

WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1st, 2025

Here is a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Council on **March 19th, 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.

Presentations and Public Meetings

Council received a presentation from Taylor Hanrath, Manager of Capital Works with the County of Renfrew, regarding the planned reconstruction of the Broomes Creek Culvert and Dam. Originally built in 1888 and last rehabilitated in 1935, the structure is now due for major upgrades. The project will require a full closure of the affected section of Foresters Falls Road for the duration of construction.

Council received a presentation from Lacey Rose, County Forester, on the management of the Beachburg Tract and Renfrew County Forests. The presentation highlighted sustainable forest practices, recent and planned white pine harvest and regeneration work, public engagement efforts, and ongoing challenges such as invasive species and recreational impacts.

Mayor's Address

Mayor Nicholson attended eleven meetings and events on behalf of Council since the last council meeting, highlights of the address include:

- Noted growing concerns on new U.S. tariffs on Canadian exports and their potential impact locally, noting that the County and Township continue to support buy-local and buy-Canadian efforts, with a resolution of support included in the agenda.
- Highlighted that the Seniors Active Living Fair held on March 6 was a great success, thanking staff along with the many volunteers who support seniors in the community.
- Also noted the start of freshet monitoring for the Ottawa River and encouraged residents to stay informed through official channels.

Fire Services

Council approved to provide the CAO delegated authority to authorize an expenditure greater than \$25,000 per the procurement policy to purchase a replacement fire vehicle.

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

Community Services

Council approved the award of Tender 2025-03 Arena's Structural Condition Assessment to GEMTEC. This project, included in the 2025 Budget, includes assessing our three arena facilities to provide a condition rating as well as short-term and long-term rehabilitation recommendations.

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

Environmental Services

Council received the 2024 annual reports provided by OCWA for the Beachburg, Cobden, and Haley Drinking Water Systems. The reports provide a summary of the systems, treatments used, performance, sampling results, etc. The reports can be found on the [Township's website](#) under Water and Wastewater Services.

Council authorized the Mayor and CAO to sign the Township of Whitewater Region Drinking Water Quality Management System (DWQMS) Operational Plan Commitment and Endorsement. The plan provides a framework for the operating authority and the owner of the drinking water system to develop a Quality Management System that is relevant and appropriate.

Council received the 2024 Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant annual report which discusses the operations of the plant. The report can also be found on the [Township's website](#).

Council approved an amendment to Resolution #2025-5269, passed on March 5, 2025, regarding the extension of the Miller Waste Services contract, to reflect an updated total cost.

Contact: Deanna Nicholson, Environmental Services Superintendent
dnicholson@whitewaterregion.ca Ext. 127

Public Works

Council approved the award of Tender 2025-08 Gravel Crushing to McCrea Excavating Ltd. and approved the standing offer from Dave Bromley for the granular supply of 35,000 tonnes of granular 'A' and 15,000 tonnes of granular 'B' from the Bromley Pit.

Contact: Lane Cleroux, Manager of Public Works
lcleroux@whitewaterregion.ca Ext. 128

Corporate Services

Council approved the award of the 2025 Asset Management Plan Update project to Dillon Consulting Limited. Municipalities are required to create these plans as per O. Reg. 588/17: Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure

Contact: Kurtis McGonegal, Treasurer
kmcgonegal@whitewaterregion.ca Ext. 138

Announcements

Members of Council announced the following:

- Councillor Tabbert noted that in January of this year, the Fire Department began the recruitment process to fill the position left by Captain Rick Ruttan (retired), who served for over 30 years. She congratulated Lieutenant Joel Brydges on his promotion to Captain, Lieutenant John Malcolm on his promotion to Acting Captain, and Shannon Spurrell on being promoted to Lieutenant.
- She also acknowledged the retirement of Wade Lumax after 28 years of service and noted that Chris Parr will serve as Acting Lieutenant.
- Councillor Tabbert also noted her attendance at the International Women's Day event hosted by the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce, calling it a great event.
- Councillor Moore mentioned the spring load restrictions in place until May 21st

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Additional information:

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