

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF NEWBURY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026
6:00 pm
Council Chambers



Council: Reeve Diane Brewer
Councillor Clyde Harris
Councillor Russell Patton
Councillor Jerard Rajendran (attended by Zoom)

Absent: Councillor Kevin Derbyshire

Staff: Cathy Case, Clerk-Treasurer
Chad Trethewey, Fire Chief (for part of meeting)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Reeve Brewer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act requires any member of Council to declare a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof; and, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the Act.

Councillor Russ Patton declared a pecuniary interest in January 21, 2026 Agenda Item 7.8 (i) Accounts Listing, specifically items #57 and #61; February 12, 2026 Agenda Item 7.8 (i) Accounts Listing, specifically items #36 and #38; and March 12, 2026 Agenda Item 7.8 (i) Accounts Listing, specifically items #60.6 and #48 as he is principal owner of Patton Excavating.

3. **TIMED EVENTS**

6:00 PM Casey Shannon, Owner, Do Good Things Co.
Re: Newbury Spring Litter Cleanup

Casey Shannon, Owner of Do Good Things Co., attended to provide Council with information on a proposed Village wide spring litter cleanup planned for Saturday, April 11, 2026. She has a group interested in assisting with this event. Ms. Shannon advised that her budget for the clean up was limited and requested Council consideration of sponsorship.

Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council purchase gloves and hi-visibility vests to be used by clean up participants; and that Council support the clean up event with advertising on the municipal sign.” – Carried.

Reeve Brewer, with the approval of the Council, allowed Glenn Thompson of 4 Tucker Street to address Council. Mr. Thompson advised that there is still a problem with water getting away from the rear of his property. Councillor Patton will investigate.

4. COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the regular Council meeting held on February 12, 2026 were reviewed.

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT the minutes from the regular Council meeting held on February 12, 2026 be approved as circulated.” – Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Councillor Harris asked when a report on the cessation of the train whistle would be ready. The Clerk advised that a report will be at an upcoming meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

NON-ACTION CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1 Middlesex County – Middlesex County Council Meeting Highlights-February 10, 2026
- 6.2 Middlesex-London Paramedic Service Authority Board – Middlesex-London Paramedic Service Authority Board Meeting Highlights-February 17, 2026
- 6.3 Middlesex County – Middlesex County Safety & Well-Being Plan Update
- 6.4 St. Clair Region Conservation Authority – 2025 Annual Report
- 6.5 City of Sarnia – Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT Council receive and file correspondence items 6.1 to 6.5.”

ACTION CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.6 Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan – advising of support for the Tay Valley Township and Municipality of Tweed in investigating the possibility of working together with Ontario Municipalities, Provincial and Federal Governments and manufacturing partners to form a working group to ensure that waste disposal issues can be resolved quickly, efficiently and effectively with the use of incineration, more robust recycling programs and sustainable practices, so that future generations will not suffer from our environmental mismanagement

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT Council support the resolution from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan, Tay Valley Township and the Municipality of Tweed in investigating the possibility of working together with Ontario Municipalities, Provincial and Federal Governments and manufacturing partners to form a working group to ensure that waste disposal issues can be resolved quickly efficiently and effectively with the use of incineration, ore robust recycling programs and sustainable practices, so that future generations will not suffer from our environmental mismanagement.” – Carried.

- 6.7 Municipality of Thames Centre – advising of support for the principles and objectives of Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025, to ensure that Ontario’s prime agricultural land is preserved for future generations (note-copy of Bill 21 is attached)

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT Council support the Municipality of Thames Centre by supporting the principles and objectives of Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025, to ensure that Ontario’s prime agricultural land is preserved for future generations.” – Carried.

- 6.8 Township of Papineau-Cameron – support requesting that the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians

Moved By: Councillor Rajendran

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council support the resolution from the Township of Papineau-Cameron requesting that the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association consider expanding enrolment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians.” – Carried.

- 6.11 Various Municipalities – calling on Council to not support the legislative changes to the OMERS Act contained in Bill 68 and request that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes; and support for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to maintain the current OMERS governance model, with two corporate Boards, as the structure that would best deliver on the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers, and employees.

Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council does not support the legislative changes to the OMERS Act contained in Bill 68 and request that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes; and support the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to maintain the current OMERS governance model, with two corporate Boards, as the structure that would best deliver on the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers and employees.” – Carried.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Fire

Fire Chief Chad Trethewey attended the meeting at 6:50 pm.

i) Training Update

Chief Trethewey advised that he has received a new nozzle on loan to test and investigate. New recruits have been reviewing truck procedures. Joseph Krogman, Fire Protection Adviser, OFM will be attending the next training meeting to assist firefighters with registration in the OFM Learning Portal.

ii) Firefighter Recruitment

Two new recruits are being brought onboard.

iii) Fire Protection Grant 2025-2026

The Village was approved for a Fire Protection Grant in the amount of \$19,090.00.

iv) Firefighter Remuneration

Council discussed the Volunteer Firefighter Remuneration report prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer with the Fire Chief. Staff were given direction on volunteer firefighter compensation.

v) Fire Truck Repairs Update

The fire truck was delivered to Woodstock for repairs. Chief Trethewey is anticipating that the truck will be out of service for approximately one week.

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Patton

“RESOLVED THAT Council with the inclusion of the Clerk-Treasurer and Fire Chief move to closed session under Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees at 7:21 pm.” – Carried.

Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council and the Clerk-Treasurer rise from closed session and that the Clerk-Treasurer proceed as directed in closed session; and that regular session resume at 7:40 pm.” – Carried.

Fire Chief Trethewey left the meeting at 7:30 pm.

7.2 Building Services

Effective January 1, 2026, the Municipality of Middlesex Centre has assumed responsibility for building services. As per the agreement, reports will be provided on a quarterly basis.

7.3 By-law Enforcement

The By-law Enforcement Report for February 2026 was reviewed.

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT Council accept the By-law Enforcement Report for February 2026 as submitted by the By-law Enforcement Officer.” – Carried.

7.4 Drainage

i) Robinson Drain Clean Out

Councillor Patton advised that will contact Brandon Crow to follow up on start date for clean out of the Robinson Drain.

ii) Catch Basin Repair – intersection York Street and Dundas Street (no update-referred to budget)

7.5 Water

i) 2025 Annual Report for the Village of Newbury Water Distribution System, Ontario Regulation 170/03

Moved By: Councillor Rajendran

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council accept the 2025 Annual Report for the Village of Newbury Water Distribution System, Ontario Regulation 170/03 as submitted by Sco-Terra Operations Group Inc.” – Carried.

7.6 Sewer

The Clerk-Treasurer advised that Sco-Terra Operations Group is working towards land application of sludge by the end of April.

7.7 Administration

i) Municipal Grass Cutting 2026 Contract

Jason Zehr, Rural Roots Landscaping has advised there will be no increase to the rates for 2026 grass cutting season.

Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to negotiate with Rural Roots Landscaping to improve on the trimming at the Newbury Old Boys’ Park.” – Carried.

ii) Newbury Old Boys’ Park

- 2026 Season Ball Diamond Rental Rates

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Patton

“RESOLVED THAT there is no increase in the ball diamond rental rates for the 2026 season and that all teams will now be responsible to line the diamond prior to each game.” – Carried.

- Canteen Operator

Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT Council accept proposals for the operation of the canteen at the Newbury Old Boys’ Park.” – Carried.

iii) 2026 Budget

A special meeting will be held to review the 2026 budget.

7.8 Financial

i) Accounts Listing

Moved By: Councillor Rajendran

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council approve the accounts in the amount of \$183,193.79 as presented.” – Carried.

ii) Statement of 2025 Council Remuneration

Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council accept the 2025 Statement of Council Remuneration as required by Section 284(1) of the Municipal Act as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer.” – Carried.

iii) Statement of No Employee Salaries to Disclose

Moved By: Councillor Rajendran

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council accept the 2025 Statement of No Employee Salaries to Disclose as presented by the Clerk-Treasurer.” – Carried.

iv) Four Counties Hospital Donation

To be considered at next regular meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Council Member Business (Each council member is given the opportunity to bring new business to the table.)

There was no new business brought forward by Council.

8.2 Other

Clerk-Treasurer Case advised that staff are aware of the indent in the pavement on York Street and that investigation is underway.

9. CLOSED SESSION

The closed session was held when the Fire Chief was present.

10. RISE AND REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

11. BY-LAWS

11.1 By-law No. 05-26 to confirm the proceedings of Council

Moved By: Councillor Harris

Seconded By: Councillor Rajendran

“RESOLVED THAT By-law No. 05-26, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Village of Newbury be given first, second and third reading this 12 day of March, 2026.” – Carried.

12. ADJOURNMENT


Moved By: Councillor Patton

Seconded By: Councillor Harris

“RESOLVED THAT Council adjourn at 8:10 pm.” – Carried.



REEVE DIANE BREWER



CLERK-TREASURER CATHY CASE