



**The Corporation of the City of Temiskaming Shores
Special Meeting of Council
Minutes**

**Tuesday, December 02, 2025 Immediately following the Committee of the Whole
meeting**

City Hall - Council Chambers - 325 Farr Drive

Council:	Mayor Jeff Laferriere and Councillors Dan Dawson, Melanie Ducharme, Ian Graydon, Nadia Pelletier-Lavigne, Mark Wilson, and Danny Whalen
Present:	Logan Belanger, Municipal Clerk Sandra Lee, Chief Administrative Officer Ben Krul, Director of Community Development Shelly Zubryck, Director of Corporate Services Steve Burnett, Director of Environmental Services Mathew Bahm, Director of Recreation Mitch McCrank, Director of Transportation Services James Franks, Economic Development Officer André Brock, Economic Development Officer/ Community Development Steve Langford, Fire Chief Brad Hearn, Information Technology Manager James McKay, Information Technology
Regrets:	N/A
Media:	1
Members of the Public:	N/A

1. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we live, work, and gather on the traditional and unceded Territory of the Algonquin People, specifically the Timiskaming First Nation.

We recognize the presence of the Timiskaming First Nation in our community since time immemorial and honour their long history of welcoming many Nations to this beautiful territory and uphold and uplift their voice and values.

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Laferriere at 4:28 p.m.

3. Approval of Agenda

Resolution No. 2025-427

Moved By: Councillor Wilson

Seconded By: Councillor Dawson

Be it resolved that City Council approves the agenda as printed.

Carried

4. Declaration of Special Meeting

Resolution No. 2025-428

Moved By: Councillor Graydon

Seconded By: Councillor Pelletier-Lavigne

Be it resolved that the Council of the City of Temiskaming Shores declares this meeting a "Special Meeting" in accordance with Section 9 of Procedural By-law No. 2023-022.

Carried

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature

None

a. Councillor Graydon - Closed Session

Immediate family member is a non-union employee with the City of Temiskaming Shores.

6. Public Meetings pursuant to the Planning Act, Municipal Act and other Statutes

a. Presentation No. 2– Final 2026 Municipal Operating and Capital Budget

Stephanie Leveille, Treasurer, presented the updated 2026 Capital and Operating Budgets, reflecting Council's direction from the November 18, 2025 Special Committee of the Whole (Budget) meeting. She noted that budget development began in early fall with a focus on:

- Supporting housing-enabling infrastructure and growth;
- Aligning with key municipal plans (Asset Management Plan, Strategic Plan, Recreation Master Plan, and Active Transportation Plan);
- Addressing immediate infrastructure needs, end-of-life replacements, funding opportunities, and partnership efficiencies.

Key goals for 2026 include avoiding new debt for capital projects, building reserves for future requirements, enhancing capacity to support housing and community growth through infrastructure and service improvements, advancing Strategic Plan priorities, and presenting tax impact scenarios.

The presentation included charts and tables on historical trends, the 2026 general operations and environmental services summaries, capital project highlights (with an illustration of funding sources), and a 2027–2029 capital outlook.

Tax impact scenarios were prepared using the 2025 median residential and average commercial properties. Three levy options were presented; however, staff recommended:

- a 3.5% tax levy increase,
- a 4% increase to water and sewer rates, and
- a \$10 increase to the solid waste fee.

This recommendation reflects general operating pressures, and allows for strengthened reserve contributions for enhanced contingency for ongoing planning initiatives.

A breakdown of how every \$1.00 is spent in the community was reviewed:

- \$0.29 to external agencies (education, social services, policing, public health);
- \$0.71 to municipal services (environmental services, public works/fleet, general government, capital projects, recreation/facilities, capital financing, community/economic development, fire services, transit, waste management, library services, and reserves).

The Treasurer also presented two comparison charts: one showing the City's proposed tax levy relative to similarly sized municipalities, and another comparing the Ontario CPI to the proposed levy.

In closing, the Treasurer thanked the management team for their collaboration and Council for its review of the 2026 Budget. She emphasized that the proposed budget:

- Maintains service levels and advances major housing-enabling projects;
- Manages finances responsibly, with no new debt for the third consecutive year;
- Leverages external funding;
- Keeps cumulative levy increases below CPI, creating a revenue gap;

- And that the recommended levy helps narrow this gap and supports long-term fiscal sustainability.

Council subsequently adopted a resolution to acknowledge the updated presentation.

The Mayor thanked the Treasurer and invited questions.

- Councillor Whalen expressed appreciation for the City's continued work to not add new debt, despite challenges arising from the 2016 MPAC assessment and projected 2026 costs, even in the event of reassessment. He commended the work to present a well done budget and support the recommendations.
- Councillor Wilson complimented the budget and noted the risks associated with unknown costs for police, public health, and social services. The Mayor responded that the City is working on a delegation to discuss the need for external agencies to provide budgets that align with legislative requirements for budget development under Strong Mayor Powers. He added that the City has a strong budget and is well positioned for 2026.
- Councillor Ducharme thanked staff for their work, particularly for incorporating changes from the organizational review to support the City and advance strategic goals, while still allocating funds for future needs. She expressed her support for the recommendations.
- Councillor Graydon thanked staff for a comprehensive and well-prepared budget report.

Resolution No. 2025-429

Moved By: Councillor Dawson

Seconded By: Councillor Ducharme

Be it resolved that Council of the City Temiskaming Shores hereby acknowledges the presentation of the final 2026 Operating and Capital Budget, incorporating Council's direction from the November 18, 2025 Special Committee of the Whole (Budget Meeting).

Carried

7. New Business

a. 2026 Municipal Operating Budget

Resolution No. 2025-430

Moved By: Councillor Pelletier-Lavigne

Seconded By: Councillor Whalen

Whereas staff presented the 2026 Municipal Operating Budget to Council at a Special Committee of the Whole Meeting on November 18, 2025 and a Special Regular Council Meeting on December 2, 2025.

Now therefore be it resolved that Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores hereby approves its 2026 Municipal Operating Budget utilizing a 3% increase to the Municipal Tax Levy for operations, and an increase to the Water/Wastewater Rates utilizing a 4.0% increase; and

That Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores hereby approves an increase of \$10 to the Solid Waste Fee Levy; and

Further that Council hereby approves, the 2026 General Operating Budget estimates as follows:

Department	Net Budget Estimates
General Government	\$2,739,933
Community Development	352,985
Policing	2,302,000
Health & Social Services	3,270,100
Fire & Emergency Management	597,079
Economic Development	303,923
Recreation	1,668,973
Property Maintenance	625,755
Public Works and Fleet	4,392,140
Solid Waste Management	498,575
Transit	523,667
Libraries	467,907
Capital Financing	867,874
Reserve Allocation	164,932
OMPF	(4,106,700)
Net Municipal Operations	\$14,669,143

And further that Council approves the 2026 Environmental Operating Budget estimates as follows:

Department	Net Budget Estimates
Administration	\$1,220,187
Sewage Treatment & Collection	1,130,922
Water Treatment & Distribution	2,138,512
Reserve Allocation	92
Capital Financing	630,094
Net Environmental Operations	\$5,119,807

Carried

b. 2026 Municipal Capital Budget

Resolution No. 2025-431

Moved By: Councillor Dawson

Seconded By: Councillor Ducharme

Be it resolved that Council hereby approves the 2026 General Capital Budget estimates as follows:

Department	Budget Estimates
Corporate Services	\$404,021
Fire & Emergency Management	71,300
Public Works and Solid Waste	2,660,000
Recreation Services	496,900
Property Maintenance	1,983,700
Fleet	585,000
Transit	138,000
General Capital Project Total	\$6,338,921

And further that Council hereby approves, the 2026 Environmental Capital Budget estimates as follows:

Department	Budget Estimates
Environmental Projects	\$6,770,000

Carried

8. Closed Session

Councillor Graydon declared a conflict on this item. (Immediate family member is a non-union employee with the City of Temiskaming Shores.)

Resolution No. 2025-432

Moved By: Councillor Whalen

Seconded By: Councillor Graydon

Be it resolved that Council agrees to convene in Closed Session at 5:15 p.m. to discuss the items below.

Carried

a. Closed Session Matters:

1. Under Section 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Labour relations / employee negotiations – Management / Non-Union Staff Agreement – Discussion
2. Under Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Personal matter (identifiable individual) – New Liskeard Business Improvement Area Board of Management Application for Seat Vacancy

b. Matters from Closed Session

1. Rise from Closed Session

Resolution No. 2025-433

Moved By: Councillor Dawson

Seconded By: Councillor Wilson

Be it resolved that Council agrees to rise with report from Closed Session at 5:28 p.m.

Carried

2. Under Section 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Labour relations / employee negotiations – Management / Non-Union

Resolution No. 2025-434

Moved By: Councillor Whalen

Seconded By: Councillor Pelletier-Lavigne

Be it resolved that Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores acknowledges receipt of Closed Session Administrative Report CS-064-2025; and

That Council directs staff to prepare the necessary by-law to provide for the remuneration and benefits for the Management/Non Union Positions for the period covering January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, and to repeal By-law No. 2024-019, for consideration at the December 16, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

3. Under Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Personal matter (identifiable individual) – New Liskeard Business Improvement Area Board of Management Application for Seat Vacancy

Resolution No. 2025-435

Moved By: Councillor Dawson

Seconded By: Councillor Ducharme

Be it resolved that Council hereby appoints Sara Davy to the New Liskeard Business Improvement Area Board of Management, and directs staff to prepare the necessary by-law to confirm the appointment at the December 16, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

9. Adjournment

Resolution No. 2025-436

Moved By: Councillor Whalen

Seconded By: Councillor Pelletier-Lavigne

Be it resolved that Council hereby adjourns its meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Carried

Special Council Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, December 02, 2025

Jeff Clegg
Mayor

John Doe
Municipal Clerk