

WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2026

Here is a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Council on **June 3, 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.

Mayor's Address

Mayor Nicholson reported that he attended 11 meetings and events on behalf of Council over the past two weeks, including several new business openings such as Happy Little Canoe Rides, Gouldhaven Farm, and Honest to Goodness Thrift Store. He also joined MPP Denault and representatives from the Renfrew County District School Board at Beachburg Public School to learn more about the school's early learning programs and potential access to \$11-a-day childcare spaces within the community. Mayor Nicholson acknowledged the recent power outages caused by the windstorm and expressed appreciation to local firefighters for their efforts in responding to storm-related incidents. He also recognized June as Seniors Month, thanking the many seniors and seniors' groups who contribute to the community, and noted that June is also Pride Month, an opportunity to celebrate diversity and reaffirm the Township's commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive community for all.

Presentations

Council received a report as part of a required public review of council remuneration for the 2026–2030 term. Following a comparison with other Renfrew County municipalities, staff found the current compensation structure to be fair and recommended maintaining existing salaries, allowances, and annual cost-of-living adjustments, with no significant changes proposed. The recommendations would take effect for the 2026–2030 term of Council.

Corporate Management & Legislative Services

Council approved to enact a by-law establishing a Joint Election Compliance Audit Committee for the 2026–2030 term, including its terms of reference and member appointments. The committee, shared with neighbouring municipalities, will review applications related to alleged violations of municipal election campaign finance rules and help ensure accountability and compliance during municipal elections.

Council approved an amendment to the Ottawa River Power Corporation (ORPC) Shareholders Agreement and authorized the Mayor and Clerk to execute the updated agreement. The amendment modernizes governance provisions by updating approval requirements, financial thresholds, and oversight mechanisms while maintaining shareholder control over significant corporate decisions. The changes are intended to improve operational efficiency, reflect current regulatory and business realities, and protect municipal interests without creating direct financial impacts for the Township.

Council directed staff to prepare and submit comments to the Environmental Registry of Ontario regarding the proposed Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, and to express the Township's interest in further exploring the public corporation model and other alternative service delivery options. The initiative will allow the Township to provide input on the Province's evolving framework for water and wastewater services while continuing to evaluate potential opportunities, benefits, and impacts through ongoing regional partnerships and the Local Authority Services business case review.

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