



Council Minutes

**Monday, March 23, 2026
4:00 PM**

- Present Trevor Bazinet, Mayor
 Leah Noel, Deputy Mayor
 Allison Segeren, Councillor
 John Thompson, Councillor
 Randy Carroll, Councillor
 Liz Petrie, Councillor
 Vanessa McMillan, Councillor
- Staff Present Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer
 Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
 Deanna Hastie, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer
 Sean Thomas, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure
 and Operations
 Amanda Banting, Deputy Clerk (Records Management Clerk)
- Others Present Steve Buchanan
 John Mascarin
 Jim Rees
 Greg Stewart, Town Solicitor
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Goderich Town Council meets in Regular Session on March 23, 2026.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

2.1 Councillor Carroll

Councillor Carroll declares a pecuniary interest on items 7.9, Michaela Johnston, Emergency Management Coordinator, Accessibility and Health and Safety Manager re: Community Initiative with Community Living Central Huron, as he is a member of the Board of Directors, and 7.16, Andrew Bouck, Tourism Events and Marketing Coordinator re: March Event Report and 12.8, By-Law 46 of 2026 – By-Law to temporarily stop up traffic for the Battle of the Atlantic Memorial Ceremony, as he is the President of the Royal Canadian Legion, and they are involved in the Battle of the Atlantic event on May 2, 2026.

2.2 Councillor Petrie

Councillor Petrie declares a pecuniary interest on item 7.16, Andrew Bouck, Tourism Events and Marketing Coordinator re: March Event Report

and 12.8, By-Law 46 of 2026 – By-Law to temporarily stop up traffic for the Battle of the Atlantic Memorial Ceremony, as she is on the Ladies Auxiliary Executive and they are involved in the Battle of the Atlantic event on May 2, 2026.

2.3 Deputy Mayor Noel

Deputy Mayor Noel declares a pecuniary interest on items 7.3, Deanna Hastie, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer re: Cardiac Equipment Purchase, and 15.1 - Closed Session, Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer re: Town of Goderich Municipal Physician Incentive, as her spouse is a physician and member of the Maitland Valley Family Health Team.

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Approval of Agenda

Clerk Andrea Fisher advises Council of amendments to the agenda.

With regards to item 7.1 under Scope and Application on the first page, the policy is to be amended to read “This policy applies to all official Town of Goderich social media accounts and to employees. When acting on behalf of the Town, this policy applies to volunteers and contractors.” This is added to clarify that the policy applies to volunteers when acting on behalf of the Town.

With regards to item 7.15, staff have realized that small municipalities (population less than 10,000) can obtain up to 90% of eligible funding (not 80%). Therefore, staff will be asking Green Municipal Fund for \$36,000 (with the municipality covering \$4,000) as opposed to the \$32,000 written in the staff report, with \$8,000 coming from the municipality.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Noel

Seconded By: Councillor Thompson

That Goderich Town Council hereby accepts the March 23, 2026, Regular Council Agenda, as amended.

CARRIED

3.2 Adoption of Minutes

Moved By: Councillor Carroll

Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

That Goderich Town Council hereby adopts the March 2, 2026, Regular Council Minutes, as printed.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC MEETING(S)

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Steve Buchanan re: To Communicate Feedback and Advice on Behalf of Other Citizens and Himself Regarding Items on the Meeting's Agenda

5.2 John Mascarin, Aird & Berlis LLP re: Integrity Commissioner Report - Municipal Conflict of Interest Act Applications 2025-01, 02 & 03 & Code of Conduct Complaint 2025-01 - refer to Item 10.1

5.3 Mayor's Remarks

5.4 Councillors' Remarks

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS

Jim Rees comments on the Veolia Water, Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Annual Reports, and Compliance Summary.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Moved By: Councillor Petrie
Seconded By: Councillor Segeren

That the Staff Reports be received for information and the noted action be approved.

CARRIED

7.1 Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk re: Corporate Social Media Policy

Staff Recommendation: Concur

7.2 Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services re: Restricted Acts of Council (Lame Duck)

Staff Recommendation: Concur

7.3 Deanna Hastie, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer re: Cardiac Equipment Purchase

Staff Recommendation: Concur

Deputy Mayor Noel declared a conflict on this item.

Moved By: Councillor Segeren
Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

That Goderich Town Council approves the purchase of a piece of cardiac equipment at a cost of approximately \$8,000.

CARRIED

7.4 Deanna Hastie, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer re: Designated Heritage Property Grant Program

Staff Recommendation: Concur and refer to By-Law 47 of 2026

7.5 Sean Thomas, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure and Operations re: Backyard Hens

Staff Recommendation: Concur

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Noel
Seconded By: Councillor Carroll

That Goderich Town Council defers item 7.5, Sean Thomas, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure and Operations, re: Backyard Hens.

CARRIED

7.6 Sean Thomas, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure and Operations re: Goderich Municipal Airport Land Lease

Staff Recommendation: Concur

7.7 Tracy Mero, Finance and Human Resources Manager re: Full-Time and Part-Time Terms of Reference

Staff Recommendation: Concur and refer to By-Laws 41 and 42 of 2026

- 7.8 Michaela Johnston, Emergency Management Coordinator, Accessibility and Health and Safety Manager re: Goderich Place Temporary Emergency Shelter

Staff Recommendation: Concur and refer to By-Law 43 of 2026

- 7.9 Michaela Johnston, Emergency Management Coordinator, Accessibility and Health and Safety Manager re: Community Initiative with Community Living Central Huron

Staff Recommendation: Concur

Councillor Carroll declared a conflict on this item.

Moved By: Councillor Segeren

Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

That Goderich Town Council concurs with the staff recommendation to proceed with a community playground enhancement initiative with Community-Living Central Huron; and

That Goderich Town Council concurs with the staff recommendation to proceed with a single-source procurement process.

CARRIED

- 7.10 Michaela Johnston, Emergency Management Coordinator, Accessibility and Health and Safety Manager re: Community Emergency Preparedness Grant

Staff Recommendation: Concur and refer to By-Law 49 of 2026

- 7.11 Tara Darnbrough, Finance and Taxation Manager re: 2026 Final Tax By-Law

Staff Recommendation: Concur and refer to By-Law 45 of 2026

- 7.12 Jason Dykstra, Building Services Manager/Chief Building Official re: Heritage Permit Application No. 2025-042 - 42 West Street - Painting of Front Facade

Staff Recommendation: Concur

- 7.13 Jason Dykstra, Building Services Manager/Chief Building Official re: Heritage Permit Application No. 2026-001 - 164 Courthouse Square - Alterations to Building

Staff Recommendation: Concur

- 7.14 Jason Dykstra, Building Services Manager/Chief Building Official re: February Month End Report

Staff Recommendation: Receive for information

- 7.15 Jessica Clapp, Asset Management and Environmental Services Manager re: Ecological Health Assessment

Staff Recommendation: Concur

- 7.16 Andrew Bouck, Tourism Events and Marketing Coordinator re: March Event Report

Staff Recommendation: Concur and refer to By-Laws 40 and 46 of 2026

Councillor Carroll and Councillor Petrie declared a conflict on this item.

8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND COPIED FOR WHICH THE DIRECTION OF COUNCIL IS REQUIRED

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION

Moved By: Councillor McMillan

Seconded By: Councillor Segeren

That the correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

9.1 Recreation Advisory Committee re: February 10, 2026, Minutes, February 2026 Report, and 2025 Year-End Report

9.2 Environment Committee - February 23, 2026, Minutes

9.3 Town of Goderich 2027 Bicentennial Committee - March 4, 2026, Minutes

9.4 Stephanie Hartwick, Executive Director, MacKay Centre re: Thank You Letter

9.5 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks re: Decision Notice on the Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

9.6 Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response re: 2026 Emergency Preparedness Week

9.7 Municipality of North Perth re: Removal of HST and GST from New Homes

9.8 Municipality of Markstay Warren re: Highway 11/17 Nation Building Improvements

Moved By: Councillor McMillan

Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

That Goderich Town Council supports the resolutions from the Municipality of Markstay Warren regarding Highway 11/17 Nation Building Improvements.

CARRIED

9.9 Township of Perry re: Resolution and Letter of Support - Improved School Bus Safety

9.10 Township of McNab/Braeside re: Request for Support - Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

Moved By: Councillor Petrie

Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

That Goderich Town Council supports the resolution from the Township of McNab/Braeside regarding the Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy.

CARRIED

9.11 Rideau Lakes re: Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

Moved By: Councillor Thompson
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Noel

That Goderich Town Council supports the resolution from Rideau Lakes regarding the Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget).

CARRIED

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION NOTED

Moved By: Councillor Thompson
Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

That the correspondence items be received for information and the noted action be approved.

CARRIED

10.1 John Mascarin, Aird & Berlis LLP re: Integrity Commissioner Report - Municipal Conflict of Interest Act Applications 2025-01, 02 & 03 & Code of Conduct Complaint 2025-01

Staff Recommendation: Receive for information and refer to Item 5.2

10.2 Veolia Water re: 2025 Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Annual Reports, and 2025 Compliance Summary

Staff Recommendation: That Goderich Town Council approve the 2025 Wastewater Treatment Plant Annual Report, the 2025 Water Treatment Plant Annual Report, and the 2025 Compliance Summary from Veolia Water

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11.1 Local Rolla re: Maitland Recreation Centre Lease Agreement - pending

11.2 Ezra Silverton, Co-Founder, Lune re: Ride Sharing - pending

12. BY-LAWS

Moved By: Councillor Segeren
Seconded By: Councillor Carroll

That By-Laws 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, and 49 of 2026, be read a first, second, and third time, collectively.

CARRIED

12.1 By-Law 39 of 2026

Being a By-Law to Amend By-Law 55 of 2018, Being a By-Law to authorize an Agreement for the Operation of a Community Recycling Centre

12.2 By-Law 40 of 2026 - refer to item 7.16

Being a By-Law to Temporarily Stop up Traffic on July 4, July 5, July 11, July 12, and July 18, 2026, on South Street from Courthouse Square to Elgin Street West for the purpose of hosting the BIA Farmers and Sunday Markets

Moved By: Councillor Thompson
Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

That Goderich Town Council defers item 12.2, By-Law 40 of 2026, to stop up traffic for the BIA Farmers and Sunday Markets.

CARRIED

12.3 By-Law 41 of 2026 - refer to item 7.7

Being a By-Law to Authorize the execution of Terms of Employment between the Corporation of the Town of Goderich and the Full-Time Employees of the Town of Goderich and to Repeal By-Law No. 74 of 2025

12.4 By-Law 42 of 2026 - refer to item 7.7

Being a By-Law to Authorize the execution of the Terms of Employment between the Corporation of the Town of Goderich and the Part-Time Employees of the Town of Goderich and to Repeal By-Law No. 75 of 2025

12.5 By-Law 43 of 2026 - refer to item 7.8

Being a By-Law to Authorize an Agreement between Goderich Retirement Place and the Corporation of the Town of Goderich for the purpose of using the MacKay Centre for Seniors as a Temporary Emergency Shelter and to Repeal No. By-Law 61 of 2021

12.6 By-Law 44 of 2026

Being a By-Law to Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute and affix the Corporate Seal to a Lease Extension and Amending Agreement between 1935362 Ontario Incorporated and the Town of Goderich for the Purpose of Leasing Space at 33 St. David Street for a Tourist Information Centre and to Amend By-Law No. 10 of 2025

12.7 By-Law 45 of 2026 - refer to item 7.11

Being a By-Law to Adopt the Estimates of All Sums required during the year 2026 for General Municipal, County and Education purposes. To Set and Levy the General Municipal Tax Rates, to Levy the Tax Rates for County and Education purposes and to set the BIA Levy Rate for 2026

12.8 By-Law 46 of 2026 - refer to item 7.16

Being a By-Law to Temporarily Stop up Traffic on Saturday, May 2, 2026, on Cove Road from the Wheelhouse Pavilion, South to the Cove Road Roundabout, for the purpose of the Battle of the Atlantic Memorial Ceremony

Councillor Carroll and Councillor Petrie declared a conflict on this item.

Moved By: Councillor McMillan

Seconded By: Councillor Thompson

That By-Law 46 of 2026, be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED

12.9 By-Law 47 of 2026 - refer to item 7.4

Being a By-Law to Adopt a Heritage Grant Policy and to Repeal By-Laws 30 of 1994, 8 of 2002, 104 of 2016, and 44 of 2018

12.10 By-Law 48 of 2026 - refer to Item 15.2 - to be considered after the Closed Session

Being a By-Law to Adopt Cyber Security Policies and to Repeal By-Laws 14 of 2019 and 53 of 2020

12.11 By-Law 49 of 2026 - refer to Item 7.10

Being a By-Law to Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute and affix the Corporate Seal to a Transfer Payment Agreement between His Majesty the King in Right of Ontario and the Corporation of the Town of Goderich for the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant

13. MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS

14. NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Meetings:

- Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 2 PM, Town of Goderich 2027 Bicentennial Committee
- Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 5:30 PM, BIA Board of Management Meeting
- Monday, April 13, 2026, at 4 PM, Council Meeting

15. CLOSED SESSION

In the event that Council enters into a possible Closed Session pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, Council will reconvene following the Closed Session at which time the public and press may be present.

Moved By: Councillor Carroll

Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

That Council rise at 5:28 PM and goes into Closed Session pursuant to Section 239(2)(a)(h)(i)(j);

And Further That Town Solicitor, Greg Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer, Janice Hallahan, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Andrea Fisher, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, Deanna Hastie, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure, and Operations, Sean Thomas, and Deputy Clerk (Records Management Clerk), Amanda Banting, remain in attendance.

CARRIED

15.1 Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer re: Town of Goderich Municipal Physician Incentive

(h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;

(i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;

(j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value.

15.2 Cybersecurity Policies

(a) the security of the property of the municipality or local board.

15.3 2026 Goderich Salt and Harvest Saturday Concert

(i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization.

15.4 Minutes of the Previous Closed Session

- March 2, 2026, Closed Session

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Noel

Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

That Goderich Town Council rise and come out of Closed Session at 6:37 PM.

CARRIED

16. REPORTING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Chief Administrative Officer Janice Hallahan reports out of Closed Session regarding agenda items 15.1 - 15.4. The previous Closed Session Minutes of March 2, 2026, were approved. On items 15.1, Municipal Physician Incentive, and 15.3, 2026 Goderich Salt and Harvest Saturday Concert, staff received direction from Council in Closed Session. On item 15.2, Cybersecurity Policies, CAO Hallahan asks the Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Andrea Fisher, to bring the motion forward in open session for Council's consideration for adoption of By-Law 48 of 2026.

At this time in the Council meeting, Councillor McMillan declares that she declared a Pecuniary Interest on item 15.3, 2026 Goderich Salt and Harvest Festival, as she has a family member who is affiliated with the entertainment for the festival.

Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Andrea Fisher, presents the following motion for consideration:

Moved By: Councillor Carroll

Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

That By-Law 48 of 2026, being a By-Law to adopt Cyber Security Policies and to Repeal By-Laws 14 of 2019 and 53 of 2020, be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED

17. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Moved By: Councillor Carroll

Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

That leave be given to introduce By-Law No. 50 of 2026, being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of the Goderich Town Council meeting held on March 23, 2026, and that it now be read a first, second, and third time, and finally passed this March 23, 2026.

CARRIED

18. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By: Councillor Petrie
Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

That Goderich Town Council does now adjourn at 6:40 PM to meet again at the Regular Meeting of Council scheduled for April 13, 2026, at 4 PM.

CARRIED

MAYOR, Trevor Bazinet

CLERK, Andrea Fisher