

Village of Hawarden

Council Meeting Highlights

August 6, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Council approved the minutes of the July 9th, 2025 regular meeting of council, as well as the minutes of the July 23rd, 2025 Special Meeting. Minutes will be available on our website shortly for review.

There were no delegates to the meeting.

Council reviewed the July 2025 Garbage and Recycling Services invoice provided by Loraas. This invoice reflects a change in our billing structure, highlighting a reduction in service costs. Discussions regarding changes for 2026 will be held at a later meeting should council so desire.

Reminder that there a public meeting will be held Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hawarden Centennial Hall. Council will hear verbal submissions regarding both the Water Wolf District OCP, as well as the Hawarden Zoning Bylaw. You may also provide written submissions if you so desire. Those will be read on your behalf. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact administration. At the August 6th meeting council requested that a provision be added that allows up to 6 hens. No roosters will be allowed. There will be specific procedures regarding care and control of said animals implemented. Administration is working with Crosby Hanna Urban Planners on the specifics. The updated version of our Zoning Bylaw will be available on our website for review shortly.

Council has adopted Bylaw 05-25; a bylaw regarding building into practice. The Building Bylaw will be available online. Council has retained Municode Building Inspectors Inc. from Warman. Friendly reminder that building without an approved Development and Building Permit will result in A Stop work order being issues immediately, as well as penalties and fees being levied.

Council intends to pass a Municipal Heritage Property Designation Bylaw at the Sept 17th, 2025 regular meeting of council, which will be held following the special meeting. This designation is specific to the Commemorative Bell located at the Original Fire Hall Site [Lot 1-2, Block 7, Plan G322].

The Village has had a website for almost 1 year now. The site has proven to be quite successful. www.villageofhawarden.ca. The next step is to create an interface that allows administration to update the website internally. This will allow the office to update in a timely matter without having to obtain the assistance of a web developer. Council approved this development at the meeting. The cost will be about \$900.00 and should be completed in the next couple of weeks. This will then mean instead of the highlights stating “items will be available online shortly”,

correspondence will say "item available online". The next online phase of our Hawarden Improvement Project is to put all of our current bylaws on the website. Stay tuned!

Facebook – Do you utilize our Facebook page? Discussions ensued at the meeting as to whether Facebook will be necessary once the Website is efficient. Facebook for Municipalities can actually work against a municipality if used inappropriately. Funding sponsors [Grants, Donations etc.] are less likely to support an endeavour if there is negative publicity online regarding a community.

The Hawarden Rink has definitely seen better days, and discussions are on-going regarding to how best to deal with the structure. For the time being "No Trespassing" signs will be added. Please stay clear.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Cemetary Clean-Up Day. A huge thank you goes out to Jordan Phillips who provided equipment, and expertise for the event. The Lucki and the Blosky Families also assisted with the event, as did numerous members of council. A BBQ was held after the work was done. Thank you to Southern Meats in Kenaston for your generous contribution. The burgers were tasty. A Fall Community Clean- Up will be announced later this month. We hope to see everyone there.

The 2025 Operating Budget was approved at the July 23, 2025 special meeting of council. A Base Tax Bylaw and a Tax Penalties Bylaw were adopted into practice. Now that the Assessment Roll has closed for the year 2025, the taxes may be levied. You should receive your notice shortly. Please be advised that although there is no discount for early payment there will be a contest announcement. Please be sure to read the notice enclosed for more details!

Administration reported that the focus this past month has been on Financial Statement preparation and revenue generation. The Q2 Water Bills have been circulated and payment is due Aug 30. Please report any errors to the office. Please be advised that if your account is in arrears payment arrangements need to be put in place to ensure there are no disruptions in service.

Councilor Edwards circulated the July 2025 Water Records for review. The records were approved by motion. As previously reported council has engaged KGS Engineering to facilitate a water study, creating an action plan that meets the Water Security Agencies requirements for potable water status. Conversations are now in progress regarding the financial component. How do you we pay for the required upgrades? Council may entertain borrowing as an option. If council should opt to pursue this option further, notice will be given prior to adoption of a borrowing bylaw. Council is also looking into Grant options and sponsorship. If yourself, or a company you know, would be interested in helping Hawarden bring drinking water back to town please reach out to council or administration.

There was a request to purchase the Model 2 Siren. Council decided the siren is a part of the communities' heritage and will stay in Hawarden.

The Ombudsman advised council of services they provide to assist with conflict resolution, code of ethics concerns etc. Council has requested that Administration reach out to determine if any of their programs would be beneficial in ensuring optimal success for the community. An update will be provided at the next regular meeting.

Council continues to encounter internal challenges that require the support of legal council. As a result of said conditions the Village continues to face an incredibly vicarious financial position. In the name of full transparency, and accountability to our ratepayers, while still staying within the legislated requirements of office, council hereby advises that they intend to identify municipal properties, for potential future sale by tender or sale.

Office Hours will be on Wednesday's 12-3 unless otherwise posted. The office is open 12-6 on council meeting dates unless otherwise posted. If you work out of town and need to meet outside of office hours let me know.

Council will hold a special meeting Tuesday, August 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Hawarden Municipal Office. Council has also reserved Thursday, September 11th, 2025 for a special meeting if deemed necessary. This meeting will be confirmed in the up coming weeks. Agenda's will be posted in advance.

The next regular meeting of council is September 17, 2025. The regular meeting will be held immediately following the public meeting. Both the public and the regular meeting of September 17, 2025 will be held in the Hawarden Centennial Hall.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to give me a call or stop in. I love questions.

Have a great couple of weeks everyone. See you August 19th.

Sincerely,

Kelly Dodd
Administrator