



MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS-TURNBERRY

COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 18, 2025, 7:30 pm

The Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry met in Council Chambers in regular session on March 18, 2025, at 7:30 pm.

Council in Attendance

Mayor Jamie Heffer
Deputy Mayor Kevin Freiburger
Councillor Jodi Snell
Councillor Sharen Zinn

Staff in Attendance

Trevor Hallam	CAO/Clerk
Sean Brophy	Treasurer

Others in Attendance

Rachel Hammermueller	The Wingham Advance Times
Scott Stephenson	The Citizen

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heffer called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Mayor Heffer noted that Scott Stephenson and Rachel Hammermueller would be recording the meeting for the purpose of writing articles.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion 58-2025

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the agenda for the meeting of March 18, 2025, as circulated.

Carried.

3.0 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

4.0 MINUTES

Motion 59-2025

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the March 4, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes as written.

Carried.

5.0 **ACCOUNTS**

Motion 60-2025

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves the March 18 accounts for payment as presented.

Carried.

6.0 **PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DEPUTATIONS**

None.

7.0 **STAFF REPORTS**

7.1 BY- LAW ENFORCEMENT

7.1.1 By-Law Enforcement Activities – January and February 2025

A report prepared by CBO/By-Law Enforcement Officer Kirk Livingston regarding by-law enforcement activities for January and February was provided for the information of Council.

7.2 BUILDING

7.2.1 Building Department Activities – January and February 2025

A report prepared by CBO/By-Law Enforcement Officer Kirk Livingston regarding building department activities for January and February was provided for the information of Council.

7.3 FIRE

7.3.1 Fire Chief's Monthly Report - North Huron Fire Department

Monthly reports for January and February 2025 prepared by Fire Chief Chad Kregar were provided for the information of Council.

8.0 **BUSINESS**

8.1 2024 YEAR END FINANCIAL UPDATE

A report was presented in this regard by Treasurer Sean Brophy.

Councillor Zinn asked for clarification on the long-term staffing reserve, which was provided by Mr. Hallam.

Motion 61-2025

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approve the recommended year-end reserve transfers as:

*-\$100,000 to the Long-Term Staffing Reserve
-\$50,000 to the Fire Reserve
-\$20,000 to the Recreation Reserve
-\$112,232.90 to the General Reserve*

Carried.

8.2 2025 BUDGET UPDATE

A report was presented in this regard by Treasurer Sean Brophy.

Councillor Zinn asked for clarification about why the reserve transfers in the previous report were not considered to offset the levy in the budget, she also asked what the impact of accepting the recommended option for bridge reserves would have on an average household. Mr. Brophy explained that the reserve amounts in the previous report were one time transfers, while those in the budget are annual. He calculated that the

recommended option 3 in the report for fridge reserves would represent an increase of approximately \$145.00 for the average household.

Councillor Snell inquired what impacts reducing contributions to bridge reserves would have on future projects. Mr. Hallam explained that any reduction will reduce the Municipality's ability to respond to repair and replacement needs in the future. He also noted that the current contributions fall far short of what is recommended by the municipality's asset management plan.

Councillor Freiburger expressed concern with reducing the reserve contributions below what was recommended as option 3 in the staff report.

Motion 62-2025

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby accepts option 3 for bridge and culvert reserves, as recommended in the staff report.

Carried.

Motion 63-2025

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby directs staff to return a final draft of the 2025 budget, containing the recommended changes including option 3, to the April 8, 2025 council meeting.

Carried.

8.3 REQUEST TO PURCHASE GREEN STREET

A report was presented in this regard by CAO/Clerk Trevor Hallam.

Motion 64-2025

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby gives notice of its intention to permanently stop up, close, and convey a portion of Green Street;

AND FURTHER THAT notice of Council's intention to permanently close said portion of Green Street be published in accordance with the municipality's notice policy under by-law 89-2019.

AND FURTHER THAT a by-law be returned for consideration at future meeting of Council to stop up, close and convey part of Green Street identified as Part 2 of 22R-7466.

Carried.

8.4 BELGRAVE WATER ANNUAL REPORT AND SUMMARY

The Belgrave Well Supply 2024 Operation and Maintenance Annual Report, and Compliance Summary prepared by Veolia Water were provided for the information of Council.

Motion 65-2025

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry adopts the Belgrave Well Supply 2024 Operation and Maintenance Annual Report, as prepared by Veolia Water.

Carried.

9.0 **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Kevin Freiburger

Attended a meeting of the Bluevale Community Committee.

Sharen Zinn

No report

Jodi Snell

Attended two meetings of the Listowel Wingham Physician Recruitment Committee.

Attended a meeting of the Coalition for Huron Injury Prevention.

Jamie Heffer

No report

10.0 **CORRESPONDENCE, MINUTES, ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

10.1 Minutes – Belmore Arena Board – December 16, 2024

10.2 Monthly Report – Belgrave Water – February 2025

10.3 Outstanding Action Items

11.0 **ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

At the March 4th meeting Councillor Zinn requested a discussion regarding the use of steel wheels on municipal roads. Following the meeting Councillor Zinn withdrew her request.

12.0 **BY-LAWS AND AGREEMENTS**

12.1 NICHOL MUNICIPAL DRAIN FINAL READING

Motion 66-2025

Moved by Sharen Zinn

Seconded by Kevin Freiburger

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 04-2025, being a by-law to adopt an engineer's report to vary original assessments for drainage works in the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, and that it now be read severally a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

12.2 DATAFIX/VOTERVIEW AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS

Motion 67-2025

Moved by Jodi Snell

Seconded by Sharen Zinn

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 14-2025, being a by-law to authorize an amending agreement between the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry and Comprint Systems Incorporated, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

12.3 AMENDMENTS TO APPOINTMENT BY-LAW

Motion 68-2025

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 15-2025, being a by-law to appoint officials, members of committees and boards, and other such persons as are required, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

13.0 CLOSED SESSION

13.1 Enter closed session.

Motion 69-2025

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry enter a closed session at 8:01 p.m., with the CAO/Clerk remaining in attendance, for the purpose of discussing confidential matters pursuant to the following sections of the Municipal Act:

- a) Section 239 (2) (k) regarding negotiations to be carried on by the municipality;*

Carried.

13.2 Return to open session.

Motion 70-2025

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry rise from a closed session at 8:20 p.m.

Carried.

13.3 Report and Action from Closed Session.

Council received and reviewed a draft cross border servicing agreement for water and wastewater services and gave direction to staff.

14.0 CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Motion 71-2025

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 16-2025, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry meeting of Council held on March 18, 2025, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

15.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion 72-2025

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

*THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry does
now adjourn at 8:20 pm.*

Carried.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 7:30 pm
Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 7:30 pm

Mayor, Jamie Heffer

Clerk, Trevor Hallam