



Region of Queens Municipality Regular Council
Tuesday, October 28, 2025
4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Mayor Scott Christian, Chair
Deputy Mayor Maddie Charlton
Councillor Roberta Roy
Councillor Courtney Wentzell
Councillor Vicki Amirault
Councillor Jack Fancy
Councillor Stewart Jenkins
Councillor Wanda Carver

Staff: Willa Thorpe, Chief Administrative Officer
Angela Green, Municipal Clerk

1.0 Call to Order

Mayor Christian called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the October 28, 2025 agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

3.0 In Camera

It was moved by Councillor Amirault and seconded by Councillor Carver that the proceedings move to Closed Session at 4:05 p.m. to discuss the following:

15.1 Legal

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Carver that the proceedings exit Closed Session at 4:45 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Christian called the Public Session to order at 5:30 p.m. He outlined the new evening meeting format, noting that Closed Session begins at 4:00 p.m., followed by a brief dinner break, with Public Session commencing at 5:30 p.m. He then offered a territorial acknowledgment, recognizing that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq, and affirmed that we are all Treaty people with attendant responsibilities.

4.0 Adoption of Minutes

4.1 October 14, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins and seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on October 14, 2025 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

5.0 Public Comment

1. Sherm Embree, East Sable River

Mr. Embree appeared before Council to express his support for staff's recommendation to develop a bylaw permitting road trails in Queens County. He advised that he is a trail manager, a Director of the Shelburne County ATV Association, and Treasurer of the Woodland Multi-Use Trail Association in Shelburne County. Mr. Embree was accompanied by Ms. Dana Dares, also a resident of Sable River and Secretary of both organizations. He highlighted the work undertaken in Shelburne County to establish road trail connectivity and encouraged similar progress in Queens County.

2. Dave White, South Brookfield

Mr. White appeared before Council to express his support for staff's recommendation to develop a bylaw permitting road trails in Queens County. He noted that he is the President of the Queens County ATV Association and Secretary of the Queens Rails to Trails Association. Mr. White stated that this was the fifth time he had appeared before Council regarding road trails and expressed appreciation for the work undertaken since February to approve the proposed routes. He highlighted the strong public support expressed during the consultation process and noted that there were no accidents during the pilot program. Mr. White further advised that, over the past two years, the two organizations have funded more than \$500,000 in projects within Queens County.

3. Crystal Carson, Liverpool

Ms. Carson appeared before Council to express concern that the Land Use Bylaw is not being enforced in her neighbourhood, allowing individuals to keep an excessive amount of chickens resulting in a rat infestation and significant property damage. She

requested that Council consider amendments to the Land Use Bylaw, noting that she feels that some residential areas are too densely populated for the keeping of livestock without adversely affecting surrounding properties.

With the consent of Council, the order of business was varied to take up Item 15.2 – Road Trails in Liverpool at this time, recognizing that most of the gallery were in attendance for this matter.

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins and seconded by Councillor Roy:

THAT item 15.2 – Road Trails in Liverpool be brought forward at this time.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

15.2 Road Trails in Liverpool

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality direct staff to draft a bylaw that designates five sections of road trails on public roads in Liverpool.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6.0 Delegations and Presentations

There were no delegations or presentations.

7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 Administrative Policy No. 56 – Utility Assistance Rebate

It was moved by Councillor Wentzell and seconded by Councillor Carver:

THAT the motion relating to Administrative Policy No. 56 – Utility Assistance Rebate is lifted from the table.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Jenkins:

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality adopt Administrative Policy No. 56 – Utility Assistance Rebate as presented and revised.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

8.0 Staff Reports

There were no Staff Reports.

9.0 Bylaws and Policies

9.1 Operational Policy No. 98 – Records Management

It was moved by Councillor Jenkins and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality adopt Operational Policy No. 98 – Records Management as presented.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

9.2 First Reading of Bylaw 13 – Solid Waste Management

It was moved by Councillor Wentzell and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT Bylaw No. 13 – Solid Waste Management, be now introduced and read a first time.

MOTION DEFEATED unanimously.

It was moved by Councillor Wentzell and seconded by Councillor Fancy:

THAT Council direct staff to revise the draft of Bylaw No. 13 – Solid Waste Management to incorporate Council's suggested changes and bring the revised draft forward for First Reading at a future meeting.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

10.0 Correspondence for Action

There was no Correspondence for Action.

11.0 Correspondence for Information

There was no Correspondence for information.

12.0 Report From In Camera

There was no report from In Camera.

13.0 Mayor's Report

Mayor Christian expressed condolences on the passing of former Councillor Ramond Fiske, noting his two terms on Council, his valued service as a member of the Hillsvie Acres team, and his many contributions to the community. The Mayor advised that visitation would

be held at Chandler's Funeral Home on October 28 at 7:00 p.m., with a Masonic service at 7:30 p.m., and that funeral services would take place at Greenfield Baptist United Church on October 29. Council observed a moment of remembrance in honour of Mr. Fiske.

The Mayor extended congratulations to Kelley-Anne Hurley on her retirement and expressed appreciation for her 16 years of dedicated service in by-law enforcement with the Municipality.

The Mayor reported on attendance at the Fire Services Committee meeting held October 14, noting that discussions highlighted the importance of the Protective Services Coordinator role and a strong Emergency Management Coordination function within the Municipality to ensure effective support for volunteer fire departments across Queens County.

Mayor Christian also attended the Lake Shoreline Function, Restoration and Regulations – Consensus Building for Municipalities Session on October 22 at Ponhook Lodge Campground, facilitated by the Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve. The session brought together representatives from seven municipalities, subject-matter experts, community organizations, and residents to discuss responsible development around watercourses, appropriate by-laws and enforcement, public education for landowners, and best practices in shoreline protection.

The Mayor noted completion of seven Town Hall meetings held October 16 to 27, thanking staff, Council, and residents for their participation. He encouraged final submissions of community feedback through the paper and online surveys, advising that an updated draft of the Strategic Plan 2026-2029 will be presented to Council in late November or early December for review and discussion.

14.0 Council Reports

14.1 Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw Review

Deputy Mayor Charlton brought forward a motion to direct staff to begin a comprehensive review of both the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Land Use Bylaw.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Jenkins:

THAT Council direct staff to commence a comprehensive review and revision process for the Region of Queens Municipality Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw, with particular focus on:

- Commercial uses and allowances within residential zones;
- Regulation and permitting of short-term rentals;
- The keeping of livestock within residential and rural zones;
- Light pollution mitigation and related dark-sky considerations;
- Coastal protection measures and climate-resilient land use provisions; and
- Minimum property standards.

Further, that staff prepare a report outlining proposed consultation timelines, engagement methods, and anticipated resource requirements to support this review process, for Council's consideration at the Regular Council Meeting on December 9, 2025.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

14.2 Review of Bylaw No. 3 – Dogs

Councillor Fancy brought forward a motion to direct staff to begin a comprehensive review of Bylaw No. 3 - Dogs.

It was moved by Councillor Fancy and seconded by Councillor Jenkins:

THAT Council direct staff to initiate a review and update of Bylaw No. 3 – Dogs, with particular emphasis on:

- Establishing clear provisions for the identification and mandatory muzzling of dangerous or reactive dogs;
- Examining the legality, safety, and potential restriction or prohibition of electronic or ultrasonic barking deterrent devices; and
- Developing more stringent guidelines, enforcement measures, and penalties related to persistent or excessive barking.

Further, that staff prepare a report for Council's consideration outlining recommended amendments, enforcement implications, and any necessary public consultation process arising from this review.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

15.0 New Business

15.1 Receipting Process – Safety Funding for Fire Departments

It was moved by Councillor Wentzell and seconded by Councillor Roy:

THAT the Council of Region of Queens Municipality directs staff to continue the requirement that fire departments provide receipts for annual safety funding, and the Municipality holds funds for the subsequent fiscal year until receipts are submitted.

MOTION CARRIED with 5 in favour, 3 against.

15.3 Lift Station Upgrades – Town Bridge and Cross Street

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton and seconded by Councillor Amirault:

THAT Council for Region of Queens Municipality direct staff to proceed with the prepurchase of lift station equipment and fibreglass enclosures for Town Bridge and Cross Street at a cost of \$500,415 + HST.

MOTION CARRIED with 6 in favour, 2 against.

16.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Mayor Scott Christian, Chair

Angela Green, Municipal Clerk

Date Approved: _____