



Minutes

Owen Sound City Council

October 27, 2025

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

5:30 p.m. - Open Session

No Closed Session

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ian Boddy
Deputy Mayor Scott Greig
Councillor Travis Dodd
Councillor Jon Farmer
Councillor Brock Hamley
Councillor Marion Koepke
Councillor Suneet Kukreja
Councillor Carol Merton
Councillor Melanie Middlebro'

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Simmonds, City Manager
Kate Allan, Director of Corporate Services
Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Lara Widdifield, Director of Public Works and Engineering
Phil Eagleson, Fire Chief
Bradey Carbert, Manager of Corporate Services
Briana Bloomfield, City Clerk
Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Boddy called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 2.a Councillor Farmer Re: Trick-or-Treat Trail in the River District
- 2.b Deputy Mayor Greig Re: Diwali Festival and 25th Annual Honouring Our Local Veterans Event
- 2.c Mayor Boddy Re: CBC News Morning Live with Heather Hiscox

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES

- 4.a Minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Council meeting held on September 8, 2025
- 4.b Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on October 6, 2025
R-251027-001
Moved by Councillor Middlebro'
Seconded by Councillor Dodd

"THAT the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as printed:

- 1. Closed Session of the Regular Council meeting held on September 8, 2025; and**

2. Regular Council meeting held on October 6, 2025."

Carried.

The Fire Chief joined the meeting.

5. MOTION TO MOVE COUNCIL INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

R-251027-002

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

"THAT City Council now move into Committee of the Whole to consider public meetings, deputations and presentations, public question period, matters arising from correspondence, reports of City staff, consent agenda, committee minutes, matters postponed, motions for which notice was previously given and additional business."

Carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6. PUBLIC MEETINGS

There were no public meetings.

7. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7.a Presentation from the City Manager Re: City Manager's Update

The City Manager provided a PowerPoint presentation and noted:

- Highlights of recent events and activities throughout the City;
- Reports that will be presented at the November meetings of the Corporate Services Committee, Operations Committee, and Community Services Committee;
- A listing of media advisories issued since the last update;
- How to apply to volunteer for a City Committee;
- Benefits of managing your Owen Sound accounts online through Virtual City Hall; and
- Upcoming events, including a CBC News Morning Live broadcast with Heather Hiscox from the front steps of City Hall on Tuesday, October 28th.

8. PUBLIC FORUM

8.a Pat Kelly, Owen Sound resident

Ms. Kelly provided comments respecting the Vision 2050 Strategic Plan process and her requested omnibus motion of resident-led priorities of housing, health partnerships, safety, inclusion, and the River District. Ms. Kelly inquired about the upcoming special meeting of City Council to consider Official Plan Amendment No. 14 on Monday, November 24 and whether a redlined comparison of the current and proposed Official Plan would be posted on the City's website and if the public engagement will be accessible.

8.b Paul Scriver, Township of Georgian Bluffs resident

Mr. Scriver provided comments on behalf of the Owen Sound Field Naturalists in support of the recommendation contained in Item 8.c.1 of the Community Services Committee minutes listed for approval under Item 12.c. Mr. Scriver urged Council to support the recommendation to officially oppose Bill 5, particularly the section that dismantles the *Endangered Species Act*, as it endangers both the environment and the credibility of the province. Mr. Scriver

added that Bill 5 sacrifices long-term environmental health for short-term expedience.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF COUNCIL IS REQUIRED

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

10. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

10.a Report CM-25-033 from the City Manager Re: River District Public Washroom Infrastructure and Operational Assessment

The City Manager provided an overview of the report through a PowerPoint presentation.

R-251027-003

Moved by Councillor Kukreja

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CM-25-033 respecting River District Public Washroom Infrastructure and Operational Assessment, City Council directs staff to:

- 1. Include Option 1 as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the report as a new 2025 capital project for the renovation of the Farmers' Market Washroom in the current 5-year Capital Plan, with a scheduled completion date in 2026;**
- 2. Allocate \$75,000 from the Capital Reserve to fund the capital costs required for Option 1;**
- 3. Include for consideration in the Mayor's 2026 Operating Budget the estimated annual operating cost of \$12,000 to \$15,000 for Option 1, with the corresponding amount offset by revenue from the City's allocation of the Municipal Accommodation Tax;**
- 4. Report back annually on the operation of the Public Washroom in the River District including the operational costs; and**
- 5. Incorporate the annual operating and maintenance of Option 1 into the Community Services Portfolio."**

Carried.

10.b Report CR-25-131 from the Manager of Corporate Services Re: 2025 Asset Management Plan and Strategic Asset Management Policy Approval

Due to technical difficulties with the livestream, Council recessed from 6:23 p.m. to 6:28 p.m.

The Manager of Corporate Services provided an overview of the report.

R-251027-004

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CR-25-131 respecting 2025 Asset Management Plan + Strategic Asset Management Policy Approval, City Council:

- 1. Approves the 2025 Asset Management Plan; and**
- 2. Directs staff to bring forward a by-law to approve the updated Strategic Asset Management Policy as attached to the report."**

Carried.

- 10.c Report CR-25-132 from the Manager of Corporate Services Re: Establishment of a Firehall Renovation and Expansion Ad Hoc Committee

The Manager of Corporate Services provided an overview of the report.

R-251027-005

Moved by Councillor Merton

“THAT in consideration of Staff Report CR-25-132 respecting the Establishment of a Firehall Renovation and Expansion Ad Hoc Committee, City Council directs staff to provide quarterly project updates to the applicable standing committee on the design status of the fire station renovation and expansion project, and then bi-monthly updates during construction.”

Carried.

- 10.d Verbal Report from the Deputy Mayor Re: Grey County Council

Deputy Mayor Greig reported that Grey County Council endorsed a motion to support municipalities having the option to use automated speed enforcement, even though the provincial government has a law that prohibits it. The motion is being circulated to Grey County municipalities.

Deputy Mayor Greig noted that County Council has awarded the tender for the construction of a new ambulance base in both Feversham and Dundalk.

Deputy Mayor Greig reported that the County received \$432,000 in federal funding to continue the SOS program until March 2026. The funding will support four staff providing daily social navigator services in the River District, supply materials like clothing and tents, and create new client support space at Safe 'N Sound.

Deputy Mayor Greig noted that County staff are exploring ways to use development charges to support healthcare initiatives. County staff are also working on shared training opportunities, a common Human Resources policy library, and a framework for secondments, mentoring, and job shadowing among Grey County municipalities.

Deputy Mayor Greig extended an invitation to community members to attend the Homelessness and Coordinated Access Virtual Forum being hosted by Bruce and Grey Counties on November 12 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a free forum; however, attendees must register prior to October 31. More information on the forum and how to register can be found on Grey County's website at [Community Invited to Homelessness and Coordinated Access Virtual Forum | Grey County](#).

R-251027-006

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided October 27, 2025 from Deputy Mayor Greig respecting Grey County Council, City Council receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."

Carried.

Councillor Dodd left the Council Chambers.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- 11.a Report CS-25-112 from the Chief Building Official Re: Shared Building Services Agreement with the Municipality of Meaford

- 11.b Report OP-25-039 from the Supervisor of Environmental Services Re: Encroachment Agreement for Bus Shelter at 1183 16th Street East (East Side Shoppers Drug Mart) - Skyline Retail Real Estate Holdings Inc.
- 11.c Final approvals issued for the following Business Licences:
- Precision Tailoring & Alterations, a tailoring and alterations business located at 1071 2nd Avenue East
 - Owen Sound Taxi, a taxi business located at 18A - 945 3rd Avenue East
 - Dr. Kara ND & Associates has relocated to 102 - 1717 2nd Avenue East
 - Annual Hawker and Peddler Licence issued to Bob Fell to operate Tee 2 Green Limited, a golf apparel retailer
 - Annual Hawker and Peddler Licence issued to Owen Sound Minor Hockey for vendors at various hockey tournaments
- 11.d Final approvals issued for the following Flag Flying Requests:
- Royal Canadian Legion for Annual Poppy Campaign
 - Zonta of Owen Sound for International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
 - Pflag Owen Sound for Trans Day of Remembrance
- 11.e Correspondence received which is presented for the information of Council

R-251027-007

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

"THAT in consideration of the items listed on the October 27, 2025 Consent Agenda, City Council:

- 1. Receives Items 11.a to 11.e; and**
- 2. Approves the recommendations contained in Items 11.a and 11.b."**

Carried.

12. COMMITTEE MINUTES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL

- 12.a Minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on September 24, 2025

Councillor Dodd returned to his chair.

R-251027-008

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

"THAT the minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on September 24, 2025 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

12.b Minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on October 9, 2025
Councillor Hamley left the Council Chambers.

R-251027-009

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

"THAT the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on October 9, 2025 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved, save and except Item 8.d.4."

Carried.

Councillor Hamley returned to his chair. The Fire Chief left the meeting.

R-251027-010

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

"THAT Item 8.d.4 contained within the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on October 9, 2025 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

Council discussed Item 12.d at this time.

12.d Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on October 16, 2025

R-251027-011

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

"THAT the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on October 16, 2025 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

12.c Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on October 15, 2025

R-251027-012

Moved by Councillor Koepke

"THAT the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on October 15, 2025 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

12.d Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on October 16, 2025

Council discussed Item 12.d after Item 12.b.

13. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no postponed matters.

14. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

15. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

15.a Trick-or-Treat Trail in the River District

Councillor Farmer thanked staff and participating businesses in the River District for the Trick-or-Treat trail event on Saturday, October 25.

15.b Diwali Festival and 25th Annual Honouring Our Local Veterans Event

Deputy Mayor Greig noted that he attended the Diwali Festival of Culture at the Sydenham Campus this past Saturday.

Deputy Mayor Greig advised that he and Councillor Koepke attended the 25th Annual Honouring Our Local Veterans event at the Owen Sound Legion this past Sunday, hosted by the Billy Bishop Museum. The plaques for the honourees will circulate throughout the Bayshore Community Centre, MPP Alex Ruff's office, the YMCA, and the Owen Sound Library for the next few months. Deputy Mayor Greig added that the Billy Bishop Museum is currently showcasing Unbroken, an exhibit that celebrates the lives, experiences, and contributions of Indigenous veterans from Grey and Bruce Counties. It traces the lives of veterans from the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, highlighting their courage, resilience, and sacrifice.

15.c CBC News Morning Live with Heather Hiscox

Mayor Boddy highlighted that CBC News Morning Live with Heather Hiscox will be broadcast from the front steps of City Hall on Tuesday, October 28 from 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. to celebrate Heather's upcoming retirement.

16. MOTION THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RISE AND REPORT

R-251027-013

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

"THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report."

Carried.

FORMAL SESSION

17. MOTION TO ADOPT PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

R-251027-014

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

"THAT the action taken in Committee of the Whole in considering public meetings, deputations and presentations, public question period, matters arising from correspondence, reports of City staff, consent agenda, committee minutes, matters postponed, motions for which notice was previously given and additional business be confirmed by this Council."

Carried.

18. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

19. MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

20. REPORTING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

21. BY-LAWS

21.a By-law No. 2025-117

"A By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound held on the 27th day of October, 2025"

21.b By-law No. 2025-118

"A By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement with The Corporation of the County of Grey respecting funding related to court security costs"

21.c By-law No. 2025-119

"A By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement with The Festival of Northern Lights Inc. respecting City support for the festival (2025-2029)"

21.d By-law No. 2025-120

"A By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement with The Corporation of the Municipality of Meaford respecting building services support"

R-251027-015

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

"THAT By-law Numbers 2025-117, 2025-118, 2025-119, and 2025-120 be passed and enacted."

Carried.

22. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Mayor Boddy adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Mayor Ian C. Boddy

Briana M. Bloomfield, City Clerk