

Council News in Brief

February 9, 2026 – 7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting of Council

The Council of the Town of Petrolia held their regular meeting of Council on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at Victoria Hall.

At this meeting, the Council of the Town of Petrolia:

- Received a presentation from Mr. Wade Babula regarding the Petrolia YMCA 2025 Year in Review.
- Received a presentation from Mr. Mike Barron, Executive Director of Sarnia Community Foundation regarding the 2026 Community Impact Grants (Petrolia Community Fund).
- Council endorsed as presented the 2025 annual Brights Grove Water Treatment Plant report as presented by the Ontario Clean Water Agency.
- As the existing Petrolia Intake on Lake Huron, has reached the end of its service life; Council received a pre-consultation presentation from Ms. Julie Welker, Source Protection Coordinator; Council endorsed the Petrolia Intake replacement project to result in a new intake, in approximately the same location as the existing location, as planned and presented.
- Received and filed a report regarding business licences and signage permits issued.
- Endorsed the proposed conditions of draft approval as presented in the report from County of Lambton Development Services Department, respecting subdivision file 38T-25004.
- Received a report regarding the Ministry of Transportation - Pothole prevention and repair program (multi-year); and authorized the Mayor and CAO/Treasurer to enter into the transfer payment agreement for 2025 funds to be received; and because this is a multi-year funding program by the Ministry of Transportation, authorized the Mayor along with the CAO, Treasurer and or Clerk to enter into future TPA agreements once issued.
- Received a report regarding purchasing a replacement Fire Chief vehicle; and provided an exemption to s.5.0 of by-law 39 of 2018 allowing the purchase of a 2025 GMC Sierra 1500 4WD Elevation truck from MacFarlane Chevrolet for \$ 67,000 plus applicable taxes; and that the Fire Chief install the required lights and decals and purchase any special fire equipment needed.
- Adopted a report regarding Victoria Hall Window Repair Quote; and approved the quote from Bourque Renovations in the amount of \$36,340 plus HST
- Adopted a report regarding Petrolia YMCA Fitness Equipment Replacement; and approved the purchase from Keiser in the amount of \$28,738 USD plus taxes; and upon delivery of the new bikes, Council declared the old bikes surplus and direct staff to list them on GovDeals.
- Adopted a report regarding 2026 Events Road Closures and Parades Routes; and approved the roads listed for closure on the dates and times listed; and that public notification be issued by the Clerk/Operations Clerk.
- Adopted a report regarding AGCO Significant Community Events; and approved the request to grant significant event status to the events for 2026 as listed in the report; and directed the Clerk to produce confirmation for use with the AGCO applications.

Sec 239(2) of the Act

- None

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OTHER BUSINESS | ITEMS UNDER STRONG MAYOR POWERS

Motion from Councillor Liz Welsh: WHEREAS the Town of Petrolia contract the County of Lambton for planning services.

AND WHEREAS information relating to planning in Petrolia significantly impacts the lives of our residents and information shared at public meetings fosters education and transparency and enhances trust in the civic process.

AND WHEREAS public engagement ensures that facts regarding community planning are correctly communicated.

AND WHEREAS these public meetings do not appear on the County of Lambton civic web page.

AND WHEREAS our Mission as stated in the Town of Petrolia Strategic Plan is "To provide exceptional leadership and to sustain the quality of life in Petrolia through fiscal responsibility and community engagement."

AND WHEREAS as elected representatives and as public servants who are employed at the expense and pleasure of our residents, we have a responsibility to engage and educate the public on things that happen here that will profoundly affect their lives.

AND WHEREAS an informed public is a fundamental principle of good governance and transparency.

AND WHEREAS decisions are being made that affect our community in the long term and well beyond this Council and Staff's mandate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that moving forward, the Town of Petrolia will post County of Lambton public meetings and supporting relevant documentation related to planning in the Town of Petrolia on the Petrolia CivicWeb portal.

AND FURTHER THAT the County of Lambton in its Official Plan review be encouraged to keep all opportunities for public meetings and engagement for planning.

Motion from Councillor Joel Field: WHEREAS through recent meetings and communication with developers as a member of the development advisory team as council's liaison member the topic of expanded lot coverage for the Town of Petrolia has continuously come forward; and

WHEREAS hearing the desire from several developers for a standard lot coverage of forty percent (40%); and

WHEREAS in discussion with staff at both the County and Town level it does seem possible for this expanded lot coverage to be supported in new development areas;

WHEREAS amending our zoning by-law for a blanket amendment to allow for forty percent (40%) lot coverage in all new development areas would assist in achieving the provinces mandate to "Build more homes faster";.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Petrolia provide direction to Mr. Will Nywening, Sr. Planner to return to council with additional information regarding implementation of a housekeeping amendment to allow for forty percent (40%) lot coverage in all new development areas (exclusively) within the Town.

Motion from Mayor R. Brad Loosley: WHEREAS on January 1, 2026, as a result of the provincial shift to producer collection the Town of Petrolia residents were shifted from cart to blue box for curbside recycling collection; and

WHEREAS as Mayor, I advocated directly with Mr. Allan Langdon, the CEO of Recycling in Ontario, Mr. Bob Bailey, MPP of Sarnia-Lambton and the Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the return of cart collection for residential recycling collection; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allan Langdon, the CEO of Recycling in Ontario, called me on Monday, December 15, 2025, and stated that he thought the town was using blue boxes for recycling;

WHEREAS several municipalities around southwestern Ontario, now being serviced by EMTERRA under the new contracts, are being serviced through curbside cart collection and not blue box recycling collection making it evident that curbside cart collection is able to be serviced by municipalities under EMTERRA collection.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Petrolia request that the Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks review the situation and provide remedy for Recycling Ontario to return to cart collection for residential recycling in the Town of Petrolia

By-Laws

THAT By-Law Number 09-2026 being a By-Law of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia to authorize the execution of an agreement with his Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the purpose of receiving funds for pothole prevention and repair in the Town of Petrolia be read a third time and finally passed.

THAT By-Law Number 10-2026 being a By-Law of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia to Confirm the Resolutions and Motions of the Council of the Town of Petrolia which were adopted up to and including February 09, 2026, be read a third time and finally passed.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS and INFORMATION:

February

7-13 St. Paul 's United Church Facebook Auction

11 – Petrolia Lions BINGO

12- CEEH Auxiliary Chocolate Extravaganza

13-16 - Family Day Activities

14 – Yuk Yuks on stage at Victoria Hall - \$20

16 – Municipal Office Closed for Family Day Petrolia

16 – Snow Sculpture Contest closes at 4:00 p.m.

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- 21– Heritage AC Women and Families Local History Open House at Victoria Hall - noon – 4p m
- 22 – Effective Speaking Contest at the Petrolia Lions Hall
- 27 – MUDMEN on stage at Victoria Hall

All Council meetings and public information sessions are now available on YouTube within 24 hours of the meeting. Please visit https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIU4yc_Bsj6gobs4vZNXTSQ (You Tube "Town of Petrolia" Channel) to view.

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