ABOUT LAST NIGHT

October 13, 2026 www.BonfieldTownship.com

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Want to connect with Council?

Connect with a Member of Council

Mayor Narry Paquette
705-475-6207

Deputy Mayor Jason Corbett
705-840-0379

Councillor Clark
905-686-7056

Councillor Steve Featherstone
905-531-5367

Councillor Dan McInnis
705-358-2469

More Questions?

Contact the Township Office at:
705-776-2641

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

1. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan Updates

Last night, Council received the report on the improvements made over the last four years in relation to the goals of the Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan was informed by a number of initiatives at the start of the Council term such as community surveys, open houses and general discussion with Council, Staff and residents. These created the four pillars of the plan; Responsible Government, Economic and Social Development, Fiscal Prudence and Environmental Stewardship. The report details over 30 achievements that moved the community forward.

Highlights include more ways to connect with residents, including entering social media through Facebook, 3 Town Hall meetings, new council blog, “About Last Night” and continued the mailout of various newsletters, including the tax/budget explanatory, and event flyers. Policies were updated and modernized, including procurement, procedural, fire establishing, complaint and service request intake, all with the goal of streamlining services in a transparent and accountable manner. The long-term Asset Management Plan and Financial Strategy were adopted, which were informed by evidence based studies such as the Roads Needs Study and Bridge and Culvert Management Plan. Infrastructure was improved with gravel applications on roads, a planned ditching and brushing program established, Trunk Road Bridge was replaced and is now a two-lane bridge and culvert replacements were upsized as much as possible to account for the new reality of increased storms. Read the full Report here: Strategic Plan

2. Trailer By-law Amendment for No-Fee Special Event Permits

Council adopted an amendment to the Trailer By-law to allow additional opportunities for rural vacant landowners to celebrate. The Trailer By-law allows rural vacant landowners to obtain a no cost permit for a private event on their property with multiple camping trailers for a weekend. The new permit is defined as:

Special Event Permit – this licence authorizes the placement of more than one trailer upon a property for a maximum of 3 days, 3 times a year, consisting of “Friday, Saturday, Sunday” or “Saturday, Sunday, Monday” for a private special event being held on the property.

3. AMP By-law Screening and Hearing Officer

The Township has taken the next step in putting its Administrative Monetary Penalty system (AMPs) into practice by appointing a Screening Officer and a Hearing Officer. Council adopted the AMPs by-law in June to provide a simpler, local way to review by-law penalties, replacing the lengthy Provincial Offences and court process for the by-laws covered by the system.

AMPs makes the enforcement process easier to use.

It does not introduce new rules or increase penalty amounts. The by-laws have been in place for years, although some have been updated recently. They already included fines. Under AMPs, these amounts are called penalties, and the amounts have stayed the same. The system covers six by-laws; Animal Control / Responsible Pet Ownership, Open Air Burning, Property Standards, Short Term Rental Licensing, Trailer Licensing, Waste Management. Zoning enforcement will be added once the Province finalizes the required regulation.

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COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Township's priority remains helping residents follow the by-laws voluntarily. Council and staff continue to work with residents to explain the rules and resolve concerns. Few fines have been issued in the past, and that approach is not expected to change. Examples of by-law concerns include a dog repeatedly running loose, a campfire during a fire ban, or a property that does not meet yard maintenance standards.

If a penalty is issued, the By-law Enforcement Officer must provide evidence to support it and explain the steps taken to give the resident an opportunity to respond and comply. The resident can explain their side, provide evidence and challenge the penalty. Residents have access to two levels of review. First, they can request a review by the Screening Officer. If they disagree with that decision, they can request a further review by the Hearing Officer.

Residents can speak for themselves and present their information directly, without having to hire a lawyer. Hearings are scheduled in consultation with the resident to support participation. The goal is a fair, respectful and user-friendly local process that gives residents a clear opportunity to be heard. Learn more here: Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) | Township of Bonfield

WANT TO ATTEND A MEETING OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Council Meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at the Township Office located at 365 Hwy 531, Bonfield, P0H 1E0

Attend online by visiting: youtube.com/@townshipofbonfield6354

Want to be part of Question Period?
Learn more at: www.BonfieldTownship.com.
Select Your Government, then How Municipal Government Works

ADVANCE VOTE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

at the Municipal Office, 365 Highway 531

from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm