

WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 18, 2025

Here is a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Council on **November 18, 2025**. Full agendas can be found here: <https://whitewaterregion.civicweb.net/Portal/>. The video is available on our YouTube page. This summary does not constitute the official record of the meeting and approved Minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

Mayor's Message

Mayor Nicholson reported that since November 5th he has attended eight meetings and events, as well as a County Council meeting. He noted that he and Deputy Mayor Moore attended the grand opening of Greens Automotive in the Industrial Park, and also recognized Inner Strength Training and Motion on celebrating their 15th anniversary. He highlighted that at the previous Council meeting, Council authorized site plan approval for Summit Inc., allowing construction to begin.

Mayor Nicholson also thanked the Beachburg Lions Club, the WDRA Pastor Anita in Westmeath, and the Cobden Legion for their efforts in organizing Remembrance Day ceremonies and ensuring the community could honour those who have served our nation.

He further noted that he and the CAO are preparing to participate in multi-ministerial meetings at Queen's Park on November 20th, where discussions will include the Tominco Mine site and the potential development of a Class III Industrial Park.

Community Services

Council approved a single source award to GEMTEC Consulting Engineers and Scientists Ltd. to complete the required design, permitting, and preparation work for the Westmeath Boat Launch project at an estimated cost of \$14,365 including HST in 2025 and \$21,166 including HST in 2026, for a total of \$35,531 including HST. This approval allows GEMTEC to advance regulatory applications, sediment sampling, and tender-ready construction plans, keeping the dredging project on schedule for summer 2026.

Contact: *Stephanie Plebon, Manager of Parks & Recreation*
splebon@whitewaterregion.ca Ext. 143

Fire Department

Council approved awarding Tender 2025-23 to Darch Fire for the purchase of Holmatro battery-powered auto extrication tools at a cost of \$70,321.25. The new equipment replaces aging gas-

powered tools that have exceeded their lifecycle and will improve safety, reliability, and efficiency during emergency response.

Contact: Jonathan McLaren, Fire Chief
jmclaren@whitewaterregion.ca

Corporate Management & Legislative Services

Council received the 2026 Election Information & Key Dates report, reviewed the Municipal Election Sign Policy, and approved updates to the Municipal Election Recount Policy. The report outlines key election deadlines, provides policy updates to support clarity and consistency in election procedures, and confirms that preparations for the 2026 Municipal Election are underway.

Council approved the 2026 Council Meeting Calendar, which schedules regular Council meetings, statutory holidays, municipal conferences, Committee of Adjustment meetings, tax and water due dates, an all-day staff training on October 8, 2026, and key election dates. The calendar reflects the Procedural By-law requirements for meeting breaks in summer and year-end and will be circulated to Council and staff.

Council received the report on delegation requests for the 2026 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference and approved proceeding with the submissions. Delegations will focus on key municipal priorities including policing and municipal service costs, business retention and development, transportation improvements, and advancing health and wellness through support for senior services and expanded primary care facilities. Staff will prepare and submit the necessary ROMA delegation requests and supporting documentation.

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Additional information:

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