City Council Minutes

Council Chambers, City Hall

March 30, 2026

Present: Councillor Baldwin
Councillor Bierk
Councillor Crowley
Councillor Duguay
Councillor Haacke
Councillor Lachica
Mayor Leal
Councillor Parnell
Councillor Riel
Councillor Vassiliadis

Regrets: Councillor Beamer

Staff: Reem Ali, Advisor, Diversity Equity and Inclusion
Brad Appleby, Director, Planning Development & Urban Design
Alan Barber, Director, Legal Services
Richard Freymond, Commissioner, Finance & Corporate Support Services
Natalie Garnett, Deputy City Clerk
Darryl Julott, Director, Economic Development
John Kennedy, City Clerk
Shelley Knott, Advisor, Indigenous Relations
Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner, Community Services
Jennifer McFarlane, Director, People and Culture
Blair Nelson, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning & Growth Management
Jasbir Raina, Chief Administrative Officer
Ilmar Simanovskis, Commissioner, Municipal Operations
Brendan Wedley, Director, Strategic Communications & Service Peterborough

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement (Presentation)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Haacke declared an interest in Report LSOCS26-011 - Actions, as the applicant is a client of his firm.

Councillor Parnell declared an interest in the four closed session items as she was not present to determine what conflict may exist.

Registered Delegations

IPGACP26-006 Update on Clonsilla Area Transportation Study and Approval of Part A Study Design

Sue Sauve, Peterborough Bicycle Advisory Committee

Lauren Corindia, Peterborough Bicycle Advisory Committee

Sara Whitehead, Northcrest Ward

Councillor Bierk left the meeting at 6:45 p.m. and returned at 6:46 p.m.

Jay Fitzsimmons, Peterborough Youth Soccer Club, 1320 Edmison Drive

Guaranteed Basic Income for all Canadian Residents

Joelle Favreau, Basic Income Peterborough Network, 4 Wallace Street

Councillor Baldwin left the meeting at 7:07 p.m. and returned at 7:09 p.m.

Councillor Haacke left the meeting at 7:15 p.m. and returned at 7:18 p.m.

Councillor Bierk left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. and returned at 7:21 p.m.

Non-Functioning Parking Meter Motion

Mary Lou LaRochelle, 1290 Clonsilla Avenue

Brent Perks, 487 King Street

Consent Items

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Crowley

That items 2025 Council Remuneration and Expense Statements - Report FCSFS26-003, Rent Supplement Funding Model for Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS) - Report CSSS26-004, Commemorative Flag and Illumination Policy - Report FCSSCSP26-002, Amendment to City of Peterborough Council Code of Conduct By-law 19-028 - Report LSCLK26-011, Office of the Ombudsman - Closed Meeting Complaints - Report LSCLK26-013, Airport Zoning Regulation Amendment - Report MOAIR26-003, 2026 Water System Financial Plan - Report MOWAT26-003, and Guaranteed Basic Income for all Canadian Residents and be approved on consent

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Riel

Carried (9 to 1)

2025 Council Remuneration and Expense Statements, Report FCSFS26-003

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report FCSFS26-003, dated March 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

That the 2025 Remuneration and Expense Statements for Council Members and Council appointees to boards and commissions, outlined in Report FCSFS26-003, dated March 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services, be received for information.

Rent Supplement Funding Model for Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS), Report CSSS26-004

In light of recent litigation having been commenced by the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Support Services Corporation (OAHSSC) against the City of Peterborough, and approximately 200 other municipalities, that Report CSSS26-004 be referred back to staff and brought forward on the same date as Council considers a report on the OAHSSC litigation.

Commemorative Flag and Illumination Policy, Report FCSSCSP26-002

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report FCSSCSP26-002, dated March, 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services, as follows:

That the Commemorative Flag and Illumination Policy, attached to report FCSSCSP26-002 as Appendix A, be approved.

Amendment to City of Peterborough Council Code of Conduct By-law 19-028, Report LSCLK26-011

That the report be referred to DEI staff to report back to Council with recommendations.

Office of the Ombudsman - Closed Meeting Complaints, Report LSCLK26-013

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSCLK26-013 dated March 23, 2026 of the City Clerk as follows:

That the letter dated March 10, 2026 from J. Paul Dubé, Ombudsman to City Council attached as Appendix A to Report LSCLK26-013 of the City Clerk regarding Closed Meeting Complaints be received for information.

Airport Zoning Regulation Amendment, Report MOAIR26-003

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report MOAIR26-003 dated March 23, 2026, of the Commissioner, Municipal Operations as follows:

That the Commissioner of Municipal Operations, in consultation with the Commissioner of Legislative Services and in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor, be authorized to do such things as they consider appropriate to initiate and advance amendments to the Peterborough Airport Zoning Regulations, including the execution of any procedural or administrative agreements required by Transport Canada and to execute agreements as required by Transport Canada to support the Airport Zoning Regulation process.

2026 Water System Financial Plan, Report MOWAT26-003

That Council approves the recommendations outlined in Report MOWAT26-003, dated March 23, 2026, from the Commissioner of Municipal Operations, as follows:

a) That the Drinking Water Supply System 2025–2031 Financial Plan, prepared under Municipal Drinking Water Licence No. 145101 and dated March 23, 2026, be approved;

b) That Staff be authorized to submit the approved Water Financial Plan and accompanying Council resolution to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, as required; and

c) That Staff be directed to make the Water Financial Plan publicly available and to provide public notice of its availability in accordance with Ontario Regulation 453/07.

Guaranteed Basic Income for all Canadian Residents

WHEREAS:

1. Poverty and income insecurity continue to negatively impact the health and well-being of residents in Peterborough and across Ontario;

2. Municipal governments bear significant costs from the downstream effects of poverty, including increased demand for social services, emergency shelters, and community programs;

3. Evidence from the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (2017–2019) and comparable programs demonstrated meaningful improvements in health, housing stability, and food security among participants;

4. A Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) requires collaboration between the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to design, fund, and implement effectively; and

5. Municipalities, as the order of government closest to residents, are well-positioned to advocate for income security policies that reflect local needs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Council urges the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to collaborate on the design, funding, and implementation of a Guaranteed Basic Income for all Canadian residents;

2. Council calls upon the Province of Ontario to reinstate a basic income pilot with a view to province-wide implementation; and

3. The Clerk be directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Prime Minister of Canada, our local MPP and MP, relevant federal and provincial Ministers, AMO and FCM, and to share it with all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

Report LSOCS26-008, Litigation

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis
Seconded by Councillor Crowley

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-008, dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSCOCS26-008 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting Litigation Instructions – OLT Condos.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Conflict (1): Councillor Parnell

Carried (9 to 0)

Report LSOCS26-009, Instructions

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Haacke

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-009, dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSOCS26-009 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting Superior Court Application Instructions.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Conflict (1): Councillor Parnell

Carried (9 to 0)

Report LSOCS26-011, Actions

Due to their previously declared conflicts, Councillors Parnell and Haacke did not discuss or vote on this item.

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-011 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSOCS26-011 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting Litigation Instructions – Two Superior Court Actions.

For (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Conflict (2): Councillor Haacke, and Councillor Parnell

Carried (8 to 0)

Report LSOCS26-012, Signs

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis
Seconded by Councillor Haacke

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-012 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That Report LSOCS26-012 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting election signs be received for information.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Conflict (1): Councillor Parnell

Carried (9 to 0)

Draft Community Planning Permit By-law, Report IPGPL26-014

Moved by Councillor Parnell
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That recommendation d) be amended by changing the date of the additional meeting from “June” to “April”.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Riel

That amended recommendation d) be amended by replacing d) with the following wording: That a separate meeting be held in April to discuss the Community Planning Permit By-law in detail, page by page by suspending the rules of procedure for speaking times.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Lachica
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

e) That the recommendations of Climate Action Plan 2.0 be applied to the draft CPP By-law for discussion.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Councillor Bierk left the meeting at 9:38 p.m. and returned at 9:39 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Parnell
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That Council approve the amended motion as follows:

a) That Report IPGPL26-014 be received for information;

b) That Council receives all oral and written submissions made at the Public Meeting held on March 23, 2026, regarding the draft Community Planning Permit (CPP) By-law;

c) That all comments be referred back to staff for further review and preparation of a subsequent Recommendation Report for Council's consideration by June 30, 2026; and,

d) That a separate meeting be held in April to discuss the Community Planning Permit By-law in detail, page by page by suspending the rules of procedure for speaking times.

e) That the recommendations of Climate Action Plan 2.0 be applied to the draft CPP By-law for discussion.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

That the rules of procedure be suspended to extend the hour of meeting past 10pm to complete the agenda.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

IPGACP26-006 Update on Clonsilla Area Transportation Study and Approval of Part A Study Design

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Lachica

c) That the extension to Medical Drive, accommodating vehicular traffic through the Kinsmen, not be considered by staff.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Lachica
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

c) That staff expedite specific measures based on the TMP, to address community safety needs with lower cost safety-oriented solutions.

For (2): Councillor Bierk, and Councillor Lachica

Against (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (2 to 8)

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

a) That the presentation of Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited on the matter of the Clonsilla Area Transportation Study be received; and

b) That staff proceed with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process for the Clonsilla Area Transportation Study, in accordance with the approved Study Design Report.

c) That the extension to Medical Drive, accommodating vehicular traffic through the Kinsmen, not be considered by staff.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Portfolio Chairs By-law, Report LSCLK26-010

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Lachica

That the report be deferred to the next term of Council for consideration.

For (4): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Riel

Against (6): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (4 to 6)

Moved by Councillor Baldwin
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSCLK26-010 dated March 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Legislative Services as follows:

That a Portfolio Chairs By-law be passed in the form of by-law attached as Appendix B to Report LSCLK26-010.

For (7): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (3): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Riel

Carried (7 to 3)

Strong Support for Inclusion of a Peterborough Station in the ALTO High-Speed Rain Corridor

Moved by Councillor Parnell
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has announced the development of the ALTO High-Speed Rail Project, a transformative national infrastructure initiative designed to connect major population and economic centres within the Toronto to Quebec City corridor;

AND WHEREAS the City of Peterborough is strategically positioned within eastern Ontario and the Greater Toronto economic region, making it a natural and viable location for a station stop that would serve a rapidly growing population across Peterborough, the Kawarthas, and surrounding communities;

AND WHEREAS the inclusion of a high-speed rail station in Peterborough would significantly strengthen regional economic development, workforce mobility, tourism, and business investment, while enhancing access to national markets and employment opportunities;

AND WHEREAS improved intercity transportation infrastructure aligns with the City's goals of sustainable growth, reduced congestion, climate-conscious mobility, and increased housing affordability through better regional connectivity;

AND WHEREAS high-speed rail stations in comparable jurisdictions have proven to act as major economic catalysts, attracting private investment, supporting downtown revitalization, and strengthening regional competitiveness;

AND WHEREAS the Peterborough region represents a strong opportunity to serve a broad catchment area across eastern Ontario, reducing travel pressure on the Greater Toronto Area while supporting balanced regional development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Peterborough formally expresses its full support for the inclusion of Peterborough as a designated station stop within the planning and development of the ALTO High-Speed Rail Project;

AND THAT Council urge the Government of Canada and project proponents to recognize the strategic economic, geographic, and regional mobility advantages of establishing a high-speed rail stop serving the Peterborough region;

AND THAT the City of Peterborough reaffirms its commitment to working collaboratively with federal and provincial partners to ensure this once in a generation infrastructure project delivers lasting economic opportunity, sustainable mobility, and regional prosperity for the people of Peterborough and surrounding communities

AND THAT the City of Peterborough actively engage, collaborate and work with federal, provincial partners, and all other stakeholders to advance the case for Peterborough as a critical node within the national high-speed rail network;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to: The Government of Canada, The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport, Martin Imbleau, President and CEO, Alto, The Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Local Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament representing the Peterborough Region, Municipalities across the Kawartha Region and Eastern Ontario, Regional Economic Development and transportation partners.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Non-Functioning Parking Meter Motion

Moved by Councillor Lachica
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

That the question be put.

For (7): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (3): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Crowley, and Mayor Leal

Absent (1): Councillor Beamer

Carried (7 to 3)

Moved by Councillor Lachica
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

WHEREAS, the Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS), is the legal framework used to issue, review, and appeal penalty notices for various municipal infractions, most notably parking,

WHEREAS, according to IPG Division, non-functioning (not able to receive physical or digital payment) are to be assessed and bagged,

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that…

By-law Number 20-073 , the AMP System By-law for the City of Peterborough, be suspended for automobiles parked at non-functioning, (inability to receive coin, credit card or digital payment) parking meter zones and that those marked parking spaces be usable until those meters function.

For (5): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (5): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, and Councillor Parnell

Lost (5 to 5)

Disposal of Materials on City Property

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Lachica

That the motion be amended by removing "July 1st" and adding "until such time as staff have consulted with affected property and business owners and reported back to Council on May 4 with recommended by-law amendments to improve clarity and fairness in enforcement.

For (8): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Baldwin, and Councillor Duguay

Carried (8 to 2)

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Haacke

WHEREAS By-law 23-106 regulates the disposal of materials on City property and Owner’s Boulevards; and,

WHEREAS Council has received major concerns from downtown business and property owners regarding enforcement related to “orphaned garbage” left by others without clear attribution;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to pause the issuance of new administrative penalties under By-law 23-106 for unattributed/orphaned garbage on Boulevards within the area bounded by and including the following municipal roads: Park Street, McDonnel Street, Water Street and Sherbrooke Street until such time as staff have consulted with affected property and business owners and report back to Council on May 4 with recommended by-law amendments to improve clarity and fairness in enforcement.

For (7): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (3): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Duguay, and Councillor Parnell

Carried (7 to 3)

Approval of By-laws

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis
Seconded by Councillor Crowley

That By-law 26-035 Being a By-law to Designate Certain Properties in the City of Peterborough Under the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18 (521 George Street North) be approved.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Haacke

Carried (9 to 1)

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

That By-law 26-036 Being a by-law to continue the positions of Portfolio Chairs and to delegate authority related thereto be approved.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Riel

Carried (9 to 1)

Other Business

There were no items of Other Business.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis
Seconded by Councillor Crowley

That By-law 26-037 Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council at its meeting held on March 30, 2026 be approved.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Parnell
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That this meeting be adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

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John Kennedy

City Clerk

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Jeff Leal

Mayor