



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 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
Michael Crawford, Councillor
Tim Elphick, Councillor
Gregory J. McLean, Councillor
Steve Travale, Councillor

Staff Present: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer
Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)
Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer
Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services
Brad Thomson, Facilities and Parks Supervisor
Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations
Dominic Paquette, Building and Planning Manager/CBO
Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services

1. National Anthem of Canada

The Council Meeting began with the playing of [Toronto Symphony Orchestra's instrumental recording](#) of O' Canada.

2. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement

3. Recognition Certificate - Jackson Huber, Actor

Mayor Peabody presented a recognition certificate congratulating Jackson Huber on his acting career with JRP Virtual and his upcoming debut performance in Eli Roth's film, Ice Cream Man coming out in August.

4. Acceptance of Council Agenda

Resolution 26-08-01

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the regular Council Meeting on April 14, 2026 as presented.

Carried

5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None disclosed.

6. Public Meetings Required Under the Planning Act

7. Delegations

7.1 Veolia Water Canada - 2025 Annual Water and Wastewater Report Review

Scott Gowan, Project Manager and Bailey McGarrity, Assistant Project Manager for Veolia Water Canada presented the annual reports of the Water and Wastewater systems in Brockton.

Ms. McGarrity summarized the average capacity usage and the maximum peak flows measures throughout the year for the Walkerton, Lake Rosalind and Chepstow drinking water systems, noting that all systems were operating well within the overall capacity limits for the systems.

Ms. McGarrity further confirmed that Brockton's 2025 Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks Inspection reporting noted 100% compliance rating for all three water systems. It was noted that all three locations were also further audited in 2025 with no known non-compliances.

In 2025, Ms. McGarrity summarized the maintenance activities undertaken throughout the year, including several curb stops, water main breaks, and new water main installation. Both chlorine pumps were replaced in the Chepstow system, and both Well 1 and Well 3 flow meters were installed for the Lake Rosalind system.

Scott Gowan reviewed the capacity usage and maximum peak flows for the wastewater system in Walkerton. Mr. Gowan noted we were at 44% capacity and reviewed the final effluent compliance parameters achieved over the year.

Mr. Gowan further explained some maintenance activities that occurred throughout the year, including unclogging pumps and rebuilding a primary clarifier and new blower upgrades.

Mr. Gowan reviewed the maintenance activities planned for both Water and Wastewater systems throughout the 2026 year.

Mr. Gowan responded to questions from Council about the wastewater maintenance activities and the screens that will assist in dealing with clogged pumps. Mr. Gowan explained that as streets were upgraded it would assist in addressing water infiltration to the wastewater system.

7.2 Neighbourhood Lobies Park Landowners - Formal Challenge to Dog Park Placement

Heather Stark presented on behalf of all the neighbors concerned about the location of the pilot dog park location. Ms. Stark explained concerns with flooding, access and safety issues, noise, parking, garbage and trespassers. Ms. Stark explained that other locations could be considered instead of the Lobies Park location, such as the East Ridge Business Park. Ms. Stark also noted that she was not aware that the pilot dog park would be located at Lobies Park until the fencing was erected.

8. Minutes

8.1 Council Minutes - March 24, 2026

Resolution 26-08-02

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton adopt the minutes of the March 24, 2026 Council Meeting as presented.

Carried

9. Business Arising From the Minutes

10. Reports

10.1 Pilot Dog Park Location Concerns

Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services, responded to questions from Council about the proposed fencing length of a permanent dog park location and the budget that would be associated with a permanent dog park. Ms. Gillis noted there was a minimal investment in the pilot project as the Municipality of Brockton already owned the fencing. It was noted that a permanent dog park would likely be a minimum of \$60,000 for fencing, accessibility, signage, etc.

Ms. Gillis responded to questions from Council about the dog park Committee and the required size for a suitable dog park. Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, responded to questions from Council about the lands reserved in the East Ridge Business Park.

Ms. Gillis reminded Council of the previous Council reports that included feedback in the form of surveys and advised that there are approximately 15-20 dogs per day at the park, with an average of three dogs at all times.

Council discussed alternative locations throughout Brockton for the dog park, including the lands in the East Ridge Business Park or hamlet areas. The pilot dog park is closed at this time and will not re-open until further evaluation of locations is considered.

Action: Council directed staff to bring forward a report evaluating alternative locations for a different pilot dog park at the May 12, 2026 Council Meeting.

Resolution 26-08-03

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2026-11- Pilot Dog Park Location Concerns, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services, and further approves staff to continue operating Lobies Park dog park as a pilot project, implement interim mitigation measures to address neighbouring property concerns, continue public feedback and site monitoring, and report back to Council before any decision is made regarding permanent fencing, permanent infrastructure, relocation, or a final long-term dog park location.

Tabled

10.2 Centennial Pool Main Pump Recirculatory Replacement

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions from Council noting the cost of fixing the asset would have been in the operating budget while the replacement would have been a capital expenditure.

Resolution 26-08-04

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2026-12 – Centennial Pool Main Recirculatory Pump Replacement, prepared by Brad Thomson, Facilities and Parks Supervisor and in doing so approves the replacement of the Main Recirculatory Pump in the amount of \$21,402.57 to be funded through Recreation Reserve Funds,

and further approves staff's recommendation to award "Contractor A" a local contractor with this contract.

Carried

10.3 Well 7 and 9 UV Replacement Order

Deputy Mayor Hutcheon requested confirmation of the final project cost. Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations advised that the replacement costs, apart from installation, should be within budgeted amounts.

Resolution 26-08-05

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number UT2026-04 - Well 7 and 9 UV Replacement Order, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations and in doing so approves the purchase of replacement UV units for the treatment of the Walkerton drinking water supply in the approximate amount of \$379,919 + HST.

Carried

10.4 Lake Rosalind Septic Inspection Request

Council noted residents of Lake Rosalind's commitment to water quality and amended the motion to request an additional report outlining costs and particulars of a voluntary septic inspection program.

Resolution 26-08-06

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number BLDG2026-03 – Lake Rosalind Septic Inspection Request, prepared by Dominic Paquette, Building and Planning Manager for information purposes and directs staff to bring forward another report outlining the cost and particulars of a voluntary septic inspection program within the Lake Rosalind area.

Carried

10.5 Barry's Construction Request for Extension 2026

Council supported staff's recommendation for a 10-month draft plan extension.

Resolution 26-08-07

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby accepts Report Number CLK2026-06- Barry's Construction Request for Extension 2026, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) for information purposes and further supports sending a letter to the County of Bruce recommending a ten (10) month Draft Plan Extension for the request submitted by Barry's Construction and Insultation Ltd.

Carried

10.6 2025 Property Tax Arrears

Resolution 26-08-08

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2026-13 – 2025 Property Tax Arrears, prepared by Jessica Schmidt, Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector for information purposes.

Carried

10.7 2026 Court Security Prisoner Transportation Grant

Council discussed the extensive costs to Brockton over the past number of years and Council expressed appreciation to the County of Bruce for the decision to cover the deficiency. Council highlighted the need for a long-term funding solution and continued advocacy efforts with the Province.

Resolution 26-08-09

Moved By: Michael Crawford

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2026-14 – 2026 Court Security Prisoner Transportation Grant, prepared by Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer for information purposes.

Carried

10.8 2026 Municipal and School Board Election Proposal

Resolution 26-08-10

Moved By: Michael Crawford

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2026-05 – 2026 Municipal and School Board Election Proposal, prepared by Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk for information purposes.

Carried

11. Public Notification

11.1 Volunteer Recognition Award Nominations Opening Soon

The Municipality of Brockton recognizes the dedication of our community's volunteers and are pleased to announce that nominations for our Volunteer Recognition Awards will be opening the week of April 20th for the Good Neighbour Award, the Outstanding Youth Award sponsored by the Walkerton and District Optimist Club, and the Edward J. (Ted) Cobean Heritage Conservation Award. Visit Brockton.ca/VolunteerAward to view more information about the awards and submit your nomination forms.

11.2 Recruitment for Bruce County Joint Compliance Audit Committee

Participating Municipalities in Bruce County are recruiting experienced professionals for appointment on the Bruce County Joint Compliance Audit Committee (Bruce County JCAC) for the 2026 Municipal Election. The committee reviews applications for compliance audits of campaign finances and provides an impartial, knowledgeable assessment under the Municipal Elections Act. Ideal applicants have experience in accounting, municipal administration, and/or law. Applications are due April 24, 2026. Visit the [Bruce County Joint Compliance Audit Committee webpage](#) to view the online application forms and additional information.

11.3 Information Session for Candidates Running for Election

Candidates wishing to run for Election are invited to attend a Candidate Information Session which will be held online and in-person at the Bruce County Office (30 Park Street, Walkerton) on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., to learn more about being on Council. Individuals can register through [EventBrite](#) for the online or in-person session.

12. Correspondence Requiring Action

12.1 Grey Bruce Labour Council - Invitation to Day of Mourning Event

Mayor Peabody indicated that he would be attending a separate Day of Mourning Event in the Town of Hanover.

13. Information

13.1 Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility - Accessibility in Convenience Stores

13.2 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026 (Bill 98)

13.3 Ontario Energy Board Notice of Hearing - Generic Review of Model Franchise Agreement for Natural Gas

13.4 Notice of Decision - Subdivision Application S-2025-008 (Eastridge)

13.5 Bruce County Media Release - Up to \$50,000 available through Affordable Additional Residential Unit Funding Program

13.6 Grey Bruce Health Unit Media Release - Join the Conversation Register for 2026 Healthy Communities Conference

13.7 Joint Media Release - Counties Seek Resident Feedback on Regional Transit Priorities

13.8 Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Board Minutes - February 13, 2026

13.9 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Board & Executive Committee Minutes - January-March 2026

13.10 Region of Durham Resolution - Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability

13.11 Town of Goderich Resolution - Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

13.12 Town of Lincoln Resolution - Request to Extend Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties

13.13 Municipal Resolutions - Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Extension

13.14 Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands Resolution - Chip-and-Tar Surface Treatment

13.15 City of Sarnia Resolution - Strengthening Municipal Accountability and Public Trust (Bill 9)

13.16 Town of Saugeen Shores Resolution - Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Proposal for Heritage Helping Housing Grant Funding

13.17 Municipality of South Huron Resolution - Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity

13.18 Municipality of South Huron Resolution - Ontario Heritage Organization
Development Grant Advocacy

Resolution 26-08-11

Moved By: Michael Crawford

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

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

Carried

14. By-Laws

Resolution 26-08-12

Moved By: Michael Crawford

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

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

- By-Law 2026-033 - Appoint Alex Riehl as Building Inspector, Property Standards and Provincial Offences Officer By-Law
- By-Law 2026-034 - 10 Jackson Street South Walkerton Encroachment Agreement By-Law
- By-Law 2026-035 - Declare PT LT 34 CON 1 NDR BRANT, PTS 9 & 10 3R-10640; S/T EASEMENT OVER PT 9 3R-10640; MUNICIPALITY OF BROCKTON, being PIN 33196 - 0616 (LT) and PT LT 34 CON 1 NDR BRANT, PART 1 3R-10027, MUNICIPALITY OF BROCKTON; being PIN 33196-0558 (LT) Surplus By-Law.

Carried

15. Committee Minutes

Resolution 26-08-13

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Michael Crawford

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

- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes - November 13, 2025
- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes - February 27, 2026
- Brockton Parks and Recreation Minutes - February 27, 2024

Carried

16. New Business Brought Forward

1. Arts Events

Councillor McLean noted several arts events occurring this month, including the Midwestern Ontario Rotary Music Festival, County Towne Players "Exit Laughing" play, and Sing! Show Chorus performances.

2. Consent Agenda

Councillor Travale asked for an update on a staff report investigating a Consent Agenda. Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) advised that no formal Notice of Motion or direction to staff had been provided; however, an updated Procedural By-Law would be brought forward for the new term of Council's consideration.

3. Elmwood Community Services Association Annual General Meeting

Councillor Travale noted that the Elmwood Community Services Association held their Annual General Meeting on April 18th recognizing volunteers, appointing new Board members and outlining events planned for the year.

4. Pinkerton Flooding Update

Mayor Peabody provided an update on the flooding situation in Pinkerton, advising that Bruce Road 15 has been assessed by B.M. Ross and Associates Limited and will require repairs prior to reopening the road. Mayor Peabody noted that the coffer dam is continuing to work well, although the breach in the private dyke still requires repairs once water levels have dropped and the weather has improved. Mayor Peabody advised that the requested repairs are outside of the Municipality's jurisdiction.

17. Closed Session

Resolution 26-08-14

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton enter into Closed Session at 8:16 p.m. in order to address matters pertaining to:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees - **Workplace Investigation**
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board - **Eastridge Business Park Offer to Purchase**
- Labour relations or employee negotiations - **Workplace Investigation**

Carried

Resolution 26-08-15

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Michael Crawford

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approve the direction provided to staff in Closed Session.

Carried

Resolution 26-08-16

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Michael Crawford

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 2026-036 - Weatherall Enterprises LTD ERBP Agreement of Purchase and Sale By-Law

Carried

18. Confirmation of Proceedings

Resolution 26-08-16

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

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 2026-037 - April 14, 2026 Confirmatory By-Law

Carried

19. Adjournment

Resolution 26-08-17

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 8:44 p.m. to meet again on April 28, 2026.

Carried

Mayor - Chris Peabody

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