

COUNCIL MINUTES

TOWNSHIP OF COCKBURN ISLAND COUNCIL MEETING

5:00 PM WEDNESDAY, May 13, 2026

Meeting On-line by ZOOM

ZOOM LINK <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81611497410>

(link is the same for every regular meeting)

PRESENT

Mayor: Brenda Jones

Councillors: Lee Chappell

Jeff House

Simon Lacombe

Scott Stewart (5:10)

Clerk: Lynn Jackes

Brent St. Denis : Observer – Newly retired clerk

(A number of ratepayers observed the meeting.)

Time – 4:58 PM

Call to Order

Declarations of any pecuniary interest

Delegations – if any

New Business – if any

Public Works Committee Meeting

Resolution # 26-05-01

Moved: S Lacombe

Seconded: S Stewart

That the May 13th, 2026 Council meeting agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

Resolution # 26-05-02

Moved: L Chappell

Seconded: S Lacombe

That the minutes of the April 8th, 2026 regular meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

Public Works Committee meeting – Council and available Public Works crew

Resolution # 26-05-03

Moved: L Chappell

Seconded: J House

That we enter into Committee of the Whole so that an informal discussion with staff can be held regarding Public Works and related matters.

Time – 5:00 PM

CARRIED

Council Member Stewart chaired the PW session. Items raised during the Public Works Committee of the Whole included;

Priority #1 are the dock repairs.
Snow fence and supplies will be ordered by Scott for the fall.
Scott will order supplies for dock repairs.
Culverts will be cleaned out after the water goes down.
Ian Anderson will be asked by Scott to trap the beavers.
Scott will coordinate with Alex to fabricate and test one or two hinged screens for culverts.
The May road inspection is planned for Tuesday, May 19th after which a list of required tasks will be sent to Scott Richards at Cockburn Island Logging.

Resolution # 26-05-04

Moved: S Lacombe

Seconded: L Chappell

That we return to Open Session

Time – 5:18 PM

CARRIED

Action Items

Seasonal Roads By-law – response to a request that the township snow plow the township roads from I street to the inside of the township dump yard -see updated draft in package.

Resolution # 26-05-05

Moved: S Stewart

Seconded: L Chappell

Councillor S Lacombe abstained from the vote.

Be It Resolved that By-law #2026-05 **Being a Bylaw to establish closings and seasonal maintenance on certain municipal highways, road allowances and sidewalks within the Township of Cockburn Island** be read a first, second, third and final time, be adopted, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, be sealed with the corporation's seal, be numbered #2026-05 and be filed with the by-law records.

CARRIED

NCC Support Grant - confirm the arrangement discussed last fall that the support grant base (+ taxes) be fixed at \$40,000 with yearly grant base adjustments thereafter at the annual tax rate increase

Resolution # 26-05-06
Moved: S Stewart
Seconded: J House

CARRIED

Whereas the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) and the Township discussed in the fall of 2025 setting an annual NCC support grant based upon historical tax and grant revenues from the "forest",

- *NCC would continue to provide annual payments of \$40,000 (in 2026 dollars) to the Township comprising the sum of the voluntary support grant (base amount) and tax payment.*
- *To ensure that the support payment doesn't become stagnant and is adjusted for inflation, each year the new base amount would be equal to the base amount of the previous year plus an inflation adjustment equal to Council's agreed tax increase percentage.*
- *This new process would start in 2026 but could be used for the 2025 Support Grant invoice and possibly to adjust the 2024 invoice. (Details and permissions to be determined).*
- *Future assessment shifts from Residential to Managed Forest (MF) and/or Exempt would be adjusted for as they came along. (Details of the process to be determined with advice sought from the Ministry of Finance as it concerns impacts to the OMPF grant over time).*

Whereas the NCC has paid the balance of the 2024 and the full 2025 grant amounts in accordance with the proposal,
Now therefore Council agrees to continue with the arrangement and that annual invoices for NCC be prepared accordingly.

CARRIED

Insurance – See correspondence from the Municipal Insurance Brokers for the 2026-2027 renewal for your information only. Renewal is July 2026.
After Council discussion Lynn was instructed to make a few corrections and raise the replacement value of the Church and Hall.

Financial Report - Receive report on disbursements by cheque, transfer, auto-debit, NCU "pay bills" and VISA.

Northern Credit Union Bank balances as of May 6, 2026	
<u>Dock Account 101</u>	\$16,108.36
<u>Heritage Account 102</u>	\$75,782.28
<u>Operating Account 100</u>	\$285,945.68
<u>1 YEAR 3 PT 1 LANDFILL GIC 403</u>	\$10,000.00

TOTAL \$387,836.32

Current Interest Rate earned on Operating account2.45 %

Current Interest Rate earned on Twp Heritage Account 1.95 %
Current Interest Rate earned on Dock Account.....1.95 %
LANDFILL GIC3.1%, one-year from Sept/25

Resolution # 2026-05-07

Moved: J House

Seconded: S Stewart

That the Treasurer's report on bank balances, cheques, auto-debit payments, EFTs, e-transfers and the VISA card statemen be hereby received.

CARRIED

Council Members' Concerns –

Jeff House

- Presented 2 salt spreader quotes. Council decided on the more expensive but more practical option.
- Suggested backfilling W Street N with brush and wood and layering with pit run gravel. Council will revisit the issue at the next meeting.

Lee Chappell, Scott Stewart and Simon Lacombe had no additional concerns that had not already been addressed.

Brenda reported that recertification for First Response Team will be offered August 8 & 9.

Resolution # 2026-05-08

Moved: L Chappell

Seconded: S Lacombe

Council authorizes Councillor Jeff House to purchase the SHPE0750 Salter by Salt Dogg.

CARRIED

Clerk's Report

- a) Clerk-Treasurer Handover files for Council and Lynn to be aware of;
 - 2026 Trails Plan with NCC
Scott will connect with Megan regarding the Trails Plan.
 - Rob Fenemma (Tulloch engineer) to island for landfill assessment under ARO
Jeff House suggested the Rob inspect the marina piers when he is on the island.
The scope of the repairs may be necessary to acquire funding.
- b) **EASE grant** – Dock accessibility – The application has been submitted
- c) **2026 Election** – Election day is October 26th and nominations are open May 1st and close August 21st by 3pm. Nomination forms are available from the Clerk.

Closed Session if needed

Adjournment

Resolution # 2026-05-09

Moved: J House

Seconded: S Stewart

That this meeting be now adjourned and that Council meet again by Zoom at 5 PM Wednesday June 10 th , 2026 or at the call of the Mayor.
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CARRIED

Time – 6:17 pm

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CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF MEETING MINUTES
FOR THE May 13th, 2026 COCKBURN ISLAND
COUNCIL MEETING

_____  _____ CLERK-TREASURER,

_____  _____ MAYOR BRENDA JONES
Mayor