

WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 18, 2026

Here is a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Council on **February 18, 2026**. 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.

Public Meeting

A public meeting was held to consider three proposed zoning amendments to the Township of Whitewater Region's Zoning By-law in accordance with the Planning Act:

- **Zoning Amendment D-14-218 – Beachburg Road**
- **Zoning Amendment D-14-219 – 1915 Beachburg Road**
- **Zoning Amendment D-14-221 – 32 Hume Street**

Following the meeting, Council considered **Item 9.7 (D-14-218)** for approval, while **Items 9.8 (D-14-219) and 9.9 (D-14-221)** were postponed to March 4th to allow staff time to review public feedback and ensure recommendations remain consistent with the original reports. The related motions are included in the report section for discussion after the public meeting.

Mayor's Address

Mayor Nicholson highlighted several events and announcements for the municipality since the last Council meeting, including:

- The continued success of the Civitan Fishing Derby, which raised funds for numerous local organizations. Councillor White attended on behalf of Council, and appreciation was extended to the Civitan volunteers for their community contributions.
- Approval of two design change orders for the new Whitewater Paramedic Base. The facility will include ambulance bays and space to support RCVTAC operations, with a building permit submission expected soon.

Community Services

Council approved a by-law authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to enter a Collaborative Services Delivery Agreement with the Eganville and District Seniors Citizens Needs Association (EDSCNA) to manage the Whitewater Region Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) and Home Support program. This partnership allows the Township to provide oversight, funding, and in-kind support while EDSCNA handles day-to-day operations, staffing, and volunteer coordination, ensuring sustainable, high-quality services such as Meals on Wheels, transportation, home maintenance, and social programs for Whitewater's growing senior population, particularly those who are isolated or low-income, without additional costs to the Township.

Contact: *Stephanie Plebon, Manager of Community Services*
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Community Development

Council approved a by-law authorizing the Township to execute a supplemental subdivision agreement with Adrian Vereyken & Sons Developments Limited for Plan of Subdivision D-12-107 (Vereyken Subdivision). The updated agreement applies to Phases 3–5 and reflects revised geotechnical information and provisions to support the orderly completion and continued development of the remaining lots, in accordance with the Planning Act and County of Renfrew Official Plan.

Contact: Mackenzie Baird, Planner/EDO
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Public Works

Council approved the sole-source purchase of a replacement rotating assembly for the decanter centrifuge at the Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant from Alfa Laval Inc. at a cost of \$52,508.16, including H.S.T. The decanter centrifuge, essential for separating solids from liquids in the wastewater treatment process, has begun producing abnormal noise, and OCWA has recommended having a spare assembly on-site to ensure operational reliability and minimize downtime. This purchase, aligned with the Township's Strategic Plan and within the approved 2025 wastewater capital budget, will allow staff to maintain uninterrupted wastewater treatment operations and rebuild the existing assembly as a spare.

Council received the February 2026 update on the Whitewater Region Water & Wastewater Task Force recommendations, highlighting progress on improving water quality, system capacity, financial management, and rate structures. Key actions completed or underway include enhanced public education, automated water notifications, adoption of a Sewer-use By-law, water conservation and stormwater management measures, energy efficiency upgrades at treatment plants, bulk water sales, commercial metering, grant-funded Cobden WTP improvements, and an independent audit of the Cobden WWTP. Staff will continue implementing remaining recommendations, including developing a comprehensive Water & Wastewater by-law, reviewing rates, and exploring operational partnerships, all aligned with the Township's Strategic Plan and 2026 budgets.

Contact: Lane Cleroux, Manager of Public Works
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Corporate Management & Legislative Services

Council approved the submission of an application to the Ministry of Natural Resources to acquire approximately 90 acres of Crown land for the development of a Class III Industrial Park, supporting long-term economic growth and diversifying the Township's tax base. The Township will direct the CAO to obtain an industrial land appraisal at a cost of up to \$5,500, and formally request that the County of Renfrew lead the acquisition process and promote the site for potential mineral development opportunities. This strategic initiative leverages existing infrastructure, nearby industrial employers, and mineral resources, aligning with the Township's 2020–2030 Strategic Plan to attract and expand economic development while minimizing costs to residents.

Council approved the lifting of the one-foot reserves on Blocks 13 and 14, Plan 573, and the dedication of these lands as public highway to provide unencumbered legal access to the Caressant Care Cobden property at 12 Wren Drive. The removal corrects a legacy subdivision constraint from 1992 that no longer serves a planning purpose and ensures consistent treatment of adjacent lands within the Wren Subdivision. There are no financial implications for the Township, and legal costs will be borne by the property owners.

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Additional information:

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