



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Bruce County Council Chambers - 30 Park Street, Walkerton, ON

Council Present: Chris Peabody, Mayor
Kym Hutcheon, Deputy Mayor
Mitch Clark, Councillor
Tim Elphick, Councillor
B. Carl Kuhnke, Councillor
Gregory J. McLean, Councillor
Steve Travale, Councillor

Staff Present: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer
Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)
Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk
Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer
Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations
Christine Brandt, Community Development Coordinator
Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

1. **Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement**
2. **Acceptance of Council Agenda**

Resolution 25-19-01

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the regular Council Meeting on September 9, 2025 as presented.

Carried

3. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**
4. **Public Meetings Required Under the Planning Act**
5. **Recognition Presentation to Brockton Royals 15U D, OBA Provincial Champions**

Mayor Peabody acknowledged the accomplishments of the Brockton Royals 15U D team on winning the 2025 Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) Provincial Championship. Members of the team were presented with recognition certificates.

6. Delegations

- 6.1 Saugeen Hospice Inc. Update and Financial Request

Eleanor Locke, Director of the Saugeen Hospice Inc. Board, noted the mission of the Hospice to design, build and operate a six (6) bed hospice in the region. Ken Brown, 1st Vice Chair for the Saugeen Hospice Inc., thanked Council for the donation of the land with the beautiful vista in a central location with key

amenities for families. Mr. Brown noted that the plans with the architect were at the 90% approval stage by the Ministry, and the Hospice noted that if \$8 million of the necessary \$10 million were to be raised, they could break ground next Summer. Mr. Brown shared the cost of the project and noted that public support has been unwavering with approximately \$7.4 million in pledges and donations towards the hospice's fundraising projects.

The Annual General Meeting was scheduled for the Best Western in Walkerton on September 18, 2025 which will include training on hospice care and information on the hospice's progress.

Council thanked the volunteers for their dedication to the project and discussed the potential for adjacent municipalities to contribute funding for the project as well.

Mr. Brown responded to questions from Council about the funding model and expansion potential for the building. Mr. Brown and Ms. Locke also outlined plans to continue successful fundraising models and the plans to continue successful events.

6.2 Walkerton & District Hospital Foundation X-Ray Suite Replacement Fundraising Committee - Financial Request

Brittany Hawkins, Walkerton & District Hospital Foundation (WDHF) Executive Director and Ryan Fullerton, Fundraising Committee Chair, provided Council with an overview of the purpose of the Foundation and the campaign to raise funds for a new x-ray suite. Ms. Hawkins described the renovations for the suite and the type of equipment that would be purchased.

Mr. Fullerton noted that the current x-ray machine was reaching the end of its life at the end of December 2025. Mr. Fullerton noted that the Foundation was requesting a funding commitment of \$200,000 spread over 2 years due to the high need for the machine. The Foundation centered the core of the campaign around buying a "bone" for \$5,000 per bone, representing the 206 bones in the human body. Mr. Fullerton noted that all donations of more than \$1,000 would receive recognition for their contribution.

It was noted that the current equipment was ten (10) years old and that the service provider no longer had the parts to continue with the service contract. The new x-ray machine would likely also last for ten (10) years. Ms. Hawkins responded to questions from Council about the plans for the decommissioned machine.

Mr. Fullerton responded to questions from Council about the additional events that would be held by the Foundation to raise funds for the new equipment, noting that \$205,000 (41 bones) has been raised for the Buy a Bone campaign, as of the date of the presentation.

6.3 Walkerton Capitals Jr. C Hockey Club - Request to Amend Bar Closing Policy Following Walkerton Capitals Jr. C Home Games

Bryn Maus, President and Keith Ellis, Treasurer with the Walkerton Jr. C Hockey Club outlined the request that Council consider amending the municipal alcohol policy to allow for alcohol sales for a period of two (2) hours after home games concluded. Mr. Maus suggested monthly meetings with the Municipality to support early resolution and build a cooperative relationship.

Mr. Maus responded to questions from Council about the financial and social benefits of alcohol sales after the games.

Mayor Peabody thanked the Executive for their dedication to sport within Brockton.

7. Minutes

7.1 Council Minutes - August 26, 2025

Resolution 25-19-02

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton adopt the minutes of the August 26, 2025 Council Meeting as presented.

Carried

8. Business Arising From the Minutes

8.1 Motion - National Anthem of Canada at Council Meetings

Council discussed opportunities for playing or singing the anthem, and whether the anthem would be sung at the beginning of the meeting or following the land acknowledgement. Council directed staff to inquire with other jurisdictions about the preferred order of proceedings.

Resolution 25-19-03

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

The Municipality of Brockton takes pride in its Canadian heritage and the values of unity, respect, and service to community. Beginning our Council meetings with O Canada offers a meaningful moment for all present to reflect on our shared commitment to our country, our province, our municipality, and the residents we serve. This gesture also reaffirms our dedication to defending Canadian sovereignty, democratic freedoms, and the principles that bind us together as a nation.

Whereas the national anthem, O Canada, is a unifying symbol of pride, patriotism, and respect for our country;

And Whereas singing the national anthem at the start of Brockton Council Meetings would serve as a reminder of our commitment to public service, democratic principles, the defence of Canadian sovereignty, and a reinforcement of national pride;

And Whereas many councils, institutions, and legislative assemblies across Canada open their proceedings with O Canada, fostering a spirit of community, patriotism, and Canadian heritage;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton adopt the practice of singing or playing O Canada at the commencement of each Regular Council Meeting, effective immediately, with all in attendance invited to participate.

Carried

9. Reports

9.1 Chepstow and Cargill Traffic Update

Resolution 25-19-04

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number PW2025-12 - Chepstow and Cargill Traffic Update, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations for information purposes.

Carried

9.2 Economic Development Update – September 2025

Resolution 25-19-05

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number ED2025-13 - Economic Development Update – September 2025, prepared by Christine Brandt, Community Development Coordinator, for information purposes.

Carried

9.3 Fencing Improvements Heritage Property Alteration Approval

Resolution 25-19-06

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2025-12 - Fencing Improvements Heritage Property Alteration Approval, prepared by Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk and Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) and in doing so approves the alterations to the Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club fencing as part of the heritage property formerly known as the Armoury Building.

Carried

9.4 Successful Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Grant Application- Walkerton Ball Diamond Light Replacement

Resolution 25-19-07

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-18 – Successful Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Grant Application - Walkerton Ball Diamond Light Replacement, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves a By-Law coming forward entering into a Grant Contract Agreement with Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Carried

10. Public Notification

10.1 2026 Budget Feedback

Share your input on the [2026 Budget!](#) The Municipality is seeking feedback from both [service groups/organizations](#) and [residents](#) to help prepare the 2026 Budget. Feedback is due September 10, 2025.

10.2 Bruce County Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Bruce County are collecting Household Hazardous Waste in Brockton on September 20, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Bruce County Transportation Yard – 94 Bruce Road 2, Walkerton. Residents of Bruce County are welcome to attend any of the locations included in the [2025 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule](#).

10.3 Walkerton Homecoming Chicken Fest

Chicken Fest 2025 is coming in hot on Saturday, September 20, 2025! Get ready for a full day of fun and community spirit – all in support of Walkerton Homecoming 2026. Enjoy a jam-packed schedule featuring the Backyard Olympics, kids' activities, live music by Colt McLaughlin, and a Dinner and Dance hosted by Harley's Pub & Perk (age of majority). Visit [Walkerton Homecoming's website](#) to learn more about the event and where to purchase tickets.

10.4 Tax Installment Due Date – September 30, 2025

The final 2025 Brockton Tax Installments are due September 30, 2025 and November 28, 2025.

11. Accounts

11.1 Accounts - \$493,747.72

Resolution 25-19-08

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton approve payment of the accounts in the amount of \$493,747.72.

Carried

12. Correspondence Requiring Action

12.1 Invitation to Saugeen Hospice Inc. Annual General Meeting

12.2 25th Annual Child Care Worker and ECE Appreciation Day - October 21, 2025

Mayor Peabody noted the challenges associated with available Bruce County QWELCC spots and need to continue advocacy to support parents.

Resolution 25-19-09

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

Whereas years of research confirms the benefits of high-quality early learning and child care for young children's intellectual, emotional, social and physical development and later life outcomes;

And Whereas child care promotes the well-being of children and responds to the needs of families and the broader community by supporting quality of life so that citizens can fully participate in and contribute to the economic and social life of their community;

And Whereas trained and knowledgeable Registered Early Childhood Educators are the key to quality in early years and child care programs – in licensed child care, EarlyON programs, child life programs, and full-day kindergarten;

And Whereas Registered Early Childhood Educators and child care workers will be vital to the success of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system;

And Whereas The Municipality of Brockton is incredibly fortunate to have many dedicated and caring Child Care Workers and Early Childhood Educators at our Brockton Child Care Centre who provide valuable service to our community;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby proclaim October 21, 2025 as the 25th Annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day, recognizing the education, dedication, and commitment of child care workers to children, their families, and the quality of life of the community.

Carried

13. Information

- 13.1 Joint Media Release: Bruce County Housing Corporation Purchases Site in Walkerton for New 40-Unit Development
- 13.2 Bruce County Media Release - Grow Your Business with Starter Company Plus Program
- 13.3 Bruce County Public Library Media Release - Meeting Rooms and Book Club Kits
- 13.4 Bruce County Historical Society Fall 2025 Newsletter
- 13.5 Card from Childcan - Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- 13.6 Saugeen Municipal Airport Commission Minutes - July 16, 2025
- 13.7 Township of Perry Resolution - Advocacy for Increased Income Support Thresholds for Canadian Veterans

Resolution 25-19-10

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives all items provided in Section 13. Information.

Carried

14. By-Laws

Resolution 25-19-11

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorize that the following by-law be read, enacted, signed, sealed, and numbered as follows:

- By-Law 2025-074 - Ontario Trillium Foundation Baseball Diamond Lighting Grant Agreement By-Law

Carried

15. Committee Minutes

Resolution 25-19-12

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton receive the minutes of the following committees and or boards as presented:

- Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee Minutes - May 21, 2025
- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes - July 4, 2025

Carried

16. New Business Brought Forward

1. Durham Street Parking Concern

Deputy Mayor Hutcheon noted that several business owners have signed a petition expressing frustration with tenants parking along Durham Street for a significant number of hours and contravening the Traffic and Parking By-Law. It was noted that the Municipality may need to consider hiring additional staff or increasing the fines for parking infractions.

2. National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

Councillor McLean advised that residents are welcome to join in recognizing National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th at Memory Lane Park pavilion, consisting of a short walk to the Market Garden followed by a brief vigil.

3. Meeting with the Ministry of the Solicitor General

Mayor Peabody advised that a meeting was held with the Ministry of the Solicitor General to announce enhanced funding for the Mobile Crisis Response Team to hire mental health nurses to respond to critical incidents alongside the Ontario Provincial Police. The Ministry also discussed considerations for reopening the Walkerton Jail, although significant work would need to be completed for the building. Mayor Peabody noted that 29 out of 75 individuals on remand in Penetanguishene were from the South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment area.

17. Closed Session

Resolution 25-19-13

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton enter into Closed Session at 8:00 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees - **Policy Violation Consideration**
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board - **Property Appraisals**
- Labour relations or employee negotiations - **Union Negotiation Update, Seasonal Employment Consideration**
- A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiation carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board - **False Alarm Appeals**

- A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons or organizations – **Utility Contract Discussion**

Carried

Resolution 25-19-14

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves the direction provided by staff in Closed Session.

Carried

Resolution 25-19-15

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves the direction provided to staff in the closed session and supports amending the municipal alcohol policy to allow the Walkerton Capitals Junior C Hockey Club to allow alcohol sales for one (1) hour following the end of games.

Carried

18. Confirmation of Proceedings

Resolution 25-19-16

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorize that the following by-law be read, enacted, signed, sealed, and numbered as follows:

- By-Law 2025-075 - September 9, 2025 Confirmatory By-Law

Carried

19. Adjournment

Resolution 25-19-17

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 9:23 p.m. to meet again on September 23, 2025.

Carried

Mayor - Chris Peabody

Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) – Fiona Hamilton