



# TOWNSHIP OF STONE MILLS

## Council Recap



### Regular Meeting of Council for January 26, 2026

#### Deputations

##### Ellen Fry, Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Stone Mills

At the [December 8, 2025](#), Regular Council meeting, Council passed a By-law appointing Ellen Fry of ADR Chambers Inc. as the Townships Integrity Commissioner. Ms. Fry attended the meeting virtually to introduce herself and to provide a brief summary of her services.

#### Items for Consideration



##### **Final Draft of Renovation Plans for Yarker Riverside Park**

The final plans for the renovations of Yarker Riverside Park, designed after a public consultation period by Bombus Ecoscapes, were presented to the Council. Staff were directed to proceed with tender preparations, forward plans to the Joint Accessibility Committee for review and incorporate the estimated project costs of \$200,000 into the 2026 draft budget. It was also requested that a toddler friendly play structure be incorporated into the design. [Staff Report](#)

##### **Special Event Permit Application Exemption Request - Newburgh Canal Bash**

The Newburgh Volunteer Firefighters Association is set to host its 31st annual "Canal Bash" in Newburgh on February 14, 2026. The event organizers have requested an exemption from the Special Event Permit Application. Council granted a partial exemption, with the stipulation that an Emergency Plan and Site Plan must still be submitted. Council further agreed to cover the \$100 application fee from the Council donation budget. [Staff Report](#)

##### **Update to Township of Stone Mills Health and Safety Policy**

In 2025, Staff enlisted the help of Citation Canada, a provider of Human Resources software, to conduct a thorough assessment of the Township's existing health and safety policies. As a result of this review, a new policy was crafted to ensure that the Township's current work practices align with all relevant legislation regarding occupational health and safety. Subsequently, a By-law was passed by the Council to adopt the new Health Policy Manual. [Staff Report](#)

##### **2026 Compensation Report**

Council received a and approved [Staff Report](#) recommending a 3% economic increase to the salary structure for staff. This request aims to maintain competitive wages while being fiscally responsible based on current economic indicators.

## **Strategic Plan Update - 2015 Strategic Plan Review**

On November 17, 2025, Council directed staff to conduct a thorough evaluation of the Township's 2015 Strategic Plan to determine the progress of all pending initiatives. A report providing Council with an update can be [viewed here](#).

## **Consent Agenda Items**

The following items were received under the Consent Agenda:

- Confirmation of the [Minutes of 701st Session Regular Council- January 12, 2026](#)
- Lennox & Addington Technical Advisory Committee [Minutes- December 9, 2025](#)
- EORN Cell Gap Project Monthly Update - [December 2025](#)
- Town of Saugeen Shores Council Resolution re: [Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority](#)

## **Consent Agenda Items Extracted**

The following items were extracted from the Consent Agenda for further discussion and approval.

- LEAR Study Update - [Staff Report](#)
- T/E Grass Roots Growers Community Garden [Report - 2025](#)

## **Direct Motion**

Councillor Milligan expressed her concerns regarding the proposed ALTO High Speed Rail Project and the following Direct Motion was passed as a result "That staff be directed to contact ALTO to request that a representatives attend a future Council meeting to discuss the proposed Southern Route for the High Speed Rail Project"

## **Announcements**

- Councillor Fenwick announced that the renaming sign for Vernon Detlor at the Enterprise Rink has been installed and family and friends will be gathering for an unveiling at a future date.
- **Land Evaluation and Area Review (LEAR) Study Open House** - The County of Lennox and Addington will be hosting [Open Houses](#) on February 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm - 9:00pm to receive public input. The purpose of the LEAR is to help the County and Lower Tier municipalities identify lands suitable as **Prime Agricultural Areas** for protection in the upper and lower tier Official Plans.

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Please refer any further questions to the Clerk's Department [clerk@stonemills.com](mailto:clerk@stonemills.com).

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