

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KINCARDINE

Council Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Council Present	Mayor Kenneth Craig Deputy Mayor Andrea Clarke Councillor Beth Blackwell Councillor Rory Cavanagh Councillor Jennifer Prenger Councillor Bill Stewart Councillor Stellina Williams
Council Absent	Councillor Mike Hinchberger Councillor Amanda Steinhoff-Gray
Staff Present	Jillene Belchamber-Glazier, Chief Administrative Officer Jennifer Lawrie, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk Roxana Baumann, Director of Corporate Services Anne-Marie Thomson, Manager of Recreation Dwayne McNab, Manager of Development Services Lorie Fioze, Manager Strategic Initiatives Nicole Bauman, Legislative Services Administrative Assistant

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Craig called to order the Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Kincardine at 5:00 p.m. on May 14, 2025 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Administration Centre.

1.1 **Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Deputy Mayor Clarke opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

2. **Amendments, Additions or Deletions To/From the Agenda**

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 01

Moved by: Jennifer Prenger

Seconded by: Rory Cavanagh

THAT Council approve the following addition to the Agenda:

- i) 7.4 a. Motions – Motion regarding Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025.

Carried.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

3.1 Bill Stewart - 6.1 a. Code of Conduct Complaint - Councillor Stewart

Can not take part in a vote against myself.

3.2 Stellina Williams - 5.2 a. 705 Princes Street Petition

Husband's employer Bruce Power and my employer Nuclear Innovation Institute have an indirect pecuniary interest in the property.

3.3 Beth Blackwell - 5.2 a. 705 Princes Street Petition

Husband is employed by Bruce Power, who has pecuniary interest in the property.

3.4 Jennifer Prenger - 5.2 a. 705 Princes Street Petition

My employer Nuclear Innovation Institute have an indirect pecuniary interest in the property.

4. Adoption of Minutes from Regular and Special Meetings of Council

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 02

Moved by: Andrea Clarke

Seconded by: Beth Blackwell

That the minutes of the Council meetings held on April 23, 2025 be adopted as printed.

Carried.

5. Matters for Public Participation

5.1 Committee of Adjustment

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 03

Moved by: Bill Stewart

Seconded by: Rory Cavanagh

That Council move into the Committee of Adjustment Meeting and upon completion return to Council.

Carried.

5.2 Delegations and Presentations

Councillor Blackwell, Councillor Prenger and Councillor Blackwell left the Chambers

a. 705 Princes Street Petition

Stellina Williams declared a conflict on this item. (Husband's employer Bruce Power and my employer Nuclear Innovation Institute have an indirect pecuniary interest in the property.)

Beth Blackwell declared a conflict on this item. (Husband is employed by Bruce Power, who has pecuniary interest in the property.)

Jennifer Prenger declared a conflict on this item. (My employer Nuclear Innovation Institute have an indirect pecuniary interest in the property.)

Bill Brown presented a Petition regarding the proposed development at 705 Princes Street.

Councillor Blackwell, Councillor Prenger and Councillor Blackwell returned to the Chambers

6. Matters for Discussion and Direction

6.1 Integrity Commissioner Report

a. Code of Conduct Complaint - Councillor Stewart

Bill Stewart declared a conflict on this item. (Can not take part in a vote against myself.)

Jeffrey Abrams, Principles Integrity was present for this report.

Councillor Stewart left the Council table while voting occurred on Resolution 05/14/2025-04 and Resolution 05/14/2025 - 05 but did take part in the debate.

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 04

Moved by: Beth Blackwell

Seconded by: Rory Cavanagh

That having been found to have breached the Code of Conduct, the remuneration of Councillor Stewart be suspended for a period of one week (equivalent to half of a pay period).

Defeated.

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 05

Moved by: Jennifer Prenger

Seconded by: Stellina Williams

That Council receive the Principles Integrity Report "Municipality of Kincardine Code of Conduct Compliant Against Councillor Bill Stewart Recommendation Report May 5, 2025" as written.

Carried.

6.2 Staff Reports

- a. Saugeen Mobility – Enhanced Services Agreement Update, CAO General-2025-06

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 06

Moved by: Kenneth Craig

Seconded by: Bill Stewart

That Council defer the motion until we hear back from SMART Board

Carried.

- b. Amending Development Agreement – Bradstones Developments Inc., Development Services-2025-09

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 07

Moved by: Bill Stewart

Seconded by: Stellina Williams

That the Council of the Municipality of Kincardine pass a by-law to enter into an Amending Agreement with Bradstones Development Inc.; and

Further that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any documents and agreements on behalf of the Municipality.

Carried.

- c. Amendment to Procurement Policy, Financial Services-2025-09

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 08

Moved by: Bill Stewart

Seconded by: Rory Cavanagh

That Council adopt the amendments included in the attached updated Procurement Policy FIN.08; and

That Council repeal the former Purchasing and Procurement Policy GG.2.17.

Carried.

7. Matters for Decision

7.1 Notice of Motion - Prior to the Meeting

- a. Organics Motion

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 09

Moved by: Beth Blackwell

Seconded by: Jennifer Prenger

Whereas the County of Bruce has established a Waste Management Sub-Committee which has been tasked with coordinating the exploration and possible introduction of a local source separated organics program; and

Whereas source separated organics programs are a proven and effective method of diverting waste from landfills; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Municipality of Kincardine formally endorse the leadership role undertaken by the County of Bruce to determine the feasibility of a local source separated organics program; and

Further that Council request the Mayor to consider including funding in the 2026 budget to support the advancement of this initiative within the Municipality of Kincardine, if required.

Carried.

b. Motion to Address the Expansion of Strong Mayor Powers

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 10

Moved by: Rory Cavanagh

Seconded by: Stellina Williams

Whereas the Ontario government has granted 'strong mayor powers' to 170 additional municipalities under this legislation with an intent to accelerate provincial priorities, streamline processes, and increase accountability and

Whereas the Municipality of Kincardine recognizes the opportunity to address these outcomes without exercising 'strong mayor powers'; and

Whereas 'strong mayor powers' include anti-democratic principles that will result in the centralization of power, erosion of local democracy and democratic participation, reduced accountability, and the potential for the abuse of power as expressed by many other municipalities as well as political and administrative municipal associations in Ontario; and

Whereas the expansion of 'strong mayor powers' undermines the collaborative nature of municipal governance and the decision-making processes, and diminishes the role of elected municipal councillors in representing the diverse interests of the ratepayers and broader community, if mayors are given the ability to bypass council decisions without adequate consultation or oversight; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Kincardine hereby opposes 'strong mayor powers'; and

That the Council formally expresses its opposition to the Ontario government's decision to expand 'strong mayor powers' in favour of preserving local democracy, transparency, and accountability; and

That the Council encourages advocacy for democratic principles and for municipal governance systems that prioritize collaboration, inclusivity, and democratic engagement; and

That the Council formally requests that the Ontario government rescind these Strong Mayor Powers from the Municipality of Kincardine; and

That Council adopt the principles of accelerating provincial priorities, streamline processes, and increase accountability – recognizing 'strong mayor powers' are not needed in order to address these goals; and further be resolved

That a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Province, the other 170 municipalities granted Strong Mayor Powers, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried.

- c. Motion to Improve the Composition and Governance of Council

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 11

Moved by: Rory Cavanagh

Seconded by: Stellina Williams

Whereas Section 217 (1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 authorizes a local municipality to change the composition of its council; and

Whereas this reduction in Council size improves government efficiency, maintains the existing ward system for broader representation, and provides greater fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers; and

Whereas the Municipality of Kincardine seeks to establish a council structure that best serves the specific needs of our community while maintaining local decision-making authority; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Kincardine direct Staff to make all necessary and required changes such that the 2026 elected Council of the Municipality of Kincardine will be made up of 5 members, consisting of:

- a Mayor, to be elected at-large
- two (2) Councillors, to be elected for Ward 1
- one (1) Councillor, to be elected for Ward 2
- one (1) Councillor, to be elected for Ward 3

Withdrawn.

7.2 Notice of Motion - At the Meeting

None.

7.3 Consideration of By-laws

- a. Rates & Fees Amendment (2) By-law

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 12

Moved by: Beth Blackwell

Seconded by: Bill Stewart

That the “2025 Rates and Fee Amendment (2) By-law” be deemed to be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025 - 066.

Carried.

- b. Motion to Pass By-laws

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 13

Moved by: Rory Cavanagh

Seconded by: Jennifer Prenger

That the following By-laws are hereby read a first, second and third time, and finally passed this 14th day of May, 2025:

1. Bradstones Amending Agreement By-law No. 2025 - 067; and
2. Procurement Policy By-law No. 2025 - 068 .

Carried.

7.4 Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 14

Moved by: Jennifer Prenger

Seconded by: Beth Blackwell

Whereas the Ontario government has fast-tracked Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025 (Bill 5), such that it was referred to the Standing Committee on the Interior on May 6, 2025, after being first read on April 17, 2025, and

Whereas the written submission deadline for participation on Bill 5 is May 26, 2025, at 6:00 PM (EDT), and

Whereas Bill 5 would enact the Special Economic Zones Act, 2025; amend/repeal the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and replace it by enacting the Species Conservation Act, 2025; and amend various Acts including the Ontario Heritage Act, the Mining Act, the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, and the Electricity Act, 1998 and to revoke various regulations in relation to development and procurement, and

Whereas Bill 5 will allow the Lieutenant Governor in Council to create zones anywhere in Ontario where municipal and provincial laws will not apply, and where projects or proponents can be exempted from requirements under provisions of an Act or of a regulation, including environmental and heritage laws, and

Whereas the provisions of Bill 5 as written include anti-democratic principles and risks undermining civil liberties, Indigenous rights, the environment and local government oversight, and

Whereas the Municipality of Kincardine believes that the provincial priorities of housing, resource development and economic development can be achieved without subverting existing laws, undermining municipal authority, threatening the environment, restricting industry growth, or undermining informed consent with Indigenous communities; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Kincardine hereby opposes Bill 5; and

That Council formally express its opposition to Bill 5 in favour of preserving democracy, transparency, accountability, the environment, civil liberties, and Indigenous rights; and

That Council encourage the province to prioritize democratic principles and governance systems that support responsible development, environmental preservation, and acknowledge our responsibility to future generations; and

That Council formally request that the Ontario government reject Bill 5; and

That a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; MPP Lisa Thompson; all Ontario municipalities; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and the Standing Committee on the Interior.

Carried.

8. Matters for Information

8.1 Consent Agenda

Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and are enacted in one motion as a Matter Arising. The exception to this rule is that a Council member or the Chief Administrative Officer may request one or more items to be removed from the consent agenda for separate discussion and action.

- a. Administrative Motions
 - a. Request Noise By-law Exemption - Cameron
 - b. Request Noise By-law Exemption - Showalter
- b. Statistical and Information Reports
 - a. Mayor's Report - 2025 CNA Conference
 - b. Statement of Operations - Ending March 31, 2025
- c. Minutes of Committees and Boards

- a. Draft Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes - April 17, 2025
- b. SMART Minutes - March 21, 2025
- d. Communications
 - a. Association of Municipalities of Ontario
 - a. AMO 2025 Program Insights
 - b. Events - Municipal Trade and Tariff Forum
 - c. Events - Rural Healthy Democracy Forum
 - d. Events - Strategic Leadership Workshops
 - e. Policy Update - Bill 5, Homelessness Encampments Bill, Report on Tariffs Impact Construction
 - f. Policy Update - Municipal Governance Changes
 - g. Policy Update - Spring Policy Priorities
 - h. Watchfile April 17, 2025
 - i. Watchfile April 24, 2025
 - j. Watchfile May 1, 2025
 - b. Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre - May 9 Artist Talk and Screening
 - c. Bruce Power - Bruce A and B 2024 Annual Report on Environmental Protection
 - d. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Letter to Heads of Council re Strong Mayor Powers
 - e. Motions Other Municipalities
 - a. Champlain Township - Surveillance Monitoring Heavy Vehicles Ontario
 - b. City of Richmond Hill - Provincial regulations needed to restrict keeping of non-native ("exotic") wild animals
 - c. Town of Alymer - Motion to Oppose Expansion of Strong Mayor Powers

- d. Town of Parry Sound - Call for inclusive research to reflect diversity of Canadian communities
- e. Town of Parry Sound - Letter to MMAH re Strong Mayor Powers
- f. Town of Petawawa - Strong Mayor Designation
- g. Town of Plympton-Wyoming - Strong Mayor Powers
- h. Town of Tecumseh - Resolution letter - Strong Mayor Powers

8.1 Consent Agenda

- e. Acceptance of Consent Agenda

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 15

Moved by: Andrea Clarke

Seconded by: Stellina Williams

That Council approve the recommendations contained in the consent agenda dated May 14, 2025 and direct staff to proceed with all necessary administrative actions.

Carried.

8.2 Members of Council General Announcements

8.3 Chief Administrative Officer Announcements

9. Closed Session (If Required)

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 16

Moved by: Stellina Williams

Seconded by: Rory Cavanagh

That Council move into closed session pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the purpose of considering:

- 1) The Closed Session minutes dated April 23, 2025;
- 2) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Municipality or Local Board (Beach Swimming Lessons); and

Further, that Council return to Regular open meeting upon completion.

Carried.

9.1 Matters Arising from Closed Session

Mayor Craig reported that pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, Council discussed the following items in Closed Session:

- 1) The Closed Session minutes dated April 23, 2025, were approved; and
- 2) Direction was provided to staff regarding the Beach Swimming Lessons.

10. Confirmatory By-law

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 17

Moved by: Beth Blackwell

Seconded by: Rory Cavanagh

That the By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Kincardine of May 14, 2025 be deemed to be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025 - 069.

Carried.

11. Adjournment

Resolution # 05/14/2025 - 18

Moved by: Andrea Clarke

Seconded by: Jennifer Prenger

That this Council Meeting adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk