

**Council Meeting
December 16, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, Wawanesa, MB.**

The Council of the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa met in the Council Chamber in Wawanesa, Manitoba on Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. Members Present: Mike Fisher, Ryley Gullett, Craig Hatch, Frank Jones, Bob McDonald and Dennis Rome (in the gallery due to Code of Conduct sanctions with the inability to perform council duties). Head of Council Dave Kreklewich presided.

Staff in attendance: Chief Administrative Officer Joni Swidnicki, Finance Officer Melissa Sturgeon and Public Works Manager Chelsea Long.

The meeting was open to the public.

CALL TO ORDER – 1:00 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa would like to acknowledge and recognize that we are operating on Treaty 1 and Treaty 2 lands being the original territory of the Anishinaabe and Dakota Nations and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Gullett-McDonald

- 1336 BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda for the December 16, 2025 meeting be accepted as presented with Keystone Planning District being added under Unfinished Business. CARRIED.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Fisher-Jones

- 1337 BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the November 18, 2025 regular meeting of Council be hereby approved as circulated. CARRIED.

FINANCE

General Account

Hatch-McDonald

- 1338 BE IT RESOLVED that the December 10, 2025 general accounts payable, being cheque #'s 8405 to 8422, 8424 to 8470 and 8472 to 8485 and ABW-03 in the amount of \$1,594,123.62 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

Councillor McDonald declared an interest in the following item and left the Chamber without discussion or debate.

Jones-Fisher

- 1339 BE IT RESOLVED that general accounts payable cheque #8423 to Bob McDonald in the amount of \$40.00 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

Councillor Fisher declared an interest in the following item and left the Chamber without discussion or debate.

Gullett-McDonald

- 1340 BE IT RESOLVED that general accounts payable cheque #8471 to Mike Fisher in the amount of \$50.00 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

Jones-Gullett

- 1341 BE IT RESOLVED that Direct Deposit 383, being staff payroll for the period November 6 to November 21, 2025 in the amount of \$16,049.95 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

McDonald-Fisher

- 1342 BE IT RESOLVED that Direct Deposit 384, being staff payroll for the period November 24 to December 5, 2025 in the amount of \$15,543.33 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

McDonald-Jones

- 1343 BE IT RESOLVED that Direct Deposit 385, being Council indemnities for the month of November, 2025 in the amount of \$6,844.89 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

Utility Account

Gullett-McDonald

- 1344 BE IT RESOLVED that the December 10, 2025 utility accounts payable, being cheque #'s 1362 to 1374 in the amount of \$15,732.53 be hereby approved. CARRIED.

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

Hatch-Fisher

- 1345 BE IT RESOLVED that the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures report to November 30, 2025 be received as presented. CARRIED.

Bank Reconciliations

Jones-Gullett

- 1346 BE IT RESOLVED that the bank reconciliations for the month of November 2025 be approved as previously circulated. CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

McDonald-Gullett

- 1347 BE IT RESOLVED that the regular meeting of council be recessed to allow council to hold a Public Hearing to receive representations from any person who wish to make them in respect to an application to rezone. CARRIED.

Public Hearing to Amend Zoning By-law No. 04-2019 to Rezone a Portion of Land in NE ¼ 27-7-17 WPM from Residential General Zone to Parks and Recreation Zone and to make Text amendments to Table 3.2 and its footnote (Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa)

A written report was provided by Community and Regional Planning. Written information was provided by Bright Diamond Consulting in support of the rezoning.

Gullett-Fisher

- 1348 WHEREAS all representatives in regard to Zoning Amendment By-law 49-2025 to rezone property located in NE ¼ 27-7-17 WPM and Table 3.2 text amendments have been dealt with;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the public hearing be concluded. CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

Association of Manitoba Municipalities – November 13
Association of Manitoba Municipalities – November 25
Association of Manitoba Municipalities – November 28
Association of Manitoba Municipalities – November 28
Association of Manitoba Municipalities – December 1
Association of Manitoba Municipalities – December 10
B & B Memorial Restoration – Introduction
Christmas Invitations and Cards
CPKC Crossing Activity Notification – November 27
Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Communique – November 17
Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Communique – November 24
Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Communique – December 1
Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Communique – December 8
Manitoba Department of Labour and Immigration – Incident Report
Manitoba Good Roads Association – 2025 Beautification Winners
Manitoba Government News Release – Community Development Grant Programs
Minister of Environment and Climate Change – Recycling Rebate Payment
Municipal and Northern Relations – Compensation for Provincial Mutual Aid
Municipal and Northern Relations – Manitoba's Land Use Planning Action Plan
Rural Municipality of Cornwallis – Amendment to Zoning By-law

Hatch-Jones

- 1349 BE IT RESOLVED that the above noted communications be received. CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

South Zone Report (Ward 3)

Councillor Fisher – see written report

Councillor Jones – see written report

North Zone Report (Ward 2)

Councillor Hatch – see written report

Councillor Rome

Wawanesa Zone Report (Ward 1)

Councillor Gullet – see written report

Councillor McDonald – see written report

Head of Council's Report – see written report

Chief Administrative Officer Report – see written report

Finance Officer Report – see written report

Public Works Report

The Public Works Manager gave an update on staff training, Workplace Safety and Health compliance and work with contractors finishing the water line project.

Fire Chief's Report – see written report

McDonald-Gullett

1350 BE IT RESOLVED that the verbal and written reports be received. CARRIED.

Personnel and Policy Committee

Fisher-Hatch

1351 BE IT RESOLVED that the Personnel and Policy Committee report of its meeting held December 1, 2025 be received and recommendations be considered under General Business. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS

By-law No. 49-2025 to Amend Zoning By-law No. 04-2019 to Rezone a Portion of Land in NE ¼ 27-7-17 WPM from Residential General Zone to Parks and Recreation Zone and to make Text amendments to Table 3.2 and its footnote regarding Wind Energy Generating Towers
2nd and 3rd Readings

McDonald-Jones

1352 BE IT RESOLVED that By-law No. 49-2025, being a by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 04-2019 to Rezone a Portion of Land in NE ¼ 27-7-17 WPM from Residential

General Zone to Parks and Recreation Zone and to make Text amendments to Table 3.2 and its footnote regarding Wind Energy Generating Towers, be read a second time. CARRIED.

Fisher-Hatch

1353 BE IT RESOLVED that By-law No. 49-2025 be read a third and final time. CARRIED.

A recorded vote was taken on the above motion.

FOR

Head of Council Kreklewich
Councillor Fisher
Councillor Gullett
Councillor Hatch
Councillor Jones
Councillor McDonald

AGAINST

**By-law No.50-2025 to Amend Special Services By-law No. 44-2025 to Replace
Schedule “B”
1st Reading**

McDonald-Jones

1354 BE IT RESOLVED that By-law No. 50-2025 being a by-law to amend Special Services By-law No. 44-2025 to Replace Schedule “B” be read a first time. CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Keystone Planning District

McDonald-Gullett

1355 BE IT RESOLVED that Administration be directed to prepare an amendment to Fees and Charges By-law No. 08-2020 to remove Building/Planning/Zoning/Property Fees Schedule “C” therefrom as the Keystone Planning District is under contract to provide those services starting in 2026. CARRIED.

GENERAL BUSINESS

RFNow Proposed Fibre Path Addition – Along PR 346 Rd. between Rd. 37N and 36N

Gullett-Hatch

1356 BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed fibre path addition along PR 346 between Rd. 37N and 36N outlined on the maps attached to correspondence dated November 20, 2025 from RFNow be approved subject to the terms and conditions of the installation agreement dated October 26, 2023 and further subject to any requirements outlined by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation for PR 346. CARRIED.

Transfer to Fire Reserve – Wildfire Payment

Fisher-Jones

- 1357 BE IT RESOLVED that \$23,600 from the Provincial Wildfire Payment be transferred to the Fire Reserve for anticipated expenditures in 2026. CARRIED.

2026 Council Orientation

Jones-Fisher

- 1358 WHEREAS it is beneficial for municipalities to provide an orientation for newly elected councils;

AND WHEREAS material is starting to arrive with respect to providing such orientation;

AND WHEREAS the Department of Municipal and Northern Relations offers orientation sessions for municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa request support from the Department of Municipal and Northern Relations to deliver such an orientation, in collaboration with interested surrounding municipalities, at a date and location to be determined. CARRIED.

2026 Council Meetings

Hatch-McDonald

- 1359 BE IT RESOLVED that Council meetings in 2026 be held on the third Tuesday of each month as follows:

January 20	July 21
February 17	August 18
March 17	September 15
April 21	October 20
May 19	November 17
June 16	December 15

whereby the meetings from April to September shall commence at 9:00 a.m. and meetings from October to March shall commence at 1:00 p.m. CARRIED.

Tax Sale

McDonald-Hatch

- 1360 WHEREAS Section 365(2) of The Municipal Act provides that Council may in any year designate the immediately preceding year, or any earlier year, as the year for which properties, the taxes in respect of which are in arrears for the year, must be offered for sale by auction to recover the tax arrears and costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Designated Year for which properties in arrears be offered for sale by auction, be 2025 (meaning all properties with outstanding taxes from the year 2024 or prior); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in accordance with s. 363 (1) of the Municipal Act, “costs” shall be the actual costs incurred by the municipality for each parcel listed for the tax sale plus an administration fee of \$50.00 per roll as set forth in Manitoba Regulation 50/97 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the tax sale be held September 15, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. at the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa Council Chambers, 106 Fourth St., Wawanesa MB. CARRIED.

Manitoba Municipalities Online Report

Hatch-Gullett

- 1361 BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoba Municipalities Online report for the month of November 2025 be received and any necessary actions to the by-law maintenance program be hereby approved. CARRIED.

2026 Interim Budget

Jones-McDonald

- 1362 WHEREAS Section 163 of The Municipal Act provides as follows: “A council may adopt an interim budget to have effect only until the council adopts the operating budget for the fiscal years”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that council adopt the following interim budget for 2026:

OPERATING REQUIREMENT:

General Government Services	\$318,000
Protective Services	76,350
Transportation Services	507,950
Environmental Health Services	73,800
Public Health and Welfare Services	14,300
Environmental Development Services	3,000
Economic Development Services	16,150
Recreation and Cultural Services	58,300
Fiscal Services	232,000
Water and Wastewater Services	140,000

CARRIED.

Appointments to Boards and Committees

McDonald-Fisher

- 1363 BE IT RESOLVED that Councillor Rome be replaced on all boards and committees until the Code of Conduct sanctions are complete. CARRIED.

Fisher-McDonald

- 1364 BE IT RESOLVED that appointments be made to boards and committees as outlined below with terms of office to expire on December 31, 2026 for citizen representatives and October 28, 2026 for Members of Council unless otherwise noted:

Internal Committees and Appointments

Board of Revision – Head of Council Kreklewich, Councillors Fisher, and Gullett

Legislative and Finance Committee – All members of Council

Personnel and Policy Committee – Councillors Jones, Gullett and Hatch

Public Works and Transportation Services Committee – Councillors Hatch, Jones, McDonald and Gullett

Building Feasibility Ad Hoc Committee – Councillors Hatch, Jones, McDonald and Gullett

Weed Supervisor – Councillor Hatch

Outside Organizations

Assiniboine Delta Aquifer Management Advisory Board – Councillor Hatch

Central Assiniboine Watershed District

Little Souris Subdistrict – Citizens Jeff Elder and Mitchell McPherson

Oak Creek Subdistrict – Councillor Hatch and citizen Chelsea Long

Souris River Subdistrict – Councillor Mike Fisher and citizen Chelsea Long

GSOW Handi Van – Councillors McDonald & (); citizens Dale Seafoot & Tannis Rathwell

Oakland-Wawanesa Parks and Recreation– Citizen Cody Moore and Councillor Fisher

Souris and District Vet Board – Councillor Jones

Wawanesa Museum - Citizens Neil Bok and _____

Wawanesa Valley Lodge – Citizen Ron Seafoot or designate and Councillors McDonald and Fisher

CARRIED.

Additional Grant to the Souris-Glenwood Vet District

Jones-Hatch

- 1365 WHEREAS a request had been received for members of the Souris-Glenwood Vet District to consider an additional grant, based on the funding agreement, to match a potential Provincial Grant of \$3,000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa confirm its approval to provide an additional \$150 to the Souris-Glenwood Vet District whereby such funding shall be expended from the unallocated portion of the grants funding in the 2025 budget. CARRIED.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

Gullett-Jones

- 1366 BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting now adjourns to an “in-camera” meeting to discuss items related to personnel matters and enforcement as per Subsections 152(3)(b)(ii) and (v) of The Municipal Act, and all matters discussed in-camera are confidential until discussed in an open meeting as per Section 83(1)(d) of The Municipal Act. CARRIED.

- 1367 Fisher-McDonald
BE IT RESOLVED that this "in camera" meeting does now resume back to a regular meeting. CARRIED.

CAO Employment Agreement

- 1368 Jones-Gullett
BE IT RESOLVED that the employment agreement with Joni Swidnicki, Chief Administrative Officer, for the term 2026 and 2027 be approved as previously circulated. CARRIED.

Staff Increases

- 1369 Hatch-Jones
BE IT RESOLVED that staff increases be approved as previously circulated. CARRIED.

Payment of Training Costs

- 1370 Fisher-McDonald
BE IT RESOLVED that an internal policy be implemented with respect to the payment of employee training whereby the Municipality will pay for training upfront and failure to complete and/or pass the training will result in the employee reimbursing the Municipality in increments over a one-year period. CARRIED.

Transfer of Utility Arrears to Tax Roll

- 1371 McDonald-Jones
WHEREAS in accordance with Section 252(2) of The Municipal Act, the amount of all outstanding charges for water and sewer service are a lien and charge upon the land serviced, and shall be collected in the same manner in which ordinary taxes upon land are collectible, and with like remedies;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with By-Law No. 16-2021, being the Water and Sewer Rates By-law, due notification has been given to customers with outstanding balances of greater than 90 days;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the outstanding balances indicated on the Transfer Utilities Arrears to Tax Roll report dated December 11, 2025 be added to taxes for the respective properties, unless other arrangements have been made with the Municipality. CARRIED.

Cancellation of Utilities and Accounts Receivables deemed Uncollectable

- 1372 Hatch-Fisher
WHEREAS there are a few accounts with minimum balances due that have been outstanding for more the 90 days;

AND WHEREAS it would be time and cost prohibitive to send these to a collection agency for action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the outstanding balances indicated on the Utility and Accounts Receivable Cancellation report dated December 11, 2025, inclusive of those accounts already considered by Council for cancellation, be deemed uncollectable and the respective amounts be cancelled. CARRIED.

Carry Over of Vacation Days

Gullett-McDonald

- 1373 BE IT RESOLVED that staff be authorized to carry over vacation days as indicated on the Payroll Carried Forward report subject to time being utilized by March 2026. CARRIED.

MWM Environmental Agreement

Jones-Hatch

- 1374 BE IT RESOLVED that the one-year agreement with MWM Environmental for waste and recycling services be approved as circulated. CARRIED.

NOTICE OF MOTION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Fisher-Gullett

- 1375 BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting does now adjourn (2:01 p.m.) to meet again on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at Municipal Office in Wawanesa. CARRIED.

Dave Kreklewich, Head of Council

Joni Swidnicki, Chief Administrative Officer