


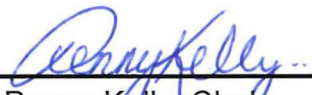
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 Held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM
 Held Virtually and In-Person

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT		STAFF PRESENT
Mayor:	John Beddows	Melanie Kirkby, CAO
Councillors:	Colin Brown	Penny Kelly, Clerk / CEMC
	Matt Harper	Lynsey Zufelt, Deputy Clerk
	Patrick Kirkby	Brenda Guy, Manager of Planning and Development
	Anne-Marie Koiner	John Morrison, Treasurer
	Vicky Leakey	David Armstrong, Manager of Public Works
	David Osmond	Jeff Johnston, Manager of Parks and Recreation
		Andrew Dickson, Fire Chief

1.	Call Meeting to Order
	Mayor Beddows called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof
	1. Councillor Brown declared a Pecuniary Interest regarding Council Report REC-2025-11, due to his association with the YMCA.
3.	Closed Session (Beginning at 4:00 PM)
	<p>Moved by Deputy Mayor Leakey that the Council of the Town of Gananoque, in accordance with Section 239.2 of the <i>Municipal Act</i>, moves into Closed Session at 4:01 PM for the purpose of discussing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2) items under Personal Matters Concerning an Identifiable Individual, Including Municipal or Board Employees, One (1) item under A Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to any Negotiations Carried On or to be Carried on by or on Behalf of the Municipality or Local Board, and; One (1) item under Security of Property of Municipality or Local Board. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>
4.	Move Out of Closed Session at 4:59 PM
	<p>***At this point, Mayor Beddows called a recess.</p> <p>***The Open Session resumed at 5:12 PM.</p>
5.	Council Resumed the Open Session at 5:12 PM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Beddows advised that a Closed Meeting was held. Council discussed two (2) items under Personal Matters Concerning an Identifiable Individual, Including Municipal or Board Employees; one (1) item under A Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to any Negotiations Carried On or to be Carried on by or on Behalf of the Municipality or Local Board, and; one (1) item under Security of Property of Municipality or Local Board. There was nothing to report out on these items.
6.	Canadian National Anthem
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Anthem was played.
7.	Land Acknowledgement Statement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Beddows read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

8.	Public Question / Comment (Only Addressing Motion(s) or Reports on the Agenda)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
9.	Disclosure of Additional Items
	1. Councillor Koiner – Code of Conduct Policy
10.	Presentations / Awards / Deputations – None
11.	Delegations
	1. Steve Reed – Request to Council – Removal of Reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Reed appeared before Council to request that Council consider the removal of a reserve that was placed against the parking lot on Main Street. • Council discussed that matter and considered the following. <p>Motion #25-086 – Request to Council – Removal of Reserve to Parking Lot on Main Street</p> <p>Moved By: Deputy Mayor Leakey Seconded By: Councillor Koiner</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE DIRECTS STAFF TO BRING BACK A COUNCIL REPORT REGARDING MR. STEVE REED'S DELEGATION REQUEST TO REMOVE THE RESERVE PLACED AGAINST ACCESS TO THE OWNERS PARKING LOT ON MAIN STREET.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>
	2. Jody Lundrigan – Integrity Commissioner Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lundrigan appeared before Council to speak to the Integrity Commissioner Report dated May 16, 2025 (Speaking Notes attached). • It should be noted that during Ms. Lundrigan's delegation, Mayor Beddows passed the gavel to Deputy Mayor Leakey to Chair. • Following the Delegation, Mayor Beddows resumed the Chair.
12.	Mayor's Declaration – None
13.	Unfinished Business
Council-REC-2025-12 – Ice Allocation Policy Review	
	<p>Motion #25-087 – Ice Allocation Policy Review</p> <p>Moved By: Councillor Koiner Seconded By: Councillor Brown</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE DIRECTS STAFF TO PROCEED WITH OPTION 1, (PASS A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW NO. 2021-081, ICE ALLOCATION POLICY TO INCLUDE THE REVISIONS AS DESCRIBE), AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT REC-2025-12.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – 6 Ayes, 1 Nay</p>
Council REC-2025-08 – 2025 Strategic Plan Update	
**Mayor Beddows vacated the Chair to speak to the Motion. **Deputy Mayor Leakey took the Chair. **Following the Mayor's statement, he resumed the Chair.	
	<p>Motion #25-088 – 2025 Strategic Plan Update</p> <p>Moved By: Deputy Mayor Leakey Seconded By: Councillor Osmond</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION THE UPDATE ON THE 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT COUNCIL DIRECTS STAFF TO PROCEED WITH OPTION 2, (HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING AND OPEN AN ONLINE PUBLIC INPUT SESSION, KEEPING THE CURRENT MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS), REGARDING THE 2026 – 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN, AS PRESENTED IN REPORT COUNCIL CAO-2025-09.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>

14.	Approval of Minutes – Tuesday, June 3, 2025
	<p>#25-085 – Approval of Minutes – Tuesday, June 3, 2025 Moved By: Deputy Mayor Leakey Seconded By: Councillor Koiner BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE HEREBY ADOPTS THE REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JUNE 3RD, 2025.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>
15.	Staff Reports
Council-FIN-2025-15 – 2025 Quarter One (Q1) Forecast and Budget Variance	
	<p>Motion #25-089 – 2025 Quarter One (Q1) Forecast and Budget Variance Moved By: Deputy Mayor Leakey Seconded By: Councillor Koiner BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION THE 2025 QUARTER ONE (Q1) FORECAST AND BUDGET VARIANCE, AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT FIN -2025-15.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>
***Councillor Brown declared a Conflict of Interest and left the room.	
Council-REC-2025-11 – 400 Stone Street North Playground Resurfacing	
	<p>Motion #25-090 – 400 Stone Street North Playground Resurfacing – Budget Deviation Moved By: Councillor Osmond Seconded By: Councillor Harper BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE APPROVES THE AMOUNT OF \$153,468.22 TOWARDS THE FUNDING OF THE DAYCARE PLAYGROUND SURFACE LOCATED AT 400 STONE STREET NORTH, WITH THE BALANCE TO BE DRAWN FROM CAPITAL RESERVES, AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT REC-2025-11.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS, by those present</p>
	<p>By-law No. 2025-056 – Award of Contract – 400 Stone Street North Playground Resurfacing Moved By: Councillor Koiner Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Leakey BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE PASS BY-LAW NO. 2025-056, BEING A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH PARK N PLAY DESIGN COMPANY LTD. FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES TO COMPLETE THE REMOVAL AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLAYGROUND SURFACE AT 400 STONE STREET AS PART OF THE DAYCARE RENOVATION, AS PRESCRIBED IN RFP REC-2025-03, AND AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT REC-2025-11.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS, by those present</p>
***Councillor Brown returned to the room.	
16.	Motions (Council Direction to Staff)
	1. Privacy By-law – Direction to Staff – Mayor Beddows
**Mayor Beddows vacated the Chair to speak to the proposed recommendation. **Deputy Mayor Leakey took the Chair. **Following the Mayor’s statement, he resumed the Chair.	
	<p>Motion #25-091 – Privacy By-law – Direction to Staff Moved By: Mayor Beddows Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Leakey BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE DIRECTS STAFF TO BRING BACK A REPORT REGARDING PRIVACY BY-LAWS GENERALLY IN FORCE IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO;</p> <p>AND FURTHER, DETERMINE BEST PRACTICES IN PRESERVING THE RESIDENTS OF GANANOQUE THE RIGHT TO BE FREE OF SURVEILLANCE ON</p>

24.	Adjournment
	<p>Moved By: Deputy Mayor Leakey Be it resolved that Council hereby adjourns this regular meeting of Council at 7:21 PM.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>
 _____ John S. Beddows, Mayor	 _____ Penny Kelly, Clerk

My name is Jody Lundrigan and I am here to speak to the mayor's many breaches of the code of conduct as outlined in the recent Integrity Commissioner's Report.

I first heard about this on CBC news, and my first feeling was one of embarrassment - that our little tourist town was making the news due to misogyny in the workplace. Nothing new, but not a great look for a town competing for tourist dollars in a crowded market.

I posted this news to Facebook as I believed all citizens should be aware of this appalling behaviour. And then something happened that made me very very sad - and is the reason I am motivated to be here today.

A young woman - as far as I can tell somewhere between 20 and maybe 25 - replied to my post, saying the following...

"What's the point of basic human rights if a man in a position of power like this can just walk all over them?"

...

"makes me sad to say I'm from a community that would allow this."

What is the point of having human rights, asks a 20 year old...

I think it is heartbreaking that any woman of any age, but especially a woman this young is already beaten down by the sexism and misogyny that surrounds her, and all of us.

Sexism and misogyny that are exemplified in comments you, Mayor Beddows, have made:

"women are often promoted above their abilities because of affirmative action"

And

"women are often not the best candidates for hiring because they may not return to work after having children"

And of course there are 16-38 more examples.

When you say this about one of us, you say it about all of us.

I think you should do the right thing and resign - and not because of some woke agenda or whatever rhetoric will be put upon the words that I'm saying today.

In fact I am here with hope because I think you just may be a person of integrity.

And a person of integrity admits when they've done something wrong, takes responsibility for their actions, and accepts that there are consequences for their actions.

So I'm here today asking you a rhetorical question, really, that I truly hope you take time to reflect on: Are you a person of integrity? Will you do the right thing?

And if not, I look at this council to reevaluate whether an 80 day docking of pay is a sufficient reprimand for these actions.

The women employed at Townhall have to come in to work every single day under documented misogynistic leadership. This is their job that they have to feed their families and pay their property taxes, and they come to work knowing that this behaviour is acceptable in their workplace. That is the message we are sending to them.

The women who live in this town are being told that misogyny and sexism is acceptable in their community. Every time the mayor posts a video welcoming people to the thousand islands, every time he calls to order a town council meeting, at next year's Christmas tree lighting ceremony...Every woman in this town will be reminded again and again that misogyny and sexism is acceptable in this community.

People who are deciding where to spend their tourism dollars with one google search are told that misogyny and sexism is acceptable in Gananoque. People do not travel to places where sexism and misogyny is accepted. They do not feel safe there. And we are a tourist town competing for tourism dollars at a very volatile time in the Canadian economy.

So you can see Dear Council that this is a pretty big issue. It's bigger than any of us as individuals. This is a time for leadership in this community. This is the time when the people who you were elected to represent are looking to you to stand up for what's right.

I know it's difficult. It's very difficult for me to stand here. I am nervous. I feel awkward. I have had a lot of anxiety about appearing before this Council on this topic, but I am here because it's the right thing to do.

And the right thing to do is to say no, we as a town will not accept sexism and misogyny in our leaders. We respect ourselves, and we respect each other too much.

Let's be a town of integrity.