



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WAINFLEET
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

C15/25
OCTOBER 2, 2025
5:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT:	B. Grant	Mayor
	J. Anderson	Councillor
	T. Gilmore	Councillor
	J. MacLellan	Councillor
	S. Van Vliet	Councillor
STAFF PRESENT:	A. Chrastina	Clerk
	M. Jemison	Drainage Superintendent
OTHER:	E. DeLay	Project Engineer, R.J. Burnside & Associates Ltd.
	S. Vander Veen	Drainage Specialist, R.J. Burnside & Associates Ltd.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Grant called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor Grant acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee Peoples, acknowledging the One Bowl and Spoon Treaty.

3. Disclosures of Interest

None.

4. Public Meeting

a) Ellsworth Drain Consideration Meeting

M. Jemison, Drainage Superintendent provided an overview of staff report DSR-010/2025.

E. DeLay, Engineer with R.J. Burnside & Associates Ltd. provided an overview of his report on the Ellsworth Drain project.

Mayor Grant called for any members of Council wishing to ask questions or provide comment on the project.

Councillor MacLellan inquired about the use of headwalls to keep sediment from running through the full drain.

E. DeLay advised of a sediment basin on the upstream side, which is a similar but, more economical approach.

Councillor Gilmore requested expanded clarification on the rationale for the grass buffer

E. DeLay explained that this area is included within the 10m working space and is intended to be a setback. Depending on the soil type and use, using a native seed mix results in a healthier channel with less erosion.

Mayor Grant called for any members of the public wishing to provide comment on the project.

Brenda Robson, 1033 Wainfleet Dunnville Townline Road

Brenda commented that the photo of the Loeffen property taken in April appears the drain is full however, it was dry by June. Brenda asked if there had been any studies on flow velocity.

E. DeLay advised that transitions are used to increase velocities in very flat areas such as Wainfleet and Haldimand County.

Brenda also commented that setbacks are important but not being used currently in either community as planting right up to the banks is visible.

Brenda asked how the buffer allowance is calculated.

E. DeLay advised that an in-depth explanation was provided at the information meetings. Under the *Drainage Act*, the drain purchases the right of way, per square metre and based on typical land value (\$17,500/acre). The working space is paid at 1/3 value.

Brenda advised that during a historical project a culvert was removed and the replacement was installed at the wrong property.

M. Jemison offered to provide contact information for the Haldimand County Drainage Superintendent to address the culvert issue.

Brenda asked about the fibre lines dug in all along the drain and the implications.

E. DeLay confirmed that per the *Drainage Act* the fibre is movable and any cost would be borne by the utility.

Brenda expressed concern regarding the preservation of natural habitat as there are several species special to this area.

E. DeLay advised that work is done in coordination with the appropriate Ministries and Conservation Authorities.

Mike Petrus, 43969 Highway 3

Mike inquired about culverts being removed and placed to the side.

E. DeLay advised this only related to private culverts installed by the landowner and, when it creates an obstruction.

Councillor MacLellan inquired if the Township can ensure that any private culverts being replaced are the proper size and, if this can be done during the job. M. Jemison confirmed in the affirmative, noting this would be dealt with at the construction phase.

Mike commented that the font size on the assessment schedule was very small and difficult to read.

E. DeLay noted the concern and advised future schedules will be printed on 11 x 17" paper if letter size is unsuitable. The total assessment is based on estimated costs at this point.

Mike asked what agencies are involved in maintaining the setback/buffer.

E. DeLay confirmed that the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) is aware of the report and the buffer is maintained by the Township.

M. Jemison further confirmed that the Township will mow the buffer however, permits may be required from the NPCA or the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for maintenance.

Mike advised he was unaware of any pre-report meetings and that he has received no response to his emails to Council.

Brenda Robson, 1033 Wainfleet Dunnville Townline Road

Brenda further inquired as to the overall purpose of the drain, where it outlets to and, if there is any environmental testing.

E. DeLay advised the purpose is to move water off of lands. This drain outlets to Big Forks, to Big Forks Creek, to the Welland River and finally, to Niagara Falls.

M. Jemison advised drainage issues cannot be solved on one property when the land is so flat. No water testing is done as part of the drainage works however, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority does conduct testing and produces an annual report.

S. Vander Veen advised that farmers obtain licenses to ensure proper pesticide use and, that any concerns of improper use can be directed to the MECP.

Resolution No. C-2025-140

Moved by Councillor MacLellan

Seconded by Councillor Anderson

“THAT Drainage Staff Report DSR-010/2025 respecting the Ellsworth Drain Report be received; and

THAT a by-law be given two readings to provisionally adopt the Ellsworth Drain Engineer’s Report dated August 8, 2025, prepared by RJ Burnside & Associated Limited, under Section 4, Chapter D. 17 of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990; and

THAT Staff be directed to advance the Ellsworth Drain to that of the Court of Revision, as per Section 46(1) of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990; and

THAT Councillor Anderson, Councillor MacLellan and Councillor Metcalfe representing Haldimand County be appointed as members to the Aldrey Drain Court of Revision and Mayor Grant be appointed as an alternate member to be tentatively scheduled for October 29, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.”

CARRIED

5. By-laws**Resolution No. C-2025-141**

Moved by Councillor Anderson

Seconded by Councillor MacLellan

“THAT By-law No. 036-2025 being a by-law to provide for drainage works in the Township of Wainfleet in the Region of Niagara be read a first and second time and be provisionally adopted this 2nd day of October, 2025.”

CARRIED

6. By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council**Resolution No. C-2025-142**

Moved by Councillor Gilmore

Seconded by Councillor MacLellan

“THAT By-law No. 037-2025 being a by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wainfleet its Special Meeting of Council held October 2, 2025 be read and passed this 2nd day of October, 2025.”

CARRIED

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

B. Grant, MAYOR

A. Chrastina, CLERK

Approved October 21, 2025