

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Held on Wednesday, September 2, 2026,

Closed Session began at 4:00 PM

Open Session began 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	David Armstrong, Manager of Public Works
	Vicki Leakey	Jeff Johnston, Manager of Parks and Recreation
	David Osmond	John Morrison, Treasurer
		Andrew Dickson, Fire Chief
		Rich Swann, Chief of Police

1.	Call Meeting to Order
	Mayor Beddows called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof
	1. Councillor Brown declared a Pecuniary Interest regarding Report Council FIN-2026-31, as Brown Hospitality Corporation charges Municipal Accommodation Taxes (MAT).
3.	Closed Session (Beginning at 4:00 PM)
	Moved by Mayor Beddows 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 4:05 PM for the purpose of discussing two (2) items under Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-client Privilege, including Communications Necessary for that Purpose regarding a Judicial Review update and one other matter, and; one (1) item under a Proposed or Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Land by the Municipality CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
4.	Move Out of Closed Session at 4:56 PM.
	Open Session resumed at 5:03 PM
5.	Reporting Out of Closed Session
	Mayor Beddows advised that a Closed Meeting was held. Council discussed two (2) items under advice that is Subject to Solicitor-client Privilege, Including Communications Necessary for that Purpose, and; one (1) item under a Proposed or Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Land by the Municipality. There is nothing to report out on these items.
6.	Canadian National Anthem
	The National Anthem was sung.
7.	Land Acknowledgement Statement
	Mayor Beddows read the Land Acknowledgement Statement

8.	Public Question / Comment (Only Addressing Motion(s) or Reports on the Agenda)
	Members of the public spoke to Reports on the Agenda.
9.	Disclosure of Additional Items – None
10.	Delegation
	1. Delegation – Eastern Workforce Innovation Board (EWIB) – Frank O’Hearn, Executive Director and Sandra Wright, LMI Analyst – Postponed to September 16, 2026
11.	Motion #26-150 – Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, August 12, 2026
	Motion #26-150 – Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, August 12, 2026 Moved By: Councillor Koiner Seconded By: Councillor Kirkby BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE HEREBY ADOPTS THE REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 TH , 2026. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
12.	Unfinished Business
Council-FIN-2026-30 – Council Benefits and OMERS Entitlement	
	Motion #26-151 – Council Benefits and OMERS Entitlement Moved By: Councillor Osmond Seconded By: Councillor Koiner BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE POSTPONES REPORT COUNCIL FIN-2026-30 REGARDING COUNCIL BENEFITS AND OMERS ENTITLEMENT, TO THE NEW COUNCIL’S 2 ND REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED IN DECEMBER 2026. CARRIED – 6 Ayes, 1 Nay
Council-FIN-2026-31 – Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) Revenue Report	
***At this point, Councillor Brown left the room.	
	Motion #26-152 – Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) Revenue Report Moved By: Councillor Harper Seconded By: Councillor Osmond BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION, THE SUMMARY OF MUNICIPAL ACCOMMODATION TAX (MAT) REVENUE, AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT FIN-2026-31. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS, by those present
***At this point, Councillor Brown returned to the room.	
Council-UTIL-2026-15 – East End Pumping Station – Monthly Project Update	
	Motion #26-153 – East End Pumping Station – Monthly Project Update Moved By: Mayor Beddows Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Leakey BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVE THE EAST END PUMPING STATION – MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATE REPORT FOR INFORMATION, AS PRESENTED IN REPORT COUNCIL UTIL- 2026-15. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
13.	Staff Reports
Council-CAO-2026-12 – Mayoral Directive 2026-007 2027 Budget Directives – Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Costing Estimate	
	- Mayor Beddows vacated the Chair to speak to the recommendation contained in Report Council-CAO-2026-12. Deputy Mayor Leakey took the Chair. - Following the Mayor’s statement, he resumed the Chair and moved the recommendation presented in Report Council-CAO-2026-12. There was no seconder. - The Chair moved on to the next order of business.

Council-RDS-2026-18 – Public Works Yard Closure

Motion #26-154 – Public Works Yard Closure

Moved By: Councillor Harper

Seconded By: Mayor Beddows

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE DIRECT STAFF TO PURSUE OPTION #2, DIRECTS STAFF TO COMPLETE THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE APPROVAL (ECA) APPLICATION AND REVIEW TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS ONCE RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION, AND PARKS (MECP), AND REVIEW MONITORING PLAN ONCE APPROVED BY, AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL ON THE PROGRESS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2027, AS PRESENTED IN REPORT COUNCIL RDS-2026-18.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

*****At this point, The Chair called a recess.**

*****The meeting resumed at 6:45 PM**

Council-UTIL-2026-13 – 2026 First (1st) Quarter Water & Wastewater Report

Motion #26-155 – 2026 First (1st) Quarter Water & Wastewater Report

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Leakey

Seconded By: Mayor Beddows

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVES THE 2026 WATER AND WASTEWATER FIRST (1st) QUARTER REPORT FOR INFORMATION, AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT UTIL-2026-13.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

Council-UTIL-2026-14 – 2026 Second (2nd) Quarter Water & Wastewater Reports

Motion #26-156 – 2026 Second (2nd) Quarter Water & Wastewater Reports

Moved By: Councillor Kirkby

Seconded By: Councillor Brown

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RECEIVES THE 2026 WATER AND WASTEWATER SECOND (2nd) QUARTER REPORT FOR INFORMATION, AS PRESENTED IN REPORT COUNCIL UTIL-2026-14.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

Council-FIRE-2026-06 – Outfitting of New Fire Aerial Truck

Motion #26-157 – Outfitting of New Fire Aerial Truck – Supply and Attack Hose

Moved By: Mayor Beddows

Seconded By: Councillor Koerner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE APPROVES A DRAW OF \$15,079.00 (PLUS THE TOWNS SHARE OF HST), FROM THE FIRE RESERVES TOWARDS THE COST OF 1,000 FEET OF SUPPLY HOSE AND 500 FEET OF ATTACK HOSE FOR THE NEW FIRE AERIAL TRUCK, AS PRESENTED IN COUNCIL REPORT FIRE-2026-06.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

10.	Motions (Council Direction to Staff)
-----	---

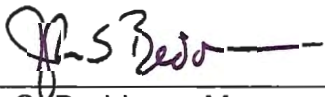
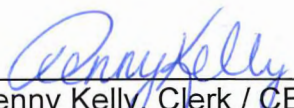
*****At this point, the Mayor vacated the Chair to speak to the proposed two (2) recommendations put forward by himself.**

***Deputy Mayor Leakey took the Chair

- **Ratification of Council Decisions – May 20th, 2026**

 - Mayor Beddows moved the Ratification of Council Decisions – May 20th, 2026, Deputy Mayor Leakey requested a seconder, there being none, the Chair moved on to the next item of business.

	• Garbage Receptacles at Vehicle Charging Station – Mayor Beddows Motion #26-158 – Garbage Receptacles at Vehicle Charging Station Moved By: Mayor Beddows Seconded By: Councillor Osmond GIVEN THAT MANY VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS INSTALLATIONS HAVE AS THEIR PRIMARY PURPOSE REVENUE GENERATION THROUGH THE OFFER OF A RECHARGING SERVICE, AND THAT MANY OF THEM ARE PLACED TO ALSO GENERATE REVENUE FOR THE BUSINESSES WHICH LEASE LAND FOR VEHICLE CHARGING INSTALLATIONS, AND THAT USE OF THE STATIONS OFTEN REQUIRES DRIVERS TO REMAINING IN PLACE FOR A HALF-HOUR OR MORE, AND GIVEN THAT MANY OF THOSE DRIVERS TIDY THEIR CARS AND LOOK TO DISPOSE OF WASTE DURING THE STOP, AND GIVEN THAT IN MANY CASES THE ONLY GARBAGE RECEPTACLES CLOSE TO RECHARGING STATIONS BELONG TO OTHER BUSINESSES OR TO THE MUNICIPALITY, AND GIVEN THAT DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE COMES AT A COST, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE DIRECTS STAFF TO DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL CHANGES TO APPLICABLE BYLAWS NECESSARY TO CREATE A REQUIREMENT FOR OPERATORS OF VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS TO PROVIDE GARBAGE RECEPTACLES FOR THE USE OF THEIR CUSTOMERS AT THE VEHICLE CHARGING STATION OPERATOR'S COST. DEFEATED – 1 Aye, 6 Nays
	• One-Time Renewal – Fall 2026 Curbside Pickup of Leaves and Brush at Town Expense – Mayor Beddows • Mayor Beddows withdrew the above, as it was addressed under Report Council RDS-2026-18.
	• Re-Open Question of Recording and Making Public Full Audio/Video Recordings of Council Meetings – Mayor Beddows
	Motion #26-159 – Re-Open Question of Recording and Making Public Full Audio/Video Recordings of Council Meetings Moved By: Mayor Beddows Seconded By: Councillor Osmond AT THE MEETING OF MAY 20, 2026, COUNCIL VOTED TO DEFER THE DECISION ON COUNCIL-CSC-2026-02.1 – RECORDING AND MAKING AVAILABLE COUNCIL MEETINGS BY A VOTE OF 4-2. ON JULY 31ST, 2026 THE SUPREME COURT ISSUED A UNANIMOUS RULING ON JULY 31, 2026 IN THE CASE OF “SS&C Technologies Canada Corp. v. Bank of New York Mellon Corp.” IN WHICH IT DETERMINED THAT: “When a party destroys or hides relevant evidence, courts must presume that it was unfavourable to that party. Writing for a unanimous Court, Justices Côté and Moreau agreed with the Court of Appeal that the Bank committed spoliation. Spoliation occurs when a party intentionally destroys, changes, hides or fails to keep relevant evidence to influence the outcome of a lawsuit.” (https://www.scc-csc.ca/judgments-jugements/cb/2026/41543/) COUNCIL DECISIONS ARE DECISIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND OFTEN HAVE REAL, DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON PERSONS AND CORPORATIONS. DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS ARE A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE OF A CLASS OF MUNICIPAL DECISION THAT MIGHT REASONABLY BE APPEALED BY A DIS-SATISFIED APPLICANT. AS SUCH, AND IN ORDER TO FULFILL DUE DILIGENCE REQUIREMENTS AND MITIGATE ANY FUTURE RISK OF ALLEGATION OF SPOILIATION BY THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE RE-OPENS THE QUESTION OF RECORDING AND MAKING PUBLIC FULL AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS OF COUNCIL MEETINGS. DEFEATED – 1 Aye, 6 Nays

	5. Recording and Making Public Full Audio/Video Recordings of Council Meetings – Mayor Beddows – Withdrawn
	***At this point, Deputy Mayor vacated the Chair. ***Mayor Beddows resumed the Chair.
14.	Correspondence
	1. First People's Performing Arts – Little Shoes Memorial – Request to Council
	Motion #26-160 – First People's Performing Arts – Little Shoes Memorial – Request to Council Moved By: Mayor Beddows Seconded By: Councillor Koiner BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE SUPPORTS THE REQUEST FROM THE FIRST PEOPLE'S PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL OF THE THOUSAND ISLANDS REQUEST TO PLACE LITTLE SHOES ON THE TOWN HALL FRONT STEPS FROM WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH, TO SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH, 2026. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
	2. Mayoral Directive 2026-007 – Request to Place on Council Agenda – Councillor Osmond
15.	Notice Required Under the Notice By-law – None
16.	Committee Updates (Council Reps)
17.	Discussion of Additional Items – None
18.	Questions from the Media – None
19.	Confirmation By-law
	By-law No. 2026-074 – Confirming By-law – September 2, 2026 Moved By: Mayor Beddows Seconded By: Councillor Koiner BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE PASS BY-LAW NO. 2026-074, BEING A BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2026, BE READ THREE TIMES AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 2ND DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2026. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
20.	Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
21.	Adjournment
	Moved By: Mayor Beddows Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Gananoque hereby adjourns the Wednesday, September 2nd, 2026, regular meeting of Council at 7:51 PM. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
 John S. Beddows, Mayor  Penny Kelly, Clerk / CE:MC	