

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2026, 4:00 pm
Council Chambers | Civic Centre
341 10th Street
Hanover, ON N4N 1P5

MEMBERS PRESENT Mayor Sue Paterson
Deputy Mayor Warren Dickert
Councillor Harold Fleet (virtual, departed at 8:30pm)
Councillor Dave Hocking
Councillor Carol Hudson
Councillor Brandon Koebel (virtual, departed at 5:49pm)
Councillor Susan Sakal

STAFF PRESENT Laura Christen, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture (departed at 6:37pm)
Melissa Hilgendorff, Human Resources Manager (departed at 7:27pm)
Vicki McDonald, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Tanya Patterson, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk
Sherri Walden, CAO
Andrew Wilken, Director of Development & Infrastructure/CBO (virtual, departed at 8:08pm)
Jamie McCarthy, Manager of Public Works (departed at 6:39pm)
Jelena Savic, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer (departed at 6:48pm)

ALSO PRESENT Alicia Tilker
Courtney Conaway

1. National Anthem

2. Call to Order

Mayor Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

3. Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge the Traditional Territory of the Anishinabek Nation: The People of the Three Fires known as Ojibway, Odawa, and Pottawatomie Nations. And further give thanks to the Chippewas of Saugeen, and the Chippewas of Nawash, now known as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, as the traditional keepers of this land.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

5. Agenda Additions or Deletions

Resolution Number: 61-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That agenda Item 10.1 Report PRC-02-26 East End Trails Extension Project Option to Proceed be taken up immediately following Item 6.1 Delegation to council.

CARRIED

6. Delegations

6.1 Alicia Tilker and Courtney Conaway Regarding East End Trail Development Project

Alicia Tilker and Courtney Conaway presented their concerns to council regarding the proposed location of the east-end trail development through Saugeen Cedar Heights West Subdivision. They outlined issues related to environmental impact, privacy, security, ongoing trail maintenance, and associated costs.

Following the presentation, council engaged in extensive discussion, offering comments and posing questions to both the delegates and staff.

The delegates were thanked for their attendance and presentation.

At this time, agenda item 10.1 Report PRC-02-26 East End Trail Extension Project Option to Proceed was taken up.

10.1 Report PRC-02-26 East End Trails Extension Project Options to Proceed

CAO Sherri Walden provided a detailed overview of the history of the east-end residential development and the planned extension of the trail to the east loop. She confirmed that staff have consistently acted in accordance with council's established directives.

Laura Christen, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture, outlined the environmental considerations related to the trail construction, including the mitigation recommendations identified in the Environmental Impact Study. She reported that the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) approved the project, confirming that the proposed mitigation measures meet all SVCA regulatory requirements.

Ms. Christen referenced the public meeting on trail design held in 2023, as well as the public open house conducted in February 2026, both of which served to inform residents of the project and gather public input.

It was noted by staff that should the east end trail development not proceed as approved, the associated grant funding would be forfeited, and future grant opportunities may be negatively impacted.

Director of Development & Infrastructure/CBO Andrew Wilken advised that an approved subdivision plan is already in place and any changes, such as adding sidewalks, would require negotiation with the developer, as sidewalk locations were established through the existing subdivision agreement.

Discussion ensued regarding potential alternatives to the east-end nature trail, including associated costs, amendments to the approved subdivision plan, and negotiations respecting the potential reallocation of developer funding for trail construction.

Resolution Number: 63-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

That the entire proposed east end ~~nature~~ trail from the existing community trail east to 24th Avenue be eliminated and that further negotiations occur with the developer to reallocate the developer's trail contribution to the construction of sidewalks on 18th Street, 23rd Avenue, and 19th Avenue; and

That a costing be provided for extending a sidewalk from 19th Street to 20th Street on 24th Avenue.

CARRIED

Amendment:

Resolution Number: 62-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

That the main motion be amended to include that a costing be provided for extending a sidewalk from 19th Street to 20th Street on 24th Avenue.

CARRIED

7. Council Minutes

7.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – Monday March 2, 2026

Resolution Number: 64-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR FLEET

That the minutes of the March 2, 2026 regular council meeting be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

8. Business Arising From the Minutes

None

9. Consent Agenda

9.1 Hanover Fire Department 2025 Annual Report

9.2 Hanover Public Library Board Minutes - January 2, 2026

9.3 Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Commission Minutes - January 9, 2026

9.4 Township of Southgate resolution supporting Bluewater District School Board letter to Ombudsman Dube regarding removal of trustees

9.5 City of Owen Sound resolution regarding Grey County urban road transfer

9.6 Grey County Council Meeting Highlights - March 12, 2026

9.7 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority correspondence regarding conservation authority amalgamation

9.8 Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force / United Way of Bruce Grey correspondence regarding the 2025 annual report and 2026 collective impact framework

- 9.10 electHER Now correspondence regarding online campaign school to prepare women for Ontario's 2026 municipal election
- 9.11 Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks news release regarding Ontario taking next steps to improve conservation authorities

Deputy Mayor Dickert requested that Item 9.9 Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team correspondence regarding primary care patient attachment update be pulled for separate discussion.

Resolution Number: 65-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

That the items listed on the Consent Agenda excluding Item 9.9 Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team correspondence regarding primary care patient update be received for information.

CARRIED

- 9.9 Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team correspondence regarding primary care patient attachment update

The Deputy Mayor highlighted the memo from the Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team regarding primary care patient attachment to raise awareness about how residents without a current primary care provider can register with Health Care Connect to be matched with local practitioners accepting new patients, including those whose provider is retiring or who have moved.

Resolution Number: 66-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

That Item 9.9 Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team correspondence regarding primary patient care update be received for information.

CARRIED

10. Staff Reports Requiring Action

- 10.2 Report PW-07-26 - Grey County Urban Roads Transfer Follow Up

Staff identified significant concerns regarding the download of Grey County connecting link roads to the Town, noting that the proposed transfer is contrary to the Grey County Transportation Master Plan. Further funding for such a transfer is neither secure nor guaranteed long-term. They also noted that growth in Hanover benefits the entire region, and any road transfer must be structured fairly and equitably for all municipalities. Council stressed the need to share these concerns with other lower-tier municipalities and County Council, highlighting the broader negative impacts on lower tiers and how these effects could harm the county as a whole. Council requested information from staff demonstrating why the transfer may be detrimental county-wide, so the Mayor and Deputy Mayor can present it effectively at the county level.

An executive summary will be provided with the full report to Grey County council.

Resolution Number: 67-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

That council receive Report PW-07-26 Grey County Road Transfer Follow Up; and

That council supports and directs staff to provide comments detailed to Grey County; and

That council requests that Grey County defer the proposed road transfer with further consideration of the comments numbered 1 to 7 and financial modelling issues numbered 1 to 9 detailed within the report; and

That staff report be circulated to all Grey County municipalities.

CARRIED

10.3 Report PW-06-26 - 2026 Road Resurfacing Tender

Resolution Number: 68-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR FLEET

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That Report PW-06-26 2026 Road Resurfacing Tender be received; and

That council accepts the tender by Duncor Enterprises Inc. for the 2026 supply and application of micro road resurfacing for the cost of \$51,366.70 plus HST.

CARRIED

10.4 Report DCS-03-26 - Donation Policy

Resolution Number: 69-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

That Report DCS-03-26 Donation Policy be received; and

That council approve the Donation Policy, as detailed in DCS-03-26.

CARRIED

10.5 Report PB-06-26 - Block 124 Tree Retention Subdivision Agreement Amendment (2501563 Ontario Inc – Saugeen Cedar Heights West)

Resolution Number: 70-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That Report PB-06-26 Block 124 Tree Retention Subdivision Agreement Amendment (2501563 Ontario Inc. – Saugeen Cedar Heights West) be received; and

That council pass By-Law No. 3384-26 to amend By-Law No. 3353-23, being a by-law to enter into a Subdivision Agreement Amendment between the Town of Hanover and 2501563 Ontario Inc.

CARRIED

10.6 Report CAO-06-26 - CAO Recruitment

Resolution Number: 71-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Seconded by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

That Report CAO-06-26 CAO Recruitment be received; and

That council approve engaging the services of an External Recruitment Firm for CAO recruitment; and

That Councillor Hudson be appointed to the recruitment ad hoc committee.

CARRIED

11. Committees of Council Minutes

11.1 Finance Committee Minutes - February 23, 2026

11.2 Joint Health & Safety Committee Minutes - March 2, 2026

11.3 Planning Advisory Committee Minutes - March 10, 2026

Resolution Number: 72-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Seconded by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

That the minutes of the following committees be received for information and the recommendations contained therein be hereby approved;

- Finance Committee Minutes - February 23, 2026
- Joint Health & Safety Committee Minutes - March 2, 2026
- Planning Advisory Committee Minutes - March 10, 2026

CARRIED

12. By-Laws

12.1 By-law 3384-26 - Authorize Execution of Subdivision Agreement Amendment (2501563 Ontario Inc.)

12.2 By-law 3385-26 - Authorize Execution of Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program - Health and Safety Water Stream Transfer Payment Agreement

Resolution Number: 73-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR FLEET

Seconded by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

That by-law 3384-26 and by-law 3385-26 be introduced;

That they be taken as read a first, second and third time, finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and inserted in the By-law book.

13. Correspondence Requiring Action

None

14. Notice of Motion

None

15. Good News and Celebrations**16. Upcoming Committee Meetings**

- 16.1 Age Friendly Committee - Monday April 13, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.2 Economic, Tourism & Cultural Development Committee - March 18, 2026 | 9:00am
- 16.3 Cultural Roundtable Subcommittee - Wednesday April 1, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.4 Heritage Subcommittee - Thursday April 23, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.5 Planning Advisory Committee - Tuesday May 12, 2026 | 4:00pm
- 16.6 Hanover Police Service Board - Monday April 20, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.7 Hanover Public Library Board - Wednesday March 18, 2026 | 6:00pm
- 16.8 Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee - Wednesday March 25, 2026 | 6:00pm
- 16.9 Hanover / Walkerton Waste Management Committee - Tuesday May 12, 2026 | 9:30am
- 16.10 Saugeen Municipal Airport Commission - Wednesday March 18, 2026 | 1:00pm
- 16.11 Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Board - Thursday March 19, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.12 Committee of Adjustment - Thursday April 2, 2026 | 4:00pm

17. Important Dates and Announcements

- 17.1 Next Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday April 7, 2026 | 4:00pm

18. Closed Meeting

Resolution Number: 74-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That the council of the Town of Hanover meet in closed session in order to discuss matters pertaining to:

Third-party information supplied in confidence to the municipality which if disclosed, could significantly prejudice a competitive position or interfere with negotiations with respect to development servicing.

Information supplied in confidence by another level of government with respect to West Grey and Hanover boundary adjustment; and

A labour relations matter with respect to collective bargaining.

CARRIED

Hanover council reconvened in open session at 8:34pm. The Chair confirmed that council met in closed session and only discussed matters pertaining to

Third-party information supplied in confidence to the municipality which if disclosed, could significantly prejudice a competitive position or interfere with negotiations with respect to development servicing.

Information supplied in confidence by another level of government with respect to West Grey and Hanover boundary adjustment; and

A labour relations matter with respect to collective bargaining.

19. Confirmation of Proceedings By-law

19.1 By-law 3386-26 - Confirm Proceedings of the March 16, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

Resolution Number: 75-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

That By-law number 3386-26 be introduced; and

That it be read a first, second and third time, finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and inserted in the By-law book.

CARRIED

20. Adjournment

Resolution Number: 76-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Seconded by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

THAT this meeting of Hanover Council now be adjourned at 8:35pm

CARRIED

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDonald, Clerk