

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

January 13, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was held **January 14, 2025** at 6:00 p.m. This was a hybrid meeting combining in person, electronic meeting via Zoom and phone.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor George Sterling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance was announced, and it was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

Council members attending in person or electronically: Mayor Sterling, Councillors: Abbott, Miller, Patterson and Robertson.

Staff in attendance: Brayden Robinson and Nancy Field

Public attending in person or electronically: John Rose

Notice of this meeting was posted on the website.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

R- 01 - 26 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council adopt the January 13, 2026 agenda as circulated.

(Carried)

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R- 02 - 26 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that the minutes from the regular meeting on December 9, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

(Carried)

4. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None noted.

5. DELEGATION:

John Rose was present at the Council meeting to present to Council.

6. REPORTS:

ACTING CAO/CLERK: N. Field provided Council with the Integrity Commissioner Agreement for Professional Services. Resolution noted below.

N. Field presented Council with a brief report provided by Planscape for the Zoning By-law and Official Plan revision. In addition, N. Field provided Council with a report regarding staff shortages. Resolution is noted below.

R- 03 - 26 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 01-26, being a By-law to appoint an Integrity Commissioner and further; That By-law #01-26 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 13th day of January, 2026.

(Carried)

R- 04 - 26 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

That Council of the Township of Ryerson authorize staff to temporarily close the municipal office due to staffing shortages on an as needed basis by posting a notice on the door.

(Carried)

CAO/TREASURER: B. Robinson provided Council with the following tax By-laws; Penalty on Taxes, Interest on Tax Arrears, and Interim Taxation. Resolutions noted below.

R- 05 - 26 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 02-26, being a By-law to impose a penalty charge for non-payment of current taxes and further; That By-Law # 01-25 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 13th day of January 2026.

(Carried)

R- 06- 26 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 03-26, being a By-law to impose an interest charge for non-payment of tax arrears and further; That By-Law # 03-26 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 13th day of January 2026.

(Carried)

R- 07 -26 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 04-26, being a By-law provide for an interim tax levy for 2025 and further; That By-Law # 04- 26 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 13th day of January 2026.

(Carried)

7. COMMUNICATION ITEMS

R- 08 - 26 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council supports the letter submitted by the Burk's Falls, Armour & Ryerson Union Library regarding the recent amendments made to the Canada Post Corporation Act in Bill C-15.

And further that the Mayor submits a letter of support to Scott Atchinson, MP.

(Carried)

R- 09- 26 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council supports the Township of Perry's resolution 2025-448 regarding the removal of HST/GST from new homes purchased as primary residences to support housing affordability.

And further that the resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada, Minister of Finance, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Graydon Smith, and AMO.

(Carried)

R- 10- 26 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council supports resolution 2025-333 received by the Municipality of Magnetawan requesting that the Province of Ontario revise the grant funding criteria to include septic systems, drilled wells and propane or hydro as forms of effective infrastructure for industrial and commercial development.

(Carried)

R- 11- 26 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

WHEREAS the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children's aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

WHEREAS the long-standing jointly sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

WHEREAS these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

WHEREAS the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS municipalities are already under significant financial strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Ryerson township does not support the legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Ryerson Council supports 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to:

- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs;
- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
- Scott Atcheson and Grayden Smith
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

(Carried)

General Information Items Received:

- Council received Almaguin Highlands Health Council meeting minutes for November.
- Council received Joint Building Committee annual permit summary.
- Council thank you letter from the legion for the Poppy Campaign.

8. CLOSED MEETING:

R-12-26 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Resolution to move to a closed meeting pursuant to the Municipal Act 2001, c. 25, Section 239 (2) (d) as the subject matter being considered regarding labour relations or employee negotiations; The general nature of the closed meeting is to discuss HR matters JBC.

And; pursuant to the Municipal Act 2001, c.25, Section 239 (2) (d) as the subject matter being considered is regarding labour relations or employee negotiation; The general nature of the closed meeting is to discuss HR matters.

(Carried)

9. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

R- 13 -26 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 05-26, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law # 05-26 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 13th day of January 2026.

(Carried)

RETURN TO OPEN:

R-14-26 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

THAT the Ryerson Township Council receives the Joint Building Committee Resolution #2025-018,

AND THAT Council accepts the proposed pay grid as presented by the Chief Building Official,

AND FUTHER THAT Council approves of the Deputy Chief Building Official being advanced to Step 2 of the pay grid effective January 1, 2026.

(Carried)

10. ADJOURNMENT:

R- 15 -26 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that we do now adjourn at 8:13 p.m. The next regular meeting is January 27, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

(Carried)

Original Signed by Glenn Miller

DEPUTY MAYOR

Original Signed by Nancy Field

ACTING CAO/CLERK