

**Carried**

## **8. Presentations**

### **8.1 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority - SVCA Category 2 Programs and Services**

Katie Thomas, Manager of Water Resources and Kyle Hope Capital Water Infrastructure Coordinator for the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority gave a presentation to Council.

## **9. Correspondence**

### **9.1 Requiring Action**

#### **9.1.1 Municipality of Meaford - Withdrawal of Provincial Offences Act Charges**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**281-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Deputy Mayor Shaw

**Seconded by:** Councillor Penner

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie hereby expresses its support for the Municipality of Meaford's resolution concerning the withdrawal of Provincial Offences Act charges to include the South Bruce OPP Detachment Board, and further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of Meaford;

AND FURTHER the Council of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie request a similar motion be drafted and provided to Council and South Bruce Police Detachment Board for consideration at the next available meeting.

**Carried**

### **9.2 For Information**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**282-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Deputy Mayor Shaw

**Seconded by:** Councillor Penner

Be It Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie receives, notes, and files correspondence on the Council Agenda for information purposes;

And further that Council directs staff to bring back a report to the December 8th meeting regarding the consultation on the proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities.

**Carried**

- 9.2.1 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authorities - Provincial Announcement - Creation of New Provincial Agency
- 9.2.2 2026 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund - Letter to Council
- 9.2.3 MPP Paul Vickers Media Release - Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund

## **10. Staff Reports**

### **10.1 Finance**

#### **10.1.1 FIN-2025-22 2026 Budget Draft 1 – Review Budget Discussion Points**

Treasurer, David Munro, responded to questions from Members of Council.

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

#### **283-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Deputy Mayor Shaw

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report FIN-2025-22 and recommends the following be incorporated into the 2026 Draft 1 budget:

1. Reduce the property tax rate increase from 5.80% to 4.95%.
2. Allocate the \$301,957 surplus land sale revenue to the surplus land sale reserve
3. Make the positive changes to the Operating Budget described in this report totaling \$140,608.
4. Decrease the transfer of funds from Operations to Reserves for capital project financing by \$224,124

**Carried**

### **10.2 Public Works**

#### **10.2.1 PWWS-2025-08 Chesley Park Well #4 – Raw Water Line**

#### **284-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Councillor Nickason

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report PWWS-2025-08 Chesley Park Well #4 – Raw Water Line;

And grants pre-budget approval in the amount of \$80,000 to complete the directional bore and raw waterline installation for the fall of 2025.

**Carried**

#### 10.2.2 PWRDS-2025-32 Tile Loan Application - Grant

##### **285-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Councillor Dudgeon

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report PWRDS-2025-32 - Tile Loan Application for Grant ; and

Receives Tile Drainage Loan Application from Donald Grant, with an estimated cost of \$110,000 for the drainage system for the property described as Lot 2, Concession 1 in the geographic Township of Arran, Roll Number 4103-490-001-07300, subject to the availability of funds allocated by the Province of Ontario for tile drainage purposes; and

That the amount of the tile drain loan will be \$50,000; and

Further that a by-law be prepared to impose special annual drainage rates upon land in respect of which money is borrowed under the Tile Drainage Act.

**Carried**

#### 10.2.3 PWRDS-2025-31 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority – Category 2 Agreement

Coordinator of Infrastructure and Development, Julie Fenton, responded to questions from Members of Council.

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

##### **280-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Steinacker

**Seconded by:** Councillor Dudgeon

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves report PWRDS-2025-31 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority – Category 2 Agreement;

AND authorizes the execution of an agreement with the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority for the provisions of Category 2 Programs and Services in accordance with the Conservation Authorities Act;

AND FURTHER approves the appropriate by-law coming forward to bring force and effect to the same.

**Carried**

### **10.3 Facilities, Parks and Recreation**

#### **10.3.1 REC-2025-18 RFQ for AODA upgrades at Treasure Chest Museum and Tara Library**

CAO Emily Dance presented the report on behalf of Manager of Facilities, Parks & Recreation, Joel McAllister.

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

#### **286-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

**Seconded by:** Councillor Hampton

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report REC-2025-18 - Interior and Exterior work at Municipal Buildings - AODA Upgrades Project;

AND accepts the quotation from N1 Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$88,995.47 plus applicable taxes, as outlined in their submission to RFQ 03-2025-04, to be funded from Account 24-RECC-0055 with an approved budget of \$87,993;

AND FURTHER that the cost over-run of the Project will be funded from Recreation Building Reserve 01-0000-7259.

**Carried**

#### **10.3.2 REC-2025-20 Chesley Kinsmen Club – Proposed Improvements**

Councillor Hampton declared a conflict on this item. (Councillor Hampton is a member of Chesley Kinsmen Club.)



Councillor Hampton declared a conflict as he is a member of the Kinsmen Club of Chesley and left his seat.

CAO Emily Dance responded to questions from Members of Council.

Councillor Hampton returned to his seat after the vote.

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**287-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Dudgeon

**Seconded by:** Councillor Steinacker

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report REC-2025-20 Chesley Kinsmen Club – Proposed Improvements

AND directs staff to work collaboratively with the Chesley Kinsmen Club for the proposed improvements to the Chesley Community Park

AND FURTHER directs staff to include a municipal project for grading and paving of the Pavilion parking lot in an upcoming budget when similar paving work is included in a capital project in Chesley where cost efficiencies could be found.

**Carried**

**10.4 CAO**

**10.4.1 CAO 2025-35 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)– Conference Delegation Request**

CAO Emily Dance responded to questions from Members of Council.

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**288-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Dudgeon

**Seconded by:** Councillor Hampton

Be It Resolved that Council approve Report CAO-2025-35 Rural Ontario Municipal Association– Conference Delegation Request and direct staff to make a delegation request for the ROMA conference for the following Ministries:

1. Minister of Health – Continued Support for Chesley Hospital and Health Care Services for Arran-Elderslie
2. Minister of Energy – Battery Energy Storage Development Proposals – Municipal Support
3. Minister of Infrastructure, Roads and Bridges
4. Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks - WECl Funding - SVCA support Paisley Dyke funding opportunities

**Carried**

## **11. Members Updates**

### Shaw:

Deputy Mayor Shaw attended the Chesley Legion Veterans dinner on Saturday and brought greetings from the Municipality and will be attending a SMART meeting on Friday.

### Hampton:

Councillor Hampton thanked staff for their hard work regarding the budget.

### Dudgeon:

Councillor Dudgeon had nothing to report.

### Steinacker:

Councillor Steinacker had nothing to report.

### Penner:

Councillor Penner attended a SBODB meeting on November 4th.

### Nickason:

Councillor Nickason attended a BASRW meeting in October.

### Hammell:

Mayor Hammell thanked Jennifer Isber-Legge for her attendance for the radio interview at the new business in Chesley.

## **12. Closed Session - 1:00 PM**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**289-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Councillor Nickason

*Be It Resolved*, That the Council of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie does now go into closed session to discuss an item(s) which relates to:

- labour relations or employee negotiations - Market Study

Staff Authorized to Remain:

CAO Emily Dance, Clerk Christine Fraser-McDonald, Treasurer David Munro and Consultants Damian Maggio and Jane Mizanski.

**Carried**

**13. Resolution to Reconvene in Open Session**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**290-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Hampton

**Seconded by:** Councillor Nickason

Be It Resolved that Council of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie does now return to the Open Session at 1:34 PM.

**Carried**

**14. Adoption of Recommendations Arising from Closed Session (If Any)**

The Mayor confirmed that Council discussed only those matters identified in the motion to go into Closed Session.

Direction was given to staff in Closed Session for the Market Study.

**15. Confirming By-law**

**15.1 By-law 80-2025 - Confirming By-law**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**291-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Dudgeon

**Seconded by:** Councillor Nickason

Be It Resolved that By-law No. 80-2025 be introduced and read a first, second and third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the By-law Book.

By-law 80-2025 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Council meeting of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie held Monday, November 10, 2025.

**Carried**

**16. Adjournment**

Subsequent to further discussion, Council passed the following resolution:

**292-19-2025**

**Moved by:** Councillor Nickason

**Seconded by:** Councillor Steinacker

Be It Resolved that the meeting be adjourned to the call of the Mayor at 1:35 PM.

**Carried**

**17. List of Upcoming Council meetings**

- November 24, 2025
- December 8, 2025
- January 12, 2026

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Steve Hammell, Mayor

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Christine Fraser-McDonald, Clerk