



The Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 10:00 am
Council Chambers, 5 Main Street North, Grand Valley

Council Present: Mayor Steve Soloman
Deputy Mayor Philip Rentsch
Councillor Lorne Dart
Councillor James Jonker
Councillor Paul Latam

Staff Present: Meghan Townsend, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Matthew Bos, Director Public Works
Steven Freitas, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Mark Kluge, Manager of Planning
James Allen, Recreation Facilities Manager
Brad Haines, By-Law Enforcement Officer
Donna Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Soloman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk conducted a roll call.

Councillor Jonker attended the meeting virtually.

Mayor Soloman announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast with the recording of the meeting to be available on the Town's website.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution: 2026-03-24

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts the Regular Council Meeting agenda dated Tuesday, March 24, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Mayor Soloman declared a pecuniary interest with respect to item 11.1 242 Water Street Lease Termination - update as it related to a family matter.

4. Closed Meeting - (to immediately follow open session)

Resolution: 2026-03-47

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council resolve itself into a meeting that is closed to the public at 3:10 p.m. pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001, under the provisions of Section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual and (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

CARRIED

4.1 Call to Order

4.2 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

4.3 Closed Minutes

4.4 Items for Discussion

4.4.1 Confidential Report – Public Appointments to the Grand Valley Economic Development Advisory Committee, 2026-062

4.4.2 Confidential Update – Sale of Southgate Gravel Pit, 2026-063

4.4.3 Chief Administrative Officer Development Plan Update and 2026 Performance Review Discussions, 2026-061

5. Open Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

6. Rise and Report

Councillor Jonker left the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Council rose from its closed meeting at 3:48 p.m. and reported as follows:

Resolution: 2026-03-48

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the Closed Session minutes dated November 25, 2025 as presented in closed session

CARRIED

Resolution: 2026-03-49

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoints Rebecca Landman to the Grand Valley Economic Development Advisory Committee for the term ending November 2026 or until such time as a successor is appointed.

CARRIED

Resolution: 2026-03-50

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Confidential Update – Sale of Southgate Gravel Pit

AND THAT the CAO proceed with the sale as discussed in closed session.

CARRIED

Resolution: 2026-03-51

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Confidential Report – CAO Development Plan Update and 2026 Performance Review Discussion,

AND FURTHER THAT Council receives the 2025 update,

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the CAO to arrange for representative from Ward & Uptigrove Human Resource Solutions to facilitate the 2026 Performance Review, so that the draft review is presented at the May 26, 2026 meeting and completed by June 23, 2026.

CARRIED

7. Approval of Previous Minutes

Resolution: 2026-03-

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the March 10, 2026, Regular Council Meeting and Special Council Meeting - 2026 Budget be approved as circulated/amended.

CARRIED

8. Announcements

There were no announcements.

9. Deputations/Presentations

9.1 10:05 a.m. Town of Grand Valley 2025 Annual Water Reporting

Resolution: 2026-03-26

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to Joe Miedema, P.Eng., General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited to address Council.

CARRIED

9.1.1 Presentation - Joe Miedema, P.Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited

Councillor Dart arrived at 10:05 am.

Joe Miedema, P. Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited came before Council to present a summary of the information contained in the legislated and annual Drinking Water System reports. He informed Council based on the presented reports no non-compliance issues were reported during inspections in 2025.

Resolution: 2026-03-27

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the presentation from Joe Miedema, P. Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to post the 2025 Grand Valley Water Systems Annual Summary Report and Ontario Drinking Water Systems Regulation O.Reg 170/03 Annual Report on the Town's website.

CARRIED

9.2 10:35 a.m. Town of Grand Valley 2025 Asset Management Plan

Resolution: 2026-03-28

Moved by: P. Rentsch
Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to Arunas Kalinauskas from RJ Burnside and Associates Ltd. to address Council.

CARRIED

9.2.1 Presentation - Arunas Kalinauskas, Business Manager, Asset Management/GIS, RJ Burnside and Associates Ltd.

Arunas Kalinauskas, Business Manager, Asset Management/GIS, RJ Burnside and Associates Ltd. appeared before Council to present the 2025 Town of Grand Valley Asset Management Plan. His presentation included information regarding Municipal Asset Management requirements, the project outline, a summary of the state of local infrastructure, levels of service, asset and financial strategy and recommendations.

He addressed questions from Council regarding Council's role regarding Asset Management Plans, asset replacement, repairs, costs and funding.

Resolution: 2026-03-29

Moved by: P. Latam
Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the presentation from Arunas Kalinauskas from RJ Burnside and Associates Ltd,

AND FURTHER THAT Council receive and approve the 2025 Town of Grand Valley Asset Management Plan;

AND FURTHER THAT Council consider the 2025 Asset Management Plan during annual budget deliberations;

AND FURTHER THAT The Plan be updated as required and as the Town's priorities change.

CARRIED

10. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

11. Unfinished Business

11.1 242 Water Street Lease Termination - update, 2026-060

S. Soloman declared a conflict on this item. (Family matter.)

Mayor Soloman left the meeting and did not participate in the discussions or vote on this item.

Deputy Mayor Rentsch assumed the Chair.

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included questions regarding use of the land, condition of land and structures. CAO Townsend advised the barn will be removed prior to the Town's re-assuming the property and there will be further discussions regarding its future use.

Resolution: 2026-03-30

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Report – 242 Water Street Lease Termination – Update,

AND FURTHER THAT Council agrees to the request from the Tenant for an extension of time to vacate the property to August 31, 2026.

CARRIED

12. Staff Reports

12.1 By-Law and Property Standards Enforcement

12.1.1 By-law Enforcement Status Update – February 2026, 2026-064

Mayor Soloman assumed the Chair.

Brad Haines, By-Law and Property Standards Enforcement Officer presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included an update on requested amendments to the time length for handicap parking in the urban area. Staff advised an update will be provided.

Resolution: 2026-03-31

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Report – By-Law Enforcement Status Update –February 2026

CARRIED

12.2 Parks and Recreation

12.2.1 Recreation Update March 2026, 2026-057

James Allen, Recreation Facilities Manager presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included new summer programs.

Resolution: 2026-03-32

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the report Recreation Update March 2026 for information purposes.

CARRIED

12.3 Director of Finance/Treasurer

12.3.1 Final 2026 Operating and Capital Budget, 2026-066

Steven Freitas, Director of Finances/Treasurer presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussion included:

- 2026 levy amounts for:
 - Grand Valley and District Fire Department
 - Grand Valley and District Community Centre and
 - Grand Valley Library Board
- Recreation Summer Student
- Access road maintenance of Taylor Drive storm water pond
- Roads projects and
- Reserves

Council recessed at 12:45 p.m. and resumed at 1:15 p.m.

Resolution: 2026-03-33

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT 125,000 be added into the public works budget for sidewalks on King Street and the balance to reserves.

CARRIED

A recorded vote was requested.

Resolution: 2026-03-34

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report – Final 2026 Operating and Capital Budget;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Final 2026 Operating and Capital Budget as presented and discussed and directs staff to prepare and present the necessary by-laws for adoption.

For (5): S. Soloman, P. Rentsch, L. Dart, J. Jonker, and P. Latam

CARRIED (5 to 0)

12.3.2 Final 2026 Town of Grand Valley Fees and Charges Update, 2026-058

Steven Freitas, Director of Finance/Treasurer presented the report.

Resolution: 2026-03-35

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report – Final 2026 Town of Grand Valley Fees and Charges Update;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to present the Fees and Charges By-Law for adoption in accordance with Appendix 1 to this report.

CARRIED

12.3.3 Treasurer's Update, 2026-068

Steven Freitas, Director of Finance presented report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included the Colbeck Park Committee accounts receivable and the status of the operating line. Staff advised discussions have taken place with Colbeck Committee members regarding the outstanding accounts receivable and staff are working on completing year end transfers.

Resolution: 2026-03-36

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Report – Treasurer’s Update for information purposes.

CARRIED

12.4 CAO/Clerk

12.4.1 Debenture By-law for Community Centre Expansion Financing, 2026-065

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included the debenture interest rate, alternative funding sources and future management of the Community Centre. Staff advised the Town could be subject to penalties if the debenture was cancelled.

Resolution: 2026-03-37

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the report Debenture By-Law for Community Centre Expansion Financing;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorizes the issuance of a Debenture, carrying an interest rate of 4.53% p.a. (compounded semi-annually), principal amount of \$3,113,500.00, term of 20 years and with a closing date of April 15, 2026, to Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (“OILC”);

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to cause the Debentures to be issued, one or more of the Clerk and Treasurer are hereby authorized to generally do all things and to execute all other documents and other papers in the name of the Municipality in order to carry out the issue of the Debentures and the Treasurer is authorized to affix the Municipality’s municipal seal to any of such documents and papers;

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to prepare and present the necessary By-Law for passing.

CARRIED

12.4.2 Bulk Water Program, 2026-039

CAO Townsend presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included program administration.

Resolution: 2026-03-38

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the report Bulk Water Program

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to proceed with option three (3), increase the administration fee for “per occasion” connections to \$150, and establish a separate bulk water fee of \$5.00/m³

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to include this fee in the next update to the Town’s Fee and Charges By-law.

CARRIED

12.4.3 Council Remuneration Review, 2025-188

Donna Tremblay, Deputy Clerk, presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions including clarification of the comparator data and process for board and committee per diem expenses.

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report Council Remuneration Review;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Council Remuneration Policy in accordance with Attachment 4 to this report.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to prepare and present a Council Remuneration By-law for adoption at a future meeting of Council.

AND FURTHER THAT the following salaries be approved for 2026-2030 term:

- Mayor \$22,000
- Deputy Mayor \$16,391.33
- Councillor \$15,649.30

DEFEATED

Resolution: 2026-03-40

Moved by: P. Rentsch
Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Report Council Remuneration Review

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Council Remuneration Policy in accordance with Attachment 4 to this report

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to prepare and present a Council Remuneration By-Law for adoption at a future meeting of Council.

CARRIED

12.4.4 2025 Statement of Council and Local Board Member Remuneration and Expenses Paid, 2026-059

CAO Townsend presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included a request for staff review the remuneration for Grand Valley Library Board Members, to ensure all library board member were listed. Staff advised they would review and provide a revised list.

Resolution: 2026-03-41

Moved by: P. Latam
Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the report 2025 Statement of Council and Local Board Member Remuneration and Expenses Paid, for information purposes, as amended.

CARRIED

15. Correspondence

Resolution: 2026-03-44

Moved by: J. Jonker
Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the correspondence listed on the Tuesday, March 24, 2026, Council Agenda.

12. Staff Reports

12.4 CAO/Clerk

12.4.5 2026 Municipal and School Board Election – Policy and By-Law Updates, 2026-052

Deputy Clerk Tremblay presented the report.

Council discussed the report. Discussions included the Use of Corporate Resources policy.

Resolution: 2026-03-42

Moved by: P. Latam
Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the report 2026 Municipal and School Board Election– Policy and By-law Updates

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Use of Corporate Resources for Municipal Election Policy for the 2026 Municipal Election as presented in Appendix 1.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to present the necessary by-laws identified as Appendices to this Report for adoption.

CARRIED

13. Public Meeting

There was no public meeting.

15. Correspondence

15.1 Allto Construction - Request for Septic Disposal Access at Grand Valley Treatment Facility

CAO Townsend presented the report.

Resolution: 2026-03-43

Moved by: P. Rentsch
Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the correspondence from Allto Construction - Request for Septic Disposal Access at Grand Valley Treatment facility;

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff in conjunction with OCWA, to prepare a report by end of Q2 to determine the capacity of WWTP, potential costs, and any other issues that are deemed relevant.

CARRIED

14. Pending Items

There were no pending items.

16. County Council Report

Mayor Soloman reported County Council's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026.

17. Council Updates

Mayor Soloman's update included his attendance at the grand opening of the Mix on Friday, March 20th and the Grand Valley Agricultural Society's Irish Stew Dinner on March 14, 2026.

Councillor Jonker's update included his attendance at the Grand Valley Library's Board meeting on March 23rd where the Board approved their 2026 Budget.

18. Boards and Committees

18.1 Board and Committee Minutes

Resolution: 2026-03-46

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Board and Committee Minutes listed on the Tuesday, March 24, 2026, Council Agenda.

19. New Business

Mark Kluge, Manager of Planning advised Council that the appeal period for OPA 8 has ended and that there were no appeals received. He outlined the next steps for the Zoning By-Law and that the Vision Grand Valley Project will be completed in the Summer of 2026.

Council requested that a copy of the draft Zoning By-Law be provided once revisions have been completed by the Town's Consultants. Staff advised a copy of the revised draft will be provided.

20. Notice of Motion

21. By-laws

Resolution: 2026-03-45

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to introduce the by-laws listed on the Tuesday, March 24, 2026 agenda as items 21.1 to 21.5 and that the By-laws be given the necessary reading and passed and numbered as By-law 2026-16 and By-Laws 2026- 20 to 2026-23.

CARRIED

22. Confirm Proceedings

Resolution: 2026-03-52

Moved by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to introduce a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 and that it be given the necessary readings and be passed and numbered as By-Law 2026-24.

CARRIED

23. Adjournment

Resolution: 2026-03-53

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn this Regular Council Meeting at 3:50 p.m. to meet again for a Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.

CARRIED

Steve Soloman, Mayor

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk