

REGULAR AGENDA – AGENDA 44
CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD
July 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm
Laird Township Council Chambers

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**
3. **Agenda Approval**
Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby approves the July 17, 2025 agenda as presented.
4. **Delegations and Presentations**
 - a. Stefanizzi Professional Corporation Chartered Professional Accountant **P. 5 - 32**
 - i. Consolidated Financial Statements for year ended December 31, 2024
DRAFT
 - b. North Shore Agricultural Society (NSAS) – Patrick Connolly, President
 - i. NSAS use of fairgrounds on dates other than the Laird Fair weekend.
5. **Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**
 - a. Council Regular Meeting – June 19, 2025 **P. 33 - 38**
 - b. Recreation Committee Meeting – June 24, 2025 – No Quorum
Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves minutes of the Regular Council meeting of June 19, 2025.
6. **Adoption of Accounts**
 - a. General accounts to June 30, 2025 **P. 39**
Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the general accounts to June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$10,798.75.
 - b. Roads accounts to June 30, 2025 **P. 40**
Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the roads account to June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$67,496.01.
7. **Staff and Committee Reports**
 - a. **Road Superintendent** (Roads, Waste Disposal & Recycling, and Maintenance)
 - i. Road Superintendent Report
Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Road Superintendent Report dated July 17, 2025, as presented.
 - ii. Council Q&A

b. Clerk Administrator, Deputy Treasurer

i. Clerk's Report

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Clerk's Report dated July 17, 2025, as presented.

ii. Task Summary Sheet & Recent Activity Log **P. 41 - 41**

iii. Concern/Information Log – Updates **P. 43 - 44**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the July 17, 2025, Task Summary Sheet & Recent Activity Log and the Concern/Information Log as presented.

iv. Council Q&A

c. Treasurer's Report

d. Recreation Committee & Recreation Sub-Committees

i. Wharf Sub-committee Minutes – June 25, 2025 **P. 45 - 47**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the June 25, 2025, Wharf Sub-committee minutes.

ii. 2025 Committee and Board – Addition to Wharf Sub-committee **P. 48 - 49**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves adding Carol Ranta as a member of the Wharf Sub-committee.

e. Cemetery Board

f. Planning Board

g. Police Detachment Board

h. Algoma District Services Administrative Board

i. Algoma District Municipal Association (ADMA)

8. Unfinished Business

a. Algoma Power Echo Bay to St. Joseph Community Tree Giveaway **P. 50 - 52**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to reach out to organizers Paul and Tania Hazelett to confirm that Council would like Laird Township to participate in the Algoma Power Echo Bay to St. Joseph Community Tree Giveaway, and to have staff let the organizers know when the next Township newsletter will be issued in order to advertise the community tree giveaway event.

9. New Business

a. Memo: Modernizing Municipal Payment and Revenue Collection with Access2Pay **P. 53 - 57**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Modernizing Municipal Payment and Revenue Collection with Access2Pay report for information, and THAT Council directs staff to schedule a formal proposal review

with Access2Pay, explore funding options, and to return to Council with a recommendation implementation plan and agreement for approval.

10. Notices of Motion

11. Closed Session

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council proceed into closed session at _____ p.m. in accordance with Section 239 (2) (a) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

- a. Approval of closed meeting minutes of June 17, 2025.
- b. Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees. (2 matters)

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council come out of closed meeting session at _____ p.m. and continue with the Regular Council Meeting.

Consideration of and action on matters arising out of the closed meeting.

12. Communications and Correspondence

- a. Dr. Harold S. Trefry Memorial Centre, RE: Thank you for your Support, June 17, 2025 **P. 58**
- b. Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, RE: Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant, July 7, 2025 **P. 59 - 60**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to participate in information sessions for the Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant and to apply for grant.

- c. Support Resolution: City of Pickering, RE: Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), June 6, 2025 **P. 61 - 63**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council supports the Municipality of Pickering's' resolution requesting the Ontario Provincial Government to significantly raise the payments of Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and the increases be reflected in the upcoming Provincial Budget and that the increased amount aligns with inflationary costs and thereby decrease the pressure on food bants and the reliance on municipalities and taxpayers to supplement the gap in financial need; and,

THAT the resolution be forwarded to all Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

- d. Jody Wildman, RE: Meeting with the Opposition, July 14, 2025 **P. 64**

- e. Hydro One, RE: North Shore Link Project, July 2025 **P. 65 - 66**
- f. Township of Tarbutt, RE: Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board, June 19, 2025 **P. 67**

13. Mayor and Council Comments

14. By-laws

- a. 2058-25 Conformity By-law **P. 68**

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts By-law 2058-25 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on July 17, 2025.

15. Adjournment

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council shall now adjourn to meet again on August 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Laird Fairgrounds for a Special Site Meeting or until the call of the chair.

Note: The next regular scheduled meeting is August 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird
Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2024

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Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements for the Corporation of the Township of Laird (the "Township") are the responsibility of management of the township and have been prepared in compliance with legislation, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principals for local governments established by the Public Sector Accounting Board. A summary of significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 of the financial statements. The preparation of the financial statements involves the use of estimates based on management's judgement, including transactions in the current financial period relating to future periods.

Management maintains and monitors a system of internal controls which are designed to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized and recorded in compliance with regulatory and legislative requirements, reliable financial information is available on a timely basis and assets are appropriately safeguarded.

Council is responsible to ensure management's fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements.

These financial statements have been audited by Stefanizzi Professional Corporation in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards on behalf of the inhabitants and ratepayers of the Township. The accompanying auditor's report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of the examination and the opinion on the Township's financial statements.

Jennifer Errington - Clerk

Rhonda Crozier - Treasurer

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of Council, inhabitants and Ratepayers of The Corporation of the Township of Laird:

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of The Corporation of the Township of Laird (the Township), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in remeasurement gains (losses), change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Corporation of the Township of Laird as at December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations, its' remeasurement gains (losses), its' change in net financial assets and its' cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the Township in accordance with the ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Township's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Township or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Township's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statement

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Township's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Township to cease as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I also communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Stefanizzi Professional Corporation
Chartered Professional Accountant, authorized to practice public accounting by
The Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31,	2024	2023
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 531,708	\$ 632,289
Portfolio investments (note 2)	913,757	828,039
Taxes receivable - no allowance	330,182	199,105
Accounts receivable - no allowance	385,401	192,896
Government remittances recoverable	134,771	147,309
	2,295,819	1,999,638
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	47,589	39,857
Asset retirement obligation (note 4)	1,893,512	1,859,040
	1,941,101	1,898,897
Net financial assets	354,718	100,740
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (schedule 1)	10,055,400	9,666,413
Prepaid expenses	9,487	-
	10,064,887	9,666,413
Accumulated surplus (note 5)	\$10,419,605	\$ 9,767,153

Approved on behalf of council:

Jennifer Errington - Clerk

Rhonda Crozier - Treasurer

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, (with comparative figures for the prior year)

	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
Revenues			
Taxation (note 6)	\$ 1,889,928	\$ 1,920,073	\$ 1,783,829
Federal grants	70,489	71,523	69,299
Provincial grants	873,161	867,449	829,689
Other municipalities	2,000	7,719	4,376
Fees and user charges	100,423	155,500	125,380
Other Income	77,000	133,865	65,397
	3,013,001	3,156,129	2,877,970
Expenditures			
Current			
General government	440,420	490,715	414,804
Protection	261,224	312,668	267,808
Transportation services	991,550	629,605	851,287
Environmental services	167,215	185,187	158,310
Health Services	76,202	80,910	51,593
Social and family services	512,144	509,172	491,054
Recreation and cultural services	41,946	277,975	210,805
Planning and development	30,729	17,446	18,383
	2,521,430	2,503,678	2,464,044
Annual surplus	491,571	652,451	413,926
Annual surplus, beginning of year	9,767,154	9,767,154	9,353,228
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$10,258,725	\$10,419,605	\$ 9,767,154
Accumulated surplus represented by:			
Accumulated operating surplus		\$10,395,683	\$ 9,748,045
Accumulated remeasurement gains (losses)		\$ 23,922	\$ 19,109
		\$10,419,605	\$ 9,767,154

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, (with comparative figures for the prior year)

	Budget (Unaudited) 2024	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
Annual surplus,	\$ 491,571	\$ 652,451	\$ 413,926
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(669,941)	(759,649)	(729,644)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	370,663	368,282
Acquisition of prepaid expenses	-	(9,487)	-
Net change in net financial assets	(178,370)	253,978	52,564
Net financial assets, beginning of year	100,740	100,740	48,176
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ (77,630)	\$ 354,718	\$ 100,740

The Corporation of the Township of Laird
Statement of Re-measurement Gains and Losses

Year ended December 31, (with comparative figures for the prior year)

	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
Accumulated re-measurement gains, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ -
Accumulated Re-measurement gains, beginning of year	\$ 19,109	\$ -
Unrealized gains attributable to:		
Investments	4,813	19,109
Accumulated re-measurement gains, end of year	\$ 23,922	\$ 19,109

The Corporation of the Township of Laird **Statement of Cash Flow**

For the year ended December 31,	2024	2023
Cash provided by (used for):		
Operating transactions		
	\$ 652,451	\$ 413,926
Changes in non-cash operating items:		
Taxes receivable	(131,077)	(125,918)
Accounts receivable	(192,505)	63,428
Prepaid expenses	(9,487)	-
Accounts payable	7,732	(54,223)
Asset retirement obligation	34,472	33,924
Government remittances recoverable	12,538	246,428
	374,124	577,565
Annual depreciation	370,663	368,282
	744,787	945,847
Financing:		
Net investment income	(85,717)	-
Investing transactions		
Capital additions	(759,649)	(729,644)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents for the year	(100,579)	216,203
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	632,287	416,084
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 531,708	\$ 632,287

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

1. **Summary of significant accounting policies**

Non-consolidated entities

The following local boards, joint local boards and municipal enterprises are not consolidated:

Algoma District Services Administration Board
Algoma Public Health

Revenue recognition

Revenues and expenditures are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Expenditures are recognized in the period the goods or services are acquired and a legal liability is incurred or transfers are due. Revenues are recognized as follows:

- a) Tax revenue is recognized in the calendar year to which the tax assessment applies and the assessment is known.
- b) Fines and donations are recognized when collected.
- c) Fees and user charges are recognized when the services are performed or goods are delivered, collection of the relevant receivable is probable, persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists and fees are fixed or determinable. Amounts received for future services are deferred until the service is provided.
- d) Interest income is recognized in the period in which it is earned.

Deferred revenue

Revenue restricted by legislation, regulation or agreement and not available for general municipal purposes is reported as deferred revenue on the consolidated balance sheet. The revenue is reported on the consolidated statement of financial activities in the year in which it is used for the specified purpose.

Reserves and reserve funds

Certain amounts, as approved by council, are set aside in reserves and reserve funds for future operating and capital purposes. Transfers to and/or from reserves and reserve funds are an adjustment to the respective fund when approved.

Government transfers

Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements as revenues in the period in which events giving rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, and eligibility criteria have been met and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

Contributed goods and services

Goods and services contributed to the Township are recorded at their fair market value at the time of their occurrence.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include bank deposits and short-term GICs that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. These cash equivalents generally have a maturity of twelve months or less at acquisition and are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investing.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates include allowance for doubtful accounts, inventory obsolescence, environmental liabilities, useful life of capital assets, and accruals. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

Accounting for school board transactions

The taxation, other revenues, expenditures, assets and liabilities with respect to the operations of the school boards are not reflected in the municipal fund balances of these consolidated financial statements.

Trust funds

Trust funds and their related operations administered by the Municipality are not consolidated, but are reported separately on the Trust Funds Statement of Continuity and Balance Sheet.

Basis of accounting

Sources of financing and expenses are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes revenues as they become available and measurable; expenditures are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipt of goods or services and the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

Asset retirement obligations

The liability for closure of operational site and post-closure care has been recognized based on estimated future expenses, estimated inflation and discount rate. Assumptions used in the subsequent calculations are revised annually.

Actual remediation costs incurred are charged against the obligation to the extent the liability recorded and the associated liability is recognized through the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year, and are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations. The change in non-financial assets during the year, together with the excess of revenue over expenses, provides the change in net financial assets for the year.

(a) Capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost, which includes all amounts that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the tangible asset. The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets are amortized on a straight-line bases over their estimated useful lives as follows:

	Useful Life - Years
Buildings	40
Roads	10 - 50
Sidewalks	30
Bridge structure	30
Water infrastructure	50
Sewer infrastructure	50
Fleet	8-20

In the year of acquisition, capital assets are amortized at one-half the above rates.

(b) Contribution of tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets received as contributions are recorded at their fair value at the date of receipt, and that fair value is also recorded as revenue.

(c) Interest capitalization

Interest is capitalized whenever external debt is issued to finance the construction of tangible capital assets.

(d) Leases

Leases are classified as capital or operating leases. Leases which transfer substantially all of the benefits and risks incidental to ownership of property are accounted for as capital leases. All other leases are accounted for as operating leases and the related lease payments are charged to expenses as incurred.

Amounts to be recovered

Amounts to be recovered are reported in the municipal position on the consolidated balance sheet. The balance represents future expenditures not yet levied on the ratepayers.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Budget figures

Budget figures have been reclassified for the purposes of these financial statements to comply with PSAB reporting requirements. The approved operating budget and capital budgets are reflected on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and are unaudited. The budgets established for capital investment in tangible capital assets are on a project-oriented basis, the costs of which may be carried out over one or more years and, therefore, may not be comparable with current year's actual expenditure amounts. As well, the Township does not budget activity within Reserves and Reserve Funds, with the exception being those transactions, which affect either operations or capital investments.

Future Employee Benefits

The Municipality participates in a pension plan for employees. The Municipality is an employer member of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS), which is a multi-employer, defined benefit pension plan. The Board of Trustees, representing plan members and employers, is responsible for overseeing the management of the pension plan, including investment of the assets and administration of benefits. The Municipality has adopted defined contribution plan accounting principles for this plan because insufficient information is available to apply defined benefit plan accounting principles. The Municipality records as pension expense the current service cost, amortization of past service costs and interest costs related to the future employer contributions to the plan for past employee service, where applicable.

Financial Instruments

The Township initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value adjusted by, in the case of a financial instrument that will not be measured subsequently at fair value, the amount of transaction costs directly attributable to the instrument.

The Municipality subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for investments in equity securities that are quoted in an active market or financial assets or liabilities designated to the fair value category, which are subsequently measured at fair value. Unrealized changes in fair value are in the Consolidated Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses until they are subsequently realized, when they are transferred to the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus.

The Township's financial instruments measured at amortized cost consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, landfill site closure liability, deferred revenue and municipal long-term debt. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Township is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

2. Portfolio investments

	2024	2023
Cash and guaranteed investment certificates	\$ 186,113	\$ 171,247
Fixed income	156,368	135,569
Securities and mutual funds	571,276	521,223
	\$ 913,757	\$ 828,039

Portfolio investments held by the municipality include guaranteed investment certificates, government bonds and securities. Interest rates on fixed income investments range from 0.25% to 1.5% and mature between March 2024 and September 2026.

3. Bank indebtedness

The bank indebtedness includes an authorized overdraft limit of \$100,000 at a rate of bank prime plus 0.5% per annum. The overdraft is secured by a pledge agreement covering taxes receivable of the Township.

4. Asset retirement obligation

The Township owns and operates one landfill site. The liability for the closure of operational sites and post-closure care has been recognized under PS 3280 – Asset Retirement Obligation. The costs were based upon the most recent valuation prepared on December 31, 2023. The estimated year of closure for the landfill is 2073 and 30 year post closure activities have been estimated by the engineer.

The present value of the closure and post closure costs are estimated at \$1,859,040 using a discount rate of 2.25% per annum. A reserve of \$276,274 has been established to fund the future closure costs.

Changes to the asset retirement obligation in the year as follows

	2024	2023
Opening balance of obligation	\$ 1,859,040	\$ 1,825,116
Accretion expense	34,473	33,924
	\$ 1,893,513	\$ 1,859,040

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

5. Accumulated surplus

The accumulated surplus is comprised of the following:

	2024	2023
Fund balances set aside for specific purposes by Council:		
- to be applied to the operation of local boards	\$ 69,960	\$ 69,960
Reserves set aside for specific purposes by Council:		
- For general and administrative use	1,214,259	676,873
- Laird Fair Grounds	-	6,400
- Bar River Hall	-	113,875
- Heritage	-	15,000
- G.W Evoy Rink	-	27,500
- Fire department capital	300,032	220,032
- Landfill closure and post-closure	306,775	276,775
- Road equipment	90,000	-
- Wharf	276,691	276,691
	2,187,757	1,613,146
Total operating, reserves and reserve funds	2,257,717	1,683,106
Invested in tangible capital assets	10,055,400	9,666,413
Funds to be provided from future revenues	(1,893,512)	(1,582,366)
Accumulated surplus	\$10,419,605	\$ 9,767,153

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

6. Taxation

	2024	2023
Taxation revenue	\$ 2,176,702	\$ 2,069,630
Less: Amount levied and remitted to school boards	256,629	285,801
	\$ 1,920,073	\$ 1,783,829

7. Expenditures by object

	2024	2023
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	\$ 664,628	\$ 574,045
Materials	525,999	669,824
Amortization	370,663	368,282
Contracted and general services	942,388	851,893
	\$ 2,503,678	\$ 2,464,044

8. Pension agreements

The Township makes contributions to the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement Fund (OMERS), which is a multi-employer plan, on behalf of seven members of its staff. The plan is a defined benefit plan which specifies the amount of the retirement benefit to be received by the employees based on the length of service and rates of pay. The most recent actuarial valuation of the plan was completed on December 31, 2024. The results of this valuation disclosed total going concern actuarial liabilities of \$142,289 million (2023 - \$136,185 million) and net going concern actuarial assets of \$139,576 million (2023 - \$131,983 million), indicating a going concern actuarial deficit of \$2,913 million (2023 - \$4,202 million). As OMERS is a multi-employer plan, any pension plan surpluses or deficits are the joint responsibility of Ontario municipal organizations and their employees. The Township's individual share is not determinable, and as a result, the Township does not recognize any share of the OMERS pension deficit.

Contributions made in 2024 were in the amount of \$35,541 (2023 - \$28,614). No pension liability for this type of plan is included in the Township's financial statements.

9. Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act

No employee was paid an annual salary of \$100,000 or more as defined by the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

10. Contributions to unconsolidated joint boards

The following contributions were made by the Township to these boards:

	2024	2023
Algoma District Service Administration Board	\$ 509,172	\$ 491,054
Algoma Public Health	48,052	45,332
	<u>\$ 557,224</u>	<u>\$ 536,386</u>

The Township is contingently liable for its share of any accumulated deficits of the above boards as well as long term liabilities issued by other Municipalities for these boards.

11. Trust funds

Trust funds administrated by the Township amounting to \$38,588 (2023 - \$33,210) have not been included in the "Consolidated Balance Sheet" nor have their operations been included in the "Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities".

12. Budget

The Budget adopted by Council was not prepared on a basis consistent with that used to report actual results (Public Sector Accounting Standards). The budget was prepared on a modified accrual basis while Public Sector Accounting Standards now require a full accrual basis. The budget figures anticipated use of reserves and/or surpluses accumulated in previous years to reduce current year expenditures in excess of current year revenues to nil. In addition, the budget expensed all tangible capital expenditures rather than including amortization expense. As a result, the budget figures presented in the statement of operations and change in net financial assets represent the Financial Plan with adjustments as follows:

Budget Bylaw surplus for the year	\$ -
Add:	
Amortization	370,663
Less:	
Net inter-fund transfers from reserves	(198,775)
Capital transactions	319,683
Budget surplus per statement of operations	\$ 491,571

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

13. Financial Risk

The Township is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides information about the township's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2024.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Township is exposed to credit risk from customers and ratepayers. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The township has a significant number of customers and ratepayers which minimizes concentration of credit risk. Further, the township has available to it a tax registration process to recover unpaid municipal taxes by way of forced transfer of properties with multi-year arrears. Approximately 67% of accounts receivable is due from the provincial government. There is no doubt over the collectibility of this balance.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Township cannot repay its obligations when they become due to its creditors. The Township is exposed to this risk relating to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities and long-term debt.

The Township reduces its exposure to liquidity risk by monitoring cash activities and expected outflow through extensive budgeting and maintaining enough cash and credit facilities available to repay creditors as they become due. In the opinion of management the liquidity risk exposure to the Township is low.

There have been no significant changes from the previous year in the exposure to risk or policies, procedures and methods used to measure the risk.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

14. Segmented information

The municipality is a diversified local government institution that provides a wide range of services to its citizens. For management reporting purposes, municipal operations and activities are organized and reported by Fund. Funds were created for the purpose of recording specific activities to attain certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions or limitations.

Municipal services are provided by departments and their activities are reported in these funds. Certain departments that have been separately disclosed in the segmented information, along with the services they provide, are as follows:

General government

The administration department oversees the delivery of all government services. The department is responsible for ensuring that there are adequate policies and procedures in place to safeguard assets and to properly report financial activities. In addition, this department includes the governance activities of council.

Protection

Protection is comprised of the police, fire/emergency, by-law enforcement and building inspections departments. The mandate of the police is to ensure the safety of the lives and property of citizens; preserve peace and good order; prevent crimes from occurring; detect offenders; and enforce the law. The fire/emergency department is responsible to provide fire suppression service; fire prevention programs; training and education related to prevention, detection or extinguishments of fires. The by-law enforcement and building inspection department ensures properties are in compliance with applicable legislation, by-laws, building standards and construction codes.

Transportation

The transportation department is responsible for the delivery of municipal public works services related to the planning, development and maintenance of roadway systems, winter control and street lighting.

Environmental

The environmental department provides garbage collection and waste minimization programs and facilities for solid waste disposal.

Health

Through the Algoma Health Unit, the municipality contributes to public health services and education and through the Algoma District Services Administration Board, to ambulance services. In addition, this department oversees the care and maintenance of municipal cemeteries.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

Segmented information (continued)

Social and family

Through the Algoma District Services Administration Board, the municipality contributes to social assistance payments, child care services and social housing.

Recreation and cultural

The recreation and cultural department provides public services that contribute to neighbourhood development and sustainability through the provision of recreation and leisure services such as parks, arena, fitness and sports programs. It provides public services that contribute to healthy communities through partnerships, promotion, prevention, protection and enforcement. The department also contributes towards the information needs of the municipality's citizens through the provision of library services.

Planning

The planning department provides a diverse bundle of services. It manages development for business interests, environmental concerns, heritage matters and neighbourhoods through planning and community development activities. It facilitates economic development by providing services for the approval of all land development plans.

For each reported segment, revenues and expenses include both amounts that are directly attributable to the segment and amounts that are allocated on a reasonable basis. Therefore, certain allocation methodologies are employed in the preparation of segmented financial information.

The Corporation of the Township of Laird
Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets

Schedule 1

Year ended December 31, 2024

	Cost				Accumulated Amortization				2024	2023
	2024 Opening Balance	Additions and Betterments	Disposals/ Transfers	2024 Closing Balance	2024 Opening Balance	2024 Amortization Expense	Accumulated Amortization on Disposals	2024 Ending Balance	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Land	\$ 123,159	\$ -	-	\$ 123,159	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 123,159	\$ 123,159
Land improvements	9,830	-	-	9,830	9,830	-	-	9,830	-	-
Buildings	1,291,387	459,208	-	1,750,595	380,789	30,652	-	411,441	1,339,154	910,598
Roads	7,471,722	263,081	-	7,734,803	5,304,983	121,754	-	5,426,737	2,308,066	2,166,739
Equipment	242,847	-	-	242,847	108,141	21,836	-	129,977	112,870	134,706
Bridge structure	4,633,924	26,148	-	4,660,072	692,529	90,040	-	782,569	3,877,503	3,941,395
Automotive	1,317,905	11,212	-	1,329,117	762,214	66,475	-	828,689	500,428	555,691
Landfill	1,874,030	-	-	1,874,030	39,905	39,905	-	79,810	1,794,220	1,834,125
	\$ 16,964,804	\$ 759,649	-	17,724,453	\$ 7,298,391	370,662	\$ -	\$ 7,669,053	10,055,400	9,666,413

The Corporation of the Township of Laird
Segment Disclosures - Service Bundle

Schedule 2

Year ended December 31, 2024

	General Government	Protection services	Transportation services	Environmental services	Health services	Social and family services	Recreation and cultural services	Planning and development	Total
Expenditures									
Salaries and wages	\$ 270,351	\$ 30,976	\$ 204,588	\$ 39,618	\$ 40,607	\$ -	\$ 78,488	\$ -	\$ 664,628
Materials, good and supplies	85,940	120,378	124,786	-	-	-	177,449	17,446	525,999
Contracted & general services	129,137	160,532	-	103,244	40,303	509,172	-	-	942,388
Amortization expenses	5,287	782	300,231	42,325	-	-	22,038	-	370,663
	490,715	312,668	629,605	185,187	80,910	509,172	277,975	17,446	2,503,678
Revenues									
Taxation	376,331	239,785	482,845	142,020	62,048	390,485	213,179	13,380	1,920,073
User charges	30,478	19,419	39,104	11,502	5,025	31,624	17,265	1,084	155,501
External non-tax revenues	211,784	134,944	271,730	79,924	34,919	219,752	119,972	7,528	1,080,555
	618,593	394,148	793,679	233,446	101,992	641,861	350,416	21,992	3,156,129
Annual Surplus	\$ 127,878	\$ 81,480	\$ 164,074	\$ 48,259	\$ 21,082	\$ 132,689	\$ 72,441	\$ 4,546	\$ 652,451

The Corporation of the Township of Laird
Segment Disclosures - Service Bundle

Schedule 3

Year ended December 31, 2023

	General Government	Protection services	Transportation services	Environmental services	Health services	Social and family services	Recreation and cultural services	Planning and development	Total
Expenditures									
Salaries and wages	\$ 259,148	\$ 27,363	\$ 174,942	\$ 36,529	\$ 6,261	\$ -	\$ 69,802	\$ -	\$ 574,045
Materials, good and supplies	70,314	82,476	378,404	-	-	-	120,247	18,383	669,824
Contracted & general services	78,864	157,187	-	79,456	45,332	491,054	-	-	851,893
Amortization expenses	6,478	782	297,941	42,325	-	-	20,756	-	368,282
	414,804	267,808	851,287	158,310	51,593	491,054	210,805	18,383	2,464,044
Revenues									
Taxation	300,296	193,878	616,284	114,608	37,350	355,495	152,609	13,309	1,783,829
User charges	21,107	13,627	43,317	8,055	2,625	24,987	10,727	935	125,380
External non-tax revenues	163,085	105,291	334,691	62,241	20,283	193,062	82,881	7,227	968,761
	484,488	312,796	994,292	184,904	60,258	573,544	246,217	21,471	2,877,970
Annual Surplus	\$ 69,684	\$ 44,988	\$ 143,005	\$ 26,594	\$ 8,665	\$ 82,490	\$ 35,412	\$ 3,088	\$ 413,926

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Management of The Corporation of the Township of Laird:

I have audited the consolidated financial statements of the Trust Funds of The Corporation of the Township of Laird, which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2024 and the statement of continuity of trust funds for the year then ended.

Management's Responsibility for the consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the balance sheet of the Trust Funds of The Corporation of the Township of Laird as at December 31, 2024 and the results of its activities for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Stefanizzi Professional Corporation
Chartered Professional Accountant, authorized to practice public accounting by
Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Trust Funds

Balance Sheet

As at December 31,		
	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
Assets		
Cash	\$ 11,314	\$ 9,955
Term deposits	27,274	25,982
Fund Balance	\$ 38,588	\$ 35,937

DRAFT

The Corporation of the Township of Laird

Trust Funds

Statement of Continuity

Year ended December 31, (with comparative figures for the prior year)

	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 35,937	\$ 33,687
Revenues		
Interest earned	1,181	-
Trust receipts	1,470	2,250
Balance, end of year	\$ 38,588	\$ 35,937

The Corporation of the Township of Laird
Trust Funds
Notes to Trust Funds Auditors' Report

December 31, 2024

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

Management responsibility

The consolidated financial statements of The Corporation of the Township of Laird Trust Funds are the representation of management prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. Since precise determination of many assets and liabilities is dependent upon future events, the preparation of periodic financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates and approximations.

Basis of accounting

Revenue and expenditures are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes revenues as they become available and measurable; expenditures are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipt of goods or services and the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

DRAFT

REGULAR AGENDA – AGENDA 43
CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD
June 19, 2025, at 6:00 pm
Laird Township Council Chambers

Present: *Mayor:* Shawn Evoy
Councillors: Matt Frolick, Wayne Junor, Todd Rydall,
Brad Shewfelt
Clerk: Jennifer Errington
Road Superintendent: Shawn Evoy
Presenter: Simon Bowers

1. **Call to Order**
Mayor Evoy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**
Mayor Evoy filed a declaration of pecuniary interest with Agenda Item 9. c.
Planning: Severance/Lot Addition – Approval in Principle, as Mayor Evoy is the owner of the subject property.

Councillor Shewfelt filed a declaration of pecuniary interest with Agenda Item 11. c. Closed Session: proposed acquisition or disposition of land, as Councillor Shewfelt has a direct pecuniary interest in the matter to be discussed.

3. **Agenda Approval**
#137-25
Moved by: Matt Frolick
Seconded by: Wayne Junor
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby approves the June 19, 2025 agenda and addendum 9. C. Planning: Severance/Lot addition – Approval in principle, as modified.
Carried.

4. **Delegations and Presentations**
 - a. Investment Portfolio Presentation – Simon Bowers, Investment Planning Counsel (IPC)
 - Simond Bowers of Investment Planning Counsel (IPC) provided a presentation on the Townships investment portfolio, a very safe portfolio.
 - IPC will be providing municipal staff with greater access to electronic reports and information.
 - Township is able to access investments at any time, without penalty.

5. **Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**
 - a. Council Regular Meeting – May 22, 2025
 - b. Council Special Meeting – June 5, 2025
 - c. Recreation Committee Meeting – May 27, 2025#138-25
Moved by: Todd Rydall
Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves minutes of the Regular Council meeting of May 22, 2025, the Special Council meeting of June 5, 2025, and the Recreation Committee meeting of May 27, 2025.
Carried.

6. **Adoption of Accounts**
 - a. General accounts to May 31, 2025#139-25
Moved by: Todd Rydall
Seconded by: Wayne Junor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the general accounts to May 31, 2025, in the amount of \$11,060.04.
Carried.

b. Roads accounts to May 31, 2025
#140-25

Moved by: Matt Frolick

Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the roads account to May 31, 2025, in the amount of \$236,540.36.
Carried.

7. Staff and Committee Reports

a. Road Superintendent (Roads, Waste Disposal & Recycling, and Maintenance)

i. Road Superintendent Report #141-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Road Superintendent Report dated June 19, 2025, and arising out of discussion Council directs staff to:

- 1) Provide report on Murray Drive.
 - 2) Modify Road Superintendent Report format.
 - 3) Load of gravel at Bar River Hall and grading.
- Carried.

ii. Memo: 2025 Annual Road Tour #142.25

Moved by: Brad Shewfelt

Seconded by: Wayne Junor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council instructs the Road Department to address the following issues:

1. Point drive - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded from the shoulder.
2. Point drive - Replace/repair the surface treatment as needed (specifically at the boat launch end of the road)
3. Murray Drive - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded and/or removed from the shoulder.
4. Pumpkin Point Park - add gravel to the loop road.
5. Pinewood Drive - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded at the turnaround.
6. Birch Point - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded at the turnaround, gravel to be added as needed.
7. Birch Point and Reid's Junction - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded and/or removed from the shoulder.
8. Finns' Bay North - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded at the turnaround, gravel to be added and calcium as needed.
9. MacDonald Drive - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded at the turnaround, gravel to be added and calcium as needed.
10. Pine Island - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded from the shoulder.
11. Rydal Mill (at Government Road) - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded from the shoulder.
12. Reids Road East (at Government Road) - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded from the shoulder.
13. Bar River Road - Dead Tree at Mailboxes to be removed.
14. Bar River Road - Guardrails to be lifted and riprap to be installed on riverbank to address erosion issues.

Carried.

b. Clerk Administrator, Deputy Treasurer**i. Clerk's Report**

#143-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Matt Frolick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Clerk's Report dated June 19, 2025, as presented and arising from the report that Council directs staff to remove \$1,400 from the Karhi invoices for water haulage in 2024, and that the remainder of the Karhi invoices will be split 50/50 by Laird and Laird International Raceway as these costs fall under the lease agreement.

Carried.

ii. Task Summary Sheet & Recent Activity Log**iii. Concern/Information Log – Updates**

#144-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Matt Frolick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the June 19, 2025, Task Summary Sheet & Recent Activity Log and the Concern/Information Log as presented.

Carried.

c. Treasurer's Report**i. Budget Report up to April 30, 2025 – Note: At this time, there are no variances or recommendations to report as we have only completed the first quarter.**

#145-25

Moved by: Matt Folick

Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Budget Report up to April 30, 2025.

Carried.

ii. Memo: Electrical & Plumbing Call Out Quotes

#146-25

Moved by: Wayne Junor

Seconded by: Todd Rydall

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Electrical & Plumbing Call Out Quotes report and FURTHER THAT Council designates Black Fox Electrical and Plumbers Plus as the Township's call outs and that all staff be notified as such.

Carried.

d. Recreation Committee & Recreation Sub-Committees**i. Fairgrounds Sub-committee Minutes – June 2, 2025****ii. Heritage Sub-committee Minutes – June 9, 2025**

#147-25

Moved by: Brad Shewfelt

Seconded by: Wayne Junor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the June 2, 2025 Fairgrounds sub-committee minutes and the June 9, 2025 Laird Hall sub-committee minutes and further that Council approves Fairgrounds sub-committee motion R29-25.

Carried.

iii. 2025 Committee and Board - resignation

#148-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the resignation of Arla Lukas from the Wharf Committee, with regrets, and would like to thank Arla for her volunteer work.

Carried.

e. Cemetery Board

- i. Transfer of Internment Rights – Formal process required, By-law 882-08 will require amendments. Cemetery Board to review and provide comments to Council.

#149-25

Moved by: Brad Shewfelt

Seconded by: Wayne Junor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council requests staff to investigate acquiring 10-20 feet of property East of the Cemetery from the adjacent property owners and report back to Council.

Carried.

f. Planning Board

- i. Schedules of the Joint Official Plan (OP) are in early consultation with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). Each Council will be required to approve the Joint OP and have the ability to provide comments before the OP is sent to MMAH for approval in its entirety. Mayor Evoy has comments on the OP.

#150-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council requests staff to submit Mayor Evoy's February 19, 2023, Joint Official Plan comments/questions to the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board.

Carried.

g. Police Detachment Board

h. Algoma District Services Administrative Board

i. Algoma District Municipal Association (ADMA)

- i. April 12, 2025 Draft Minutes
- ii. Save the Date: September 27, 2025, White River

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

- a. Appoint Drainage Engineer for Petition Drain Application – Plan H757 RCP Lot 20

#151-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Matt Frolick

WHEREAS, a petition has been duly filed under the provisions of the Drainage Act, R.O.S. 1990, c. D. 17, as amended, for drainage works for Plan H757 RCP Lot 20;

AND WHEREAS, the Council of the Township of Laird is required to appoint an engineer to examine and report on the proposed drainage works;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Laird hereby appoints Thomas Jackson, a qualified and licensed drainage engineer, of K. Smart Associates Limited, to prepare a report in accordance with the provisions of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c D.17, as amended.

Carried.

#152-25

Moved by: Wayne Junor

Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts By-law 2056-25 appointing K. Smart Associates Limited as the Drainage Superintendent for the Corporation of the Township of Laird.

Carried.

b. Asset Management Plan

#153-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Wayne Junor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby adopts the Asset Management Plan 2025 (AMP), as presented, and further that Council requests staff to make the AMP available on the Township website and in the municipal office.

Carried.

Mayor Evoy excused himself from the council chambers due to a declaration of pecuniary interest, and Councillor Rydall filled in as the Head of Council for agenda item 9. c. Planning: Severance/Lot Addition – Approval in principle.

c. Planning: Severance/Lot Addition – Approval in principle

#154-25

Moved by: Brad Shewfelt

Seconded by: Matt Frolick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves in principle a proposed planning board application to sever a portion off of Plan H753 Lot 55 Pt for the driveway to be added to Plan H753, Lot 52 Pt Lot 53 and to have a portion of Plan H753, Lot 52 Pt Lot 53 severed and added to Plan H753 Lot 52 Pt to reincorporate the original Evoy farmland back together to create much needed pasture and workable land to the current farm.

Carried.

Mayor Evoy was asked to return to the council chambers and continued to reside as head of council for the remainder of the meeting.

10. Notices of Motion

11. Closed Session

#155-25

Moved by: Todd Rydall

Seconded by: Wayne Junor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council proceed into closed session at 7:44 p.m. in accordance with Section 239 (2) (a) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and Section 239 (2) (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

Carried.

a. Approval of closed meeting minutes of May 22, 2025.

b. Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Councillor Shewfelt excused himself from the council chambers due to declaration of conflict of interest for agenda item 11. c. A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

c. A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

#156-25
Moved by: Todd Rydall
Seconded by: Matt Frolick
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council come out of closed meeting session at 8:25 p.m.
and continue with the Regular Council Meeting.
Carried.

Consideration of and action on matters arising out of the closed meeting.

#157-25
Moved by: Todd Rydall
Seconded by: Matt Frolick
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby declares Lot 10, RCP H762 as surplus
land to the needs of the municipality;

AND THAT in accordance with By-law 1048-22, being a by-law to establish
policies and procedures for the sale of real property, the subject property is
undersized and not suitable for independent development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to offer the
subject property for sale to the abutting property owners, in accordance with the
procedures outlined in By-law 1048-22.
Carried.

Councillor Shewfelt was asked to return to the council chambers for the remainder
of the meeting.

12. Communications and Correspondence

- a. Thank You card for Donation in honour of Henry “Chick” Goertzen - Goertzen
Family

13. Mayor and Council Comments

- Mayor Evoy shared that he has received a suggestion from a community
member that it would be nice if Laird Township started up a coffee club. Mayor
Evoy will be bringing up the idea to the Recreation Committee.

14. By-laws

- a. 2056-25 Conformity By-law
#158-25
Moved by: Wayne Junor
Seconded by: Matt Frolick
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts By-law 2056-25, being a by-law to
confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on June 19, 2025.
Carried.

15. Adjournment

#159-25
Moved by: Todd Rydall
Seconded by: Brad Shewfelt
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council shall now adjourn to meet again on July 17,
2025, at 6:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.
Carried.

Mayor – _____
Shawn Evoy

Clerk – _____
Jennifer Errington

Township of Laird
General Cheques for June 2025

Name	Description	Journal No.	Amount
Jennifer Errington	Express of Sympathy	1256	45.79
	Admin. Mileage		161.07
encompassIT.ca	Taxes	1258	119.06
			1,476.65
Brant Coulter	By-Law Mileage	1259	95.20
Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board	Official Pan	1263	367.85
GFL	Recycling	1264	3,285.71
Wishart Law Firm	By-Law Legal	1264	2,172.58
DeLage Landen	Postage	1270	121.96
Rogers	By-Law	1282	9.22
Bell	Office	1284	395.04
	Emerg. Man.		107.85
Cheryl Frenette	Admin.	1290	36.00
Algoma Power	Church	1347	26.69
	Office		174.43
Cheryl Frenette	Office	1348	65.33
Stone's Office	Supplies	1349	106.82
Jennifer Errington	Health & Safety	1350	69.86
Jeff Dorvault	Heritage	1351	50.83
Heritage Home Hardware	Office Supplies	1352	22.37
Township of St. Joseph	Council Seniors Award	1354	37.44
	By-Law Cell		113.60
Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board	Official Plan	1365	505.76
			267.11
Starlink	Internet	1366	142.46
Diner's Club Ticket	Council Seniors Award		64.00
Canada Post	Arrears		74.24
eset Digital Security	Admin.		254.40
Equipment World	Health & Safety		429.43
TOTAL			<u>\$10,798.75</u>

ACCOUNTS CERTIFIED CORRECT

Motion #

(Signed) Mayor

To Treasurer of Laird Township Authority Herewith To issue Cheques in payment of Accounts Certified
by Clerk as listed above.

(Signed) Clerk

I hereby certify that Accounts listed above have been paid, and amounts are charged to proper expenditure
appropriation.

Date Passed by Council

(Signed) Treasurer

TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD
Road Department
VOUCHER LISTING

Voucher No. 1

Date 6/30/25

Name	Description	Journal No.	Amount
Payroll			19,479.31
Traction	Wheeled Excavator	1257	119.04
Construction Equipment Co.	Brushing	1266	432.48
Huron Central Railway	Safety	1267	366.00
Battlefield Equipment	Sweeping	1271	1,273.95
Wajax	Backhoe	1272	447.74
Tarbutt Township	Patching	1273	4,905.82
Rogers	Roads Office	1282	45.79
Bell	Shop	1284	101.31
Heritage Home Hardware	Shop	1286	19.32
			52.44
			33.57
Xtreme Wear Parts	Wheeled Excavator	1287	332.35
Algoma Power Inc.	Shop	1347	95.58
Toromont	Backhoe	1353	346.14
Gilbertson Ent.	Misc.	1355	39,056.76
Northern Fluid Power	Wheeled Excavator	1357	72.75
	Patching	1366	7.55
			308.11
TOTAL			<u>\$67,496.01</u>

ACCOUNTS CERTIFIED CORRECT

Motion #

(Signed) Road Superintendent

To Treasurer of Laird Township Authority Herewith To issue Cheques in payment of Accounts Certified
by Road Superintendent as listed above.

(Signed) Mayor

I hereby certify that Accounts listed above have been paid, and amounts are charged to Road Expenditure
Appropriation.

Date Passed by Council

(Signed) Treasurer

TASK SUMMARY SHEET RECENT ACTIVITY LOG

DATE	MOTION #	TASK	CATEGORY	CONTACT	STATUS	TARGET DATE
19-Oct-23	231-23	Council receives the draft Unassumed Road Policy and requests the Clerk make amendments as discussed and prepare a by-law Note: Draft Unassumed Road Policy has been reviewed by legal counsel, further review and discussion with legal counsel are required in order to refine policy.	CLERK	JE	IN PROGRESS	Aug-25
21-Mar-24	46-24	Council directs the Clerk to draft a By-law to designate the Knox Church as a municipal heritage building.	CLERK	JE	IN PROGRESS	Aug-25
30-Apr-25	108-25	Council instructs staff to prepare the following tenders: office computers, cemetery stone straightening, rink playground equipment installation, museum framing, gazebo wall sliding panels, water system upgrades at fairgrounds, new interior washrooms at fairgrounds, and Bar River Road Bridge waterproofing.	TREASURER		IN PROGRESS	Jul-25
30-Apr-25	109-25	Council approves submitting a NOHFC application for the Laird Hall.	TREASURER	RC	IN PROGRESS	Aug-25
19-Jun-25	141-25	Council directs staff to: 1) Provide report on Murray Drive. 2) Modify Road Superintendent Report format.	CLERK RDS	JE DP	IN PROGRESS IN PROGRESS	Aug-25 Aug-25
19-Jul-25	142-25	Council instructs the Road Department to address the following issues: 2) Point drive - Replace/repair the surface treatment as needed (specifically at the boat launch end of the road) 3) Murray Drive - Roadside sand and gravel buildup to be re-graded and/or removed from the shoulder. 14) Bar River Road - Guardrails to be lifted and riprap to be installed on riverbank to address erosion issues.	RDS RDS RDS	DP DP DP	IN PROGRESS IN PROGRESS IN PROGRESS	Aug-25 Aug-25 Aug-25

TASK SUMMARY SHEET RECENT ACTIVITY LOG

DATE	MOTION #	TASK	CATEGORY	CONTACT	STATUS	TARGET DATE
19-Jun-25	149-25	Council requests staff to investigate acquiring 10-20 feet of property East of the Cemetery from the adjacent property owners and report back to Council.	CLERK	JE	IN PROGRESS	Aug-25

TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD
Registered Concern/Information Log

DATE	CONCERN	ACTION	COMMENTS IN RETURN
July 12, 2025	Building Code Infraction	Action Requested: Building Inspector to exercise powers under Building Code Act to conduct an inspection of the home	Matter In progress - CBO to investigate matter.

FINE LINE IN THE STAFF-COUNCILLOR RELATIONSHIP
Quote from Municipal World

Dealing with Problems - First of all the councillor should be taking enquiries to the CAO, who should then coordinate a response from staff. This point must be made crystal clear in training and policy should be repeated often. The councillor should be reminded that the identity of the complainant is their personal information and will never be released to someone else.

Admin, Concern-Information Log

2024 - Missed Complaints due to Website Glitch. Note: Staff was made aware of glitch on July 14, 2025

TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD

Registered Concern/Information Log

DATE	CONCERN	ACTION	COMMENTS IN RETURN
September 1, 2024	Question - Asking if there were any updates for the fiberoptics service (Rock) proposed for the twp	Inquire if there are updates.	Communicated no updates, could take a few years for development.
September 25, 2024	Yard Maintenance Concern - hazard, trash/debris on property.	Have By-law Enforcement Officer go inviestigate.	By-law Enforcement Officer had conducted investigation in the past and this matter is before the courts.
November 16, 2024	Yard Maintenance Concern - hazard, trash/debris on property. Concerns of red ants and rate infestation.	Have By-law Enforcement Officer go inviestigate.	By-law Enforcement Officer had conducted investigation in the past and this matter is before the courts.
December 31, 2025	Water is spouting out onto my driveway from under the road above, causing repeated damage and repairs over the years.	Have Roads Superintendent go and investigate.	Road Superintendent did investigate and spoke with property owner.

FINE LINE IN THE STAFF-COUNCILLOR RELATIONSHIP

Quote from Municipal World

Dealing with Problems - First of all the councillor should be taking enquiries to the CAO, who should then coordinate a response from staff. This point must be made crystal clear in training and policy should be repeated often. The councillor should be reminded that the identity of the complainant is their personal information and will never be released to someone else.

Admin, Concern-Information Log

MINUTES
FINNS' BAY WHARF COMMITTEE MEETING
June 25, 2025 AT 6:00 PM
LOCATION; Finns Bay Wharf Gazebo

Present: Todd Rydall (Chair) Jo-Anne Entwistle (Recording Secretary), Brad Shewfelt, Lee Ranta, John Hooper, Karolina Dick.

Guest: Carol Ranta

Regrets: Donna Connolly,

1. CALL TO ORDER/REVIEW THE AGENDA

(ON MOTION # 07-25) Moved by Brad Shewfelt Seconded by John Hooper
“That the meeting be called to order by Todd Rydall, chairperson, and that the committee approves the Finns' Bay Wharf Meeting Sub-committee Agenda of June 25, 2025”

CARRIED

2. MINUTES OF February 19, 2025

(ON MOTION #08-25) Moved by John Hooper, Seconded by Lee Ranta
“That the committee approves the Finns' Bay Wharf Sub-Committee minutes of February 19, 2025, as amended”

CARRIED

3. DELEGATION AND PRESENTATIONS

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1) Finns' Bay Wharf 2025 Budget as approved by Laird Township Council-
Todd Rydall reported that two loads of gravel are in driveway, the road crew will do the brushing, the entrance sign is in the planning stages. It is hoped that the final plan for the sign will be available for committee approval at the next Wharf Committee meeting.
-discussion regarding the accessibility of the outhouse and gazebo
-concern raised that refitting the existing outhouse would be comparable in price to a new accessible outhouse and ramp
-altering the gazebo would be an easier retrofit
-the flag pole as well as the life ring and installation were not approved by Laird Township Council

(ON MOTION #09-25) Moved by Lee Ranta, Seconded by Brad Shewfelt
“That the Finns Bay Wharf gazebo be made accessible by altering the west corner and installing a 36 inch door to match the existing entrance door and install a ramp.”

CARRIED

(ON MOTION #10-25) Moved by John Hooper, Seconded by Karolina Dick
“That the allotment that the Finns Bay Wharf had for gravel be cut back by one load and the funds be used to purchase and install the life ring.”

CARRIED

5. NEW BUSINESS

1) Resignation from the Finns’ Bay Wharf Sub-committee- Arla Luepkes

Carol Ranta has been attending the Wharf Committee meetings as an observer. A request to include her on the committee was proposed.

(ON MOTION #11-25) Moved by John Hooper, Seconded by Brad Shewfelt
“That the Finns Bay Wharf Committee requests Carol Ranta be added to the Finns Bay Wharf Committee membership.”

CARRIED

2) Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and Ontario Human Rights Code Training-all committee members are required to complete the training-those who have not yet completed are urged to do so either on line or to contact the Township Office Staff for a hard copy.

3) Pumpkin Point Park Meet and Greet August 10, 2025 from 1:00-4:00 PM
Hot dogs will be served. Jo-Anne Entwistle will provide information to Rhonda Crozier to assist with the organization of the Meet and Greet. Todd Rydall also requested that Jo-Anne Entwistle make the application to Algoma Public Health for the required food permit for this event.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

1) Should the Wharf Committee consider moving slag from the back of the wharf to fill in the gap between the metal and the ground at the waters edge?

2) The Finns Bay Wharf property is very well maintained. Appreciation to Vasco Dias and helper expressed.

3) Five Year Plan to be updated at the next meeting.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 6:00PM

Location: Finns Bay Wharf gazebo

ADJOURNMENT

(On MOTION # 12 -25) Moved by John Hooper, Seconded by Karolina Dick

“That the June 25, 2025 meeting be adjourned and the Finns’ Bay Wharf Sub-committee will meet again on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM at the Finns Bay Wharf gazebo.”

CARRIED

Chair-_____
(Todd Rydall)

Recording Secretary-_____
(Jo-Anne Entwistle)

Main Recreation Committee (maximum 9 members -1 council)

Name	Role
Donna Bos	Member
Jo-Anne Entwistle	Laird Hall Rep & Wharf Rep
Suzanne Evoy	Rink Rep
Matt Follick	Chair & Council Representative
Rhonda Crozier	Secretary-Treasurer PPP Rep
Shawn Evoy	Council Representative & BRH Rep
Noah Crozier	Member
Justine Lamming	Member

Recreation Sub-Committees:

Bar River Community Centre - 1 Council

Name	Role
Allen Cook	
Pam Cook	
Shawn Evoy	Chair & Main Rec/Council Rep
Suzanne Evoy	
Marlene Paquette	
Heather Frolick	Caretaker
Matt Frolick	Council Representative
Katie Hunter	

G.W. Evoy Memorial Rink - 1 Council

Name	Role
Allen Cook	
Gage Evoy	
Darin Evoy	
Merril Evoy	Chair
Shawn Evoy	

Laird Fairgrounds Committee - 1 Council

Name	Role
Brad Shewfelt	O. F.A. member
Vasco Dias	Grounds manager
Colleen Alloi	
Jim Withers	
Chuck Siddall	
Rhonda Crozier	Secretary
Ashlee Boychuck	
Justine Lamming	

Laird Hall Community Centre - 1 Council

Name	Role
Dick Beitz	
Shawna Deplonty	
Heather Taylor	Caretaker
Cheryle Frenette	
Linda Kiraly	
Jo-Anne Entwistle	Rec Representative
Wayne Junor	Council Representative
Faye Crozier	

Pumpkin Point Park Committee - 1 Council

Name	Role
------	------

Shawna Deplonty	
Rhonda Crozier	Secretary
Kathy Sutherland	Chair
Vasco Dias	Grounds Manager
Todd Rydall	Council Representative

Finns' Bay Wharf Committee - 1 Council

Name	Role
Donna Connolly	
John Ranta	
Todd Rydall	Chair/Council
John Hooper	
Arla Luepkes	Motion: 148-25
Joanne Entwistle	Rec Representative
Karilina Dick	
Brad Shewfelt	
Carol Ranta	

Laird Heritage Committee - 1 Council

Name	Role
Linda MacDonald	
Suzanne Evoy	
Colleen Orr	
Jennifer Errington	Secretary/Clerk
Justine Lamming	
Shawn Evoy	Council Representative/Chair

Laird Cemetery Board - 1 Council

Name	Role
Shawn Evoy	Chair/Council Representative
Merril Evoy	
Darin Evoy	
Matt Frolick	Council Representative
Allen Cook	
Brad Shewfelt	
Jennifer Errington	Secretary-Treasurer

Emergency Management Program Committee

Name	Role
E. Shawn Evoy	Chair/Mayor
Jennifer Errington	
Rhonda Crozier	CEMC

From: pt.hazlett_pt.hazlett
To: clerk@tarbutt.ca; clerk@lairdtownship.ca; laceyk@ontera.net; jmaguire@johnsontownship.ca; community@stjosephtownship.com
Cc: Mellisa.Wright@algomapower.com
Subject: Echo Bay to St. Joseph Tree Giveaway Project
Date: July 3, 2025 10:09:30 AM
Attachments: [Algoma Power Echo Bay to St. Joseph Community Tree Giveaway July 2025.docx](#)

Hello all,

Great news!

Algoma Power Inc. is generously providing funding for a community tree and native plant seed giveaway project. We have cc'd Mellisa Wright, Vegetation Coordinator at Algoma Power who is our contact for the project. This is a scaled down and modified version of the proposal that we originally presented to your townships some time ago.

We have attached the revised project plan. You will see that the Township of St. Joseph, so 5 townships now in total, are partnering on the project.

Next steps:

1. At this point we would like confirmation that you would still like to be included in this giveaway.
2. We are also at the stage of selecting a suitable location for the giveaway event on September 20th. We are thinking that the Johnson Farmers Market might be good but we do not know details about securing a location there. We will follow up with this if you think this is a good idea for a first possibility. Please let us know.
3. We will be developing some marketing material to promote the event. Could you let us know when your next community newsletter will be created/distributed?

Thanks for your patience. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Best regards,

Paul and Tania Hazlett

Echo Bay to St. Joseph Community Tree Giveaway Proposal



THE
Township
OF
Tarbutt



THE TOWNSHIP OF
St. Joseph



JOHNSON TOWNSHIP



Algoma Power Echo Bay to St. Joseph Community Tree Giveaway

As residents of Echo Bay we propose a revegetation project in our township of MacDonald, Meredith and Aberdeen Additional and the four adjacent townships of Tarbutt, Laird, Johnson and St. Joseph. Tree canopy cover, and the environmental and aesthetic benefits it provides have been reduced in these townships due to recent and ongoing power line clearing maintenance by Algoma Power Inc.

The project will be executed through a partnership between Algoma Power Inc., the Echo Bay to St. Joseph townships and us. The project will consist of a free random tree draw distribution of trees and a giveaway of native plant/pollinator seeds to participating residents of the Echo Bay to St. Joseph townships. The distribution will be held on Saturday, September 20th, 2025 from 10 am to 2 pm (location to be determined).

The giveaway event will lead to increased tree canopy cover through community engagement. Recipients will be provided information on the importance of a healthy tree canopy, how to choose the right tree, and proper planting and care techniques.

Algoma Power Inc. will:

- provide financial support for the project for the purchase of trees and wildflower seeds
- promote the project and event through its various communication channels
- if available, provide one staff person to assist in the distribution of trees and wildflower seeds

Hazletts will provide in-kind support to execute the project:

- develop a registration system for residents to apply for the draw and select trees
- source and arrange for the purchase of 150 (30 trees per township) high-quality, native potted tree stock and coordinate the delivery of selected trees on the event day
- assist with event coordination and management, and community engagement
- provide educational resources and supplies for participants and the event (tree selection, proper planting, post-planting maintenance and care) to assist residents in selecting the right native tree for their specific planting location

Echo Bay to St. Joseph townships will provide in-kind support to execute the project:

- assist with event coordination and management, and community engagement
- promote the project and event through community-tailored messaging using a variety of outreach methods
- assist with volunteer recruitment
- assist with provision of event supplies and materials for event (i.e., tent, tables, chairs, etc.)

Plan: Free tree giveaway and eligibility details

Residents register by completion of a google form. Residents can select 1 tree from a choice of 3 tree options. Residents select a tree that best suits the conditions of their property. Tree recipients will be chosen through a random draw and contacted with details of tree pickup date, time and location.

In order to receive a free tree, residents must meet the following criteria:

- There is a limit of 1 free tree per household
- You must be a resident of one of the 5 townships
- The tree must be planted on your property
- Residents are responsible for planting, watering, and maintaining the tree

Trees, 150 in total, 2 or 3 gallon potted trees, 3 native species (White Pine for dry, sandy soil sites; Sugar Maple for moist loamy soil sites; Black Cedar for moist to wet soil sites).

Native plant seeds, purchase in bulk, 1 kg bag. Divide bulk bags into envelope size packages (5g covers 35 ft², 200 packages) to distribute to anyone that attends the giveaway event.

TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: July 17, 2025
To: Mayor Evoy and Council
From: Jennifer Errington, Clerk
Subject: Modernizing Municipal Payment and Revenue Collection with Access2Pay

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Township's current payment collection process, identify inefficiencies and resident pain points, and outline a proposed solution from Access2Pay to modernize and streamline municipal revenue collection. The proposed solution includes online payments, back-office automation, and resident self-service options to improve service delivery, staff efficiency, and reconciliation accuracy.

BACKGROUND / OVERVIEW

Council approved the Council Term Plan 2025, motion #31-25, to investigate Payment Efficiencies. Council wanted staff to look into streamlining automatic monthly payments, investigate tax program efficiencies to save time on electronic payments, and look into the ability for people to log in and see their account balance and pay by direct deposit.

At present, the Township of Laird uses TMM software for property tax management and Sage for financial accounting. Payments from residents are accepted via e-transfer, direct deposit, mail (cheque), or in-person at the municipal office. However, the following challenges persist:

- **Manual Retrieval and Re-entry:** Staff must check emails and bank portals for incoming e-transfers, identify and validate the source of each payment, and manually key the transaction into both the TMM system and Sage. This is labor-intensive and error-prone.
- **Lack of Real-Time Transparency:** Because residents can't access or review their balances online, staff receive a high volume of calls and emails for status checks, duplicate confirmations, and statement requests.
- **Fragmented Payment Channels:** E-transfers are difficult to track systematically, mailed cheques introduce delays, and in-person payments require counter staff presence. There's no way to reconcile in real time or issue automated receipts

without follow-up.

- **Inability to Accept Credit Cards:** There is currently no secure channel for credit card transactions. This makes the Township less accessible to residents who prefer digital payments or who wish to earn points on large bills (e.g., property taxes).
- **Growing Expectations for Digital Services:** As residents become more accustomed to online banking, e-commerce, and self-service tools, they expect the same convenience from municipal services. Laird's current model is not equipped to meet this evolving demand.

PROPOSED SOLUTION FROM ACCESS2PAY

Access2Pay offers a turnkey, cloud-based solution to centralize and streamline the Township's payment infrastructure. It is tailored for small to mid-sized Canadian municipalities, with a proven track record and an emphasis on cost-effective deployment, security, and user experience.

Key Capabilities:

- **Resident Self-Service Portal:** Branded for the Township and accessible from any device, the portal allows residents to:
 - View balances, bills, and due dates
 - Pay via credit card, debit (Interac), or bank account (PAD)
 - Save payment methods, print receipts, and download history
 - Enroll in e-billing and recurring payments
- **Payment Consolidation Engine:** All payment channels—online, in-office, bank-based, and PAD—feed into one unified ledger that syncs with TMM and Sage. Payment data is tagged and categorized automatically.
- **Reconciliation Automation:** Once configured, the platform ensures that all transactions are pushed or pulled into the right municipal systems, avoiding manual re-entry and enabling daily or real-time reconciliation.
- **Secure POS Terminals:** With 10 POS terminal licenses included, in-office staff can take payments over the counter using chip-and-pin card readers with integrated receipt printing. Terminals are managed centrally through the platform.
- **Robust Permission-Based Controls:** Admin users can manage who has access to what functions. Staff can be limited to viewing, input, reconciliation, or full reporting.

- **Dashboards and Notifications:** Clerks and finance staff have real-time access to activity dashboards, reconciliation status, pending settlements, and monthly reporting tools. Alerts can be configured for missed PADs, failed transactions, or low-balance accounts.
- **Security and Hosting:** Data is hosted in Canada on Google Cloud Platform with industry-standard encryption at rest and in transit. The system is PCI-DSS compliant, supports MFA, and uses tokenization to avoid storing sensitive cardholder data.
- **Modular Add-Ons and Future Proofing:** The core platform can be extended to cover:
 - Licensing and permits
 - Facility bookings
 - Dog registrations
 - Miscellaneous invoicing and donation modules
 - Mobile POS at public events

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Item	Cost
Platform License (Annual)	\$12,000/year
Implementation (One-Time)	\$12,000
Tax System Integration	\$0
Year 1 Total	\$24,000
Ongoing Annual (Yr 2+)	\$12,000

Included in Platform License:

- 10 POS terminal licenses
- Unlimited staff accounts, departments, and billing categories
- Online resident portal and mobile-friendly access
- Bank, credit card, and PAD integrations
- Data dashboards and advanced reports
- Canadian data residency and full PCI compliance
- Access2Pay system upgrades and security patches

Optional Add-Ons:

- After-hours support and dedicated account management
- Custom workflow modules or expanded payment categories
- Deployment of additional POS terminals (hardware priced separately)

No-Charge Inclusions:

- Setup and integration with Sage and TMM
- Access to staging and test environments
- Training and documentation for all administrative users

Alternate Pricing Option:

Municipalities processing a lower volume of transactions or preferring variable fees can opt for a **per-transaction pricing model**. This is reviewed based on anticipated volume, payment mix, and collection channels. A detailed quote can be generated upon request.

IMPLEMENTATION & TIMELINE**Estimated Rollout Timeline (Post-Approval):**

- **Weeks 1–2: Project Kickoff** – Stakeholder discovery, document gathering, and baseline mapping
- **Weeks 3–5: System Configuration** – Mapping bill types, payment workflows, user roles
- **Weeks 6–7: Integration with TMM & Sage** – Validation of sync schedules and field testing

- **Week 8: Staff Training & User Acceptance Testing** – Hands-on workshops and simulated transactions
- **Week 9: Go-Live** – Switch to production environment, launch comms to residents
- **Week 10+: Post-Launch Support** – Regular check-ins and adjustment support

The entire process is designed to take approximately 45 business days. The Township can align this go-live with a billing cycle (e.g., annual tax bill issuance) for a smoother transition.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

This initiative supports Council's long-term objectives and strategic vision:

- **Service Modernization:** Offering secure, user-friendly online tools positions Laird as a modern, accessible municipality.
- **Administrative Efficiency:** Redirects staff time from clerical entry to strategic service and issue resolution.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Enhances financial oversight and improves public trust with automated tracking and resident access.
- **Risk Reduction:** Minimizes exposure to cash handling, delayed receipts, and processing backlogs.
- **Digital Readiness:** Prepares the Township to expand service offerings without incremental overhead.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive this report for information, and that staff be directed to:

1. Schedule a formal proposal review with Access2Pay
2. Explore funding options if needed (e.g., modernization grants, FCM funding)

Return to Council with a recommended implementation plan and agreement for approval

Recommended Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Modernizing Municipal Payment and Revenue Collection with Access2Pay report for information, and THAT Council directs staff to schedule a formal proposal review with Access2Pay, explore funding options, and to return to Council with a recommendation implementation plan and agreement for approval.



DR. HAROLD S. TREFRY MEMORIAL CENTRE

A Division of The Corporation of the Township of St. Joseph
Seniors and Persons with a Disability Services



June 17, 2025

Township of Laird
3 Pumpkin Point Rd
R.R #4
Echo Bay, ON P0S 1C0

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the Dr. Harold S. Trefry Memorial Centre and the numerous clients that live within your municipal boundaries, thank you very much for the donation of \$3000.00 towards supporting programs that service seniors and persons with a disability.

Your contribution and commitment to promote these essential programs for seniors and persons with a disability assists in making a significant difference in our capacity to enhance the overall well-being of the residents across the East Algoma Region and is the reason that so many of them remain in their own homes, and in their communities.

We value the partnership we have with The Township of Laird and are very grateful for the action your community has taken to ensure the success of the community support programs offered to seniors and those who wish to remain at home.

Marcy Clark
Manager

From: EASE Grant/Subvention ACCES (MSAA) <easegrant@ontario.ca>
Sent: July 7, 2025 9:35 AM
To: EASE Grant/Subvention ACCES (MSAA)
Subject: You're invited to the new 2025-26 EASE Grant Webinar / Invitation à participer au webinaire sur la nouvelle Subvention ACCES 2025-2026

Flag Status: Flagged

Le message en français suit le message en anglais.

Hello,

The Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility has launched the new Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant. This grant consolidates the Inclusive Community Grants and EnAbling Change programs into a single, streamlined program.

The goal of the EASE Grant is to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities and older adults by supporting them to live active, healthy, safe, and socially connected lives. The program offers grants of up to \$60,000 to fund small capital projects that focus on making outdoor spaces, buildings, and housing more accessible for everyone. [Learn more about eligibility and program details.](#)

The application window for the 2025-26 EASE Grant is now open until **August 14, 2025, at 5pm Eastern Time**, and we encourage all eligible applicants to apply.

The ministry will be hosting several EASE Grant webinars. The first webinar will take place on **Thursday, July 17, 2025**. The webinars will outline applicant eligibility, the Transfer Payment Ontario application process, and key program requirements. They will conclude with a question-and-answer session.

To register for a webinar, click on one of the links below and provide your email address and organization name:

[July 17, 2025 from 1-2 p.m. English Webinar](#)

[July 17, 2025, from 3-4 p.m. French Webinar](#)

[August 6, 2025, from 1-2 p.m. English Webinar](#)

[August 6, 2025, from 3-4 p.m. French Webinar](#)

We look forward to your participation.

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

Bonjour,

Le ministère des Services aux aînés et de l'Accessibilité (MSAA) a lancé la nouvelle Subvention pour l'amélioration de l'accessibilité pour tous (Subvention ACCES). Cette subvention vise à réunir le Programme de subventions pour des collectivités inclusives et le programme InterActions pour le changement sous un même programme simplifié.

La Subvention ACCES vise à améliorer la qualité de vie des personnes handicapées et des personnes âgées en les aidant à mener une vie active, en santé et en sécurité et à participer socialement dans leur milieu. Le programme offre des subventions pouvant aller jusqu'à 60 000 \$ pour financer de petits projets d'immobilisations visant à rendre des espaces extérieurs, des bâtiments ou des logements plus accessibles pour tous. [Apprenez plus sur l'admissibilité et les détails du programme.](#)

Les demandes dans le cadre de la Subvention ACCES 2025-2026 sont actuellement acceptées, et ce, jusqu'au **14 août 2025, à 17 h, heure de l'Est**. Nous encourageons tous les demandeurs admissibles à soumettre une demande.

Le ministère organisera plusieurs webinaires sur la Subvention ACCES. Le premier webinaire aura lieu le **jeudi 17 juillet 2025**. Ces webinaires traiteront des critères d'admissibilité, du processus de soumission dans le système de Paiements de transfert Ontario (PTO) et des principales exigences du programme. Ils se termineront par une séance de questions.

Pour vous inscrire à l'un des webinaires, cliquez sur l'un des liens ci-dessous et inscrivez votre adresse électronique et le nom de votre organisme:

[Le 17 juillet 2025, de 13 h à 14 h – webinaire en anglais](#)

[Le 17 juillet 2025, de 15 h à 16 h – webinaire en français](#)

[Le 6 août 2025, de 13 h à 14 h – webinaire en anglais](#)

[Le 6 août 2025, de 15 h à 16 h – webinaire en français](#)

Nous espérons que vous y participerez.

Le ministère des Services aux aînés et de l'Accessibilité

Sent by Email

June 6, 2025

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
MPP Pickering-Uxbridge
1550 Kingston Rd., Suite 213
Pickering, ON L1V 1C3
peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Subject: Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on May 26, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS individuals and families receiving income support through Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) are facing increasing challenges in meeting basic needs due to rising costs of living;

And Whereas Statistics Canada notes that people with disabilities have a higher poverty rate and a lower rate of employment than the overall population;

And Whereas the annual income support for Ontario Works is currently \$8,796.00 and \$16,416.00 for Ontario Disability Support Program. These supports have not increased sufficiently to keep up with inflation and the cost of living. Such costs are anticipated to continue increasing;

And Whereas the low income measure for a single person in Greater Toronto Area is estimated to be approximately \$27,343 annually, and the deep income poverty threshold is determined to be \$20,508;

And Whereas Food Banks, including our local Food Banks, provide a necessary service with increasing demands in our communities;

And Whereas the Pickering Food Bank served 1,722 adults, and 1,054 children in February 2025;

And Whereas food banks are already reducing their distribution capacity; and it is anticipated that due to developing economic circumstances, such as the current tariff war, there will be increased unemployment, increased food prices, and a heightened demand for food distribution, while donations continue to decline;

And Whereas these economic trends will continue to erode the purchasing power of OW and ODSP recipients, increasing reliance on food banks and placing additional pressure on municipalities and community organizations;

Now therefore it be resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. That staff send a letter to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, to strongly urge that the Ontario Provincial Government significantly raise the payments of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program and the increases be reflected in the upcoming Provincial Budget and that the increased amount aligns with inflationary costs and thereby decrease the pressure on food banks and the reliance on municipalities and taxpayers to supplement the gap in financial need; and,
2. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Regional Municipality of Durham, all Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: Robert Cerjanec, MPP Ajax
Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby
Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa
Todd McCarthy, MPP Durham
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Region of Durham
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

All Ontario Municipalities

Chief Administrative Officer

From: j.wildman j.wildman <j.wildman@sympatico.ca>
Sent: July 14, 2025 9:13 AM
To: Amanda Richardson; ReeveMurdock@jocelyn.ca; ClerkDAngelo@jocelyn.ca; rod.wood@hiltontownship.ca; admin@hiltontownship.ca; clerk@hiltonbeach.com; sedanbridgebob@gmail.com; twpmacd@onlink.net; lynnwatson@ontera.net; Shawn Evoy; clerk@lairdtownship.ca; clerk@tarbutt.ca; lenniegsmith1@gmail.com; jboucher@johnsontownship.ca; jmaguire@johnsontownship.ca; mayormckinnon@johnsontownship.ca; bethwest@plummertownship.ca; lwebster@plummertownship.ca; jdavis@brucemines.ca
Subject: meeting with Leader of the Opposition

Hello everyone,

I was recently contacted by the office of Marit Stiles, Leader of Ontario's Opposition, about a tour she's doing in Algoma this coming weekend (July 19-20th). She will be on St. Joseph Island Sunday July 20th at Arts at the Dock in Hilton Beach and they asked me if I could look into some other meetings that could be held in the area while she is here.

I know its short notice, and a precious Sunday in July, but would any area Council members be interested in a meeting to discuss issues facing our communities? The time (will depend on who's interested and their preferred time) and place (likely on St. Joe) haven't been hammered out yet, but I just wanted to see if there was interest. The meeting won't take up you whole afternoon, I'm thinking about an hour long.

Please share this with your Council members and let me know ASAP if anyone would like to participate.

Yours,
Jody Wildman, Mayor
Township of St. Joseph
705-297-0592

North Shore Link project

Notice of preferred route and invitation to community open houses

July 2025

Hydro One is a trusted operator of transmission infrastructure in northeast Ontario. The proposed North Shore Link project follows Hydro One's industry-leading 50-50 Equity Partnership Model with First Nations on new large-scale transmission line projects. As energy demand in the region grows, we will continue to support sustainable growth and improve reliability.

In July 2024, Hydro One initiated a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the North Shore Link project, which includes a new double-circuit, 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Mississagi Transformer Station (TS) located near Wharncliffe and Third Line TS located in Sault Ste. Marie. The project involves work at the stations to connect the new transmission line, including an expansion at Mississagi TS. In addition, to support the overall operation of the transmission system, an expansion at Algoma TS, located east of Algoma Mills, will be required to accommodate additional station equipment.

Selection of the preferred route

As part of the Class EA process, route alternatives arranged in segments, were evaluated for the proposed project. Each route option was carefully reviewed based on four evaluation categories: Indigenous community values, natural environment, socio-economic environment and technical considerations.

Based on the evaluation, route segments 1D and 3B, with a modification at the southern end of 3B to align with the existing Hydro One corridor into Third Line TS, were selected as the most advantageous and therefore selected as the preferred route. Please see the enclosed map for an overview of the preferred route and visit our online interactive map for a more detailed view.

Indigenous communities, residents, municipalities and interested parties will continue to be actively engaged throughout the lifecycle of the project.

Planning process

The Class EA is expected to be complete by fall 2026. The project will also require approval from the Ontario Energy Board under Section 92 (Leave to Construct).

We want to hear from you

Meaningful and transparent consultation is a critical component of project planning and we want to hear from you. Attend an upcoming community open house to speak with our project team and learn more about the project.

All personal information included in your request – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, under the authority of Section 30 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of the available public record unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this Study, please contact Community Relations listed above.



See reverse for map



Community open house locations and details

Sault Ste. Marie

July 22

2 – 7 p.m.

Water Tower Inn,
360 Great Northern Road,
P6B 4Z7

Searchmont

July 23

4 – 7 p.m.

Searchmont Community Centre
734 Hwy 532, POS 1J0

Wharncliffe

July 24

4 – 7 p.m.

4847 ON-129
Wharncliffe Community Centre
P0R 1L0

Contact Us

If you're unable to attend the open house and have questions or would like more information, contact Community Relations at:

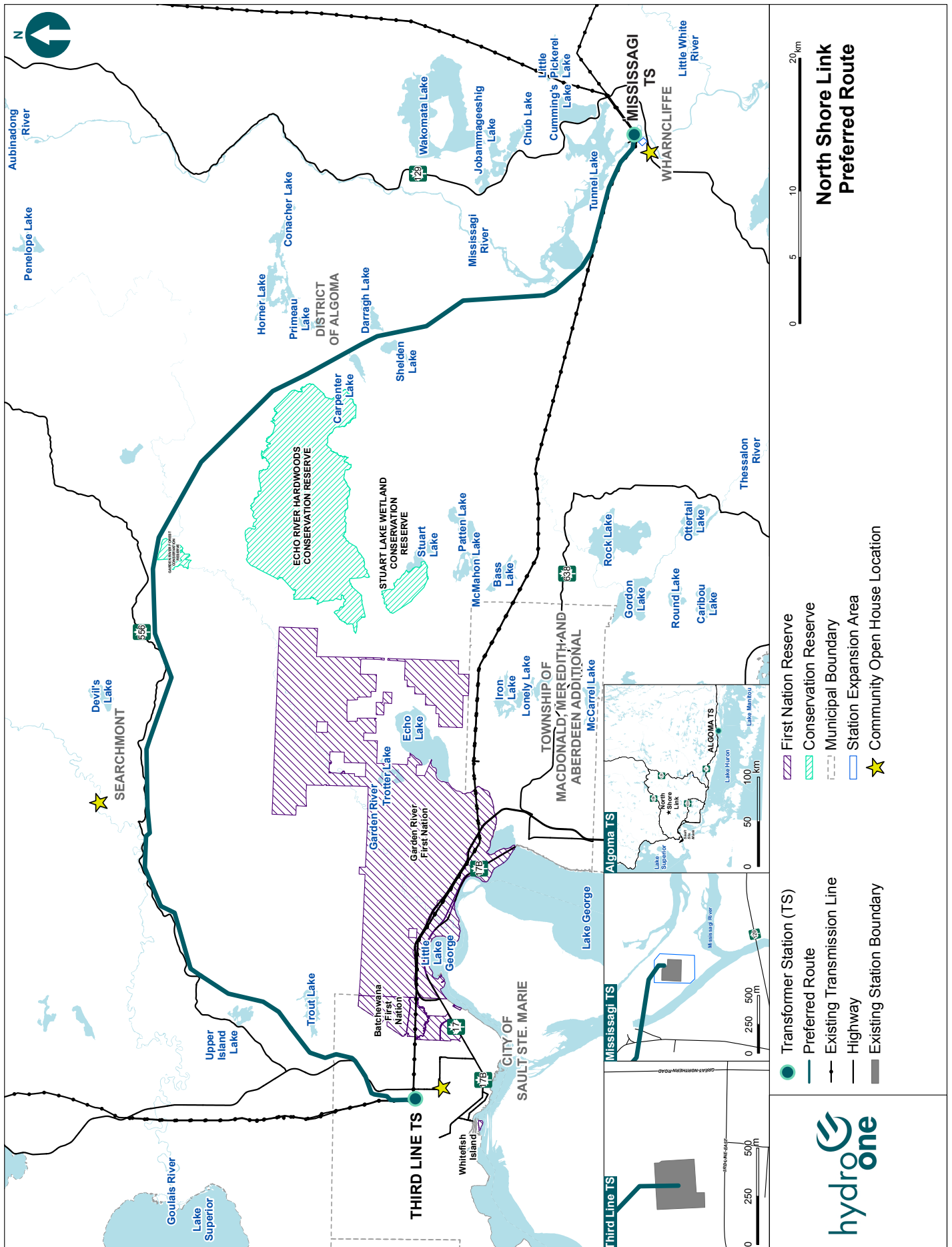


1.877.345.6799



Community.Relations
@HydroOne.com

[HydroOne.com/NSL](https://www.hydroone.com/NSL)





The Township of Tarbutt
27 Barr Road South
Desbarats, Ontario P0R 1E0
Ph: 705-782-6776 Fax: 705-782-4274
www.tarbutt.ca

June 19, 2025

Municipal Clerks and Councils
Townships of Laird, Johnson, and
Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional
Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board

Dear Planning Area Councils:

At its meeting of June 18, 2025, the Council of The Township of Tarbutt passed the following resolution upon the recommendation of the Personnel Committee:

Resolution No: 2025 - 115

Moved by: U. Abbott Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the Council of The Township of Tarbutt respectfully requests that the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board publicly advertise the position of Secretary-Treasurer; and

That an active recruitment process commence as soon as possible, with a turnover and training period to be provided by the current Secretary-Treasurer.

Carried

By commencing the recruitment process at this time, a new individual could be in the position when the new Official Plan is approved to support its passing and implementation among the four municipalities.

We understand that the current Secretary Treasurer will be available to provide advice, training and support to the new Secretary-Treasurer as required. Council fully supports a smooth transition into new opportunities for an individual with the required planning and/or mapping skill sets.

Yours truly,

Carol O. Trainor, A.M.C.T.
CAO/Clerk

e-mail: clerk@tarbutt.ca

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD

By-law Number 2058-25

BEING A BY-LAW to confirm proceedings of the meeting of Council, July 17, 2025.

WHEREAS Section 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, R.S.O. 2001*, as amended, requires a municipal council to exercise its power by by-law except where otherwise provided;

AND WHEREAS in many cases, action which is taken or authorized to be taken by a Council or a Committee of Council does not lend itself to an individual by-law;

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAIRD HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. **THAT** the action of the Council at its meeting on July 17, 2025, in respect to each motion, resolution and other action passed and taken by the Council at its said meeting, is, except where prior approval of the Ontario Municipal Board is required, hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed.
2. **THAT** the Mayor and the proper officers of the Township are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action or to obtain approvals where required, and to execute all documents as may be necessary and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents as required.

READ and passed on Open Council this 17th day of July 2025.

Mayor _____
Shawn Evoy

Seal

Clerk _____
Jennifer Errington