
October 2024 Council Highlights

Below you will find highlights of the Township of Greater Madawaska Council activity for October 2024.

[Full agendas and minutes can be found on the Meeting and Information Portal](https://greatermadawaska.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx)

(Full URL <https://greatermadawaska.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>)

[Meeting recordings can be found on the Township's YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqKFVYNGbkv0SJJSN5IFNdQ)

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Council approved changes to the **Speed Limit By-law**, reducing the speed limit on a portion of Graphite Bay Rd to 30km/hr and reducing the speed limit on Bluff Point Road to 40km.

The **Conditions of Draft Plan Approval** for Plan of Subdivision located on Lower Spruce Hedge Road, were endorsed by Council.

Changes were made to the **Procurement Policy** to update the purchasing authority regulations for low-cost goods and services and a new section was added to replace the outdated Asset Disposal Policy.

The new **Council Expense Policy and new Employee Expense Policy** were presented and approved by Council. These policies were created to replace the previous Mileage Policy and Travel Policy. The new policies aim to provide a clear understanding for both Council and Staff regarding allowable expenses, expectations, and the reimbursement process.

Bi-Annual Finance Update was presented by the Treasurer and demonstrated that the Township's overall financial position is strong at this stage of the fiscal year, with revenues trending slightly higher and expenses aligning with expectations.

Council was made aware of the substantial increase in the **OPP 2025 Annual Billing Statement**. The increase is province-wide and staff will address this budgeting challenge while working on solutions to ease the pressure on the 2025 Operating Budget.

Council supported the Municipality of Tweed's motion to request the Ontario Government to immediately implement **sustainable funding** for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities.

The CAO was directed by Council to explore opportunities for the development of an alternative **recreational trail** exiting the K&P trail between Flower Station and Tatty Hill and re-connecting into the village of Calabogie with a focus of minimizing residential impact; and to report back to Council with findings and recommendations for Council's consideration in the Spring of 2025.

Other Items from October 2024, Deeming By-law passed, Acquisition and Assumption a portion of Murphy Road, Building Permit Report.

For full details on any of these items, please review the Agenda packages and Minutes found on the Portal and the meeting recording on the YouTube Channel.