

**TOWNSHIP OF KERNS**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**of SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2025**  
**Held at the Kerns Community Hall**

**Present:**   **Reeve:**     Terry Phillips  
                  **Councillors:** Loren Runnalls, Dennis Jibb, Mark Lenover, Carter Seymour  
                  **Staff:**        Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer  
                                  Allison Doyon, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer  
                                  Guy Godmaire, Road Superintendent  
                  **Others:**     John Bloetjes, Wind Turbine Concerns  
                                  Gordon Verok & Shannon Wever, Horizon New Energy Group  
                                  34 Members of the Public *(2 left at 8:05pm)*

**Regrets:**               None

**1. Call Meeting to Order & Adoption of Agenda:**

2025-112   **Moved:   Dennis Jibb**                   **Seconded:   Loren Runnalls**  
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, open the Regular Meeting of Council of September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 7:31 p.m.  
“CARRIED”

2025-113   **Moved:   Loren Runnalls**                   **Seconded:   Dennis Jibb**  
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, accept the agenda as presented.  
“CARRIED”

**2. Adoption of Minutes:**

**a. Regular Meeting of August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

2025-114   **Moved:   Carter Seymour**                   **Seconded:   Dennis Jibb**  
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, adopt the following minutes:  
    a. Regular Meeting of August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 as presented.  
“CARRIED”

**3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:**

Councillor Jibb declared conflict of interest on the following agenda items;  
4.a & b  
6.c.ii & iii; and  
8. a-e  
and did not participate in the discussion that took place during the items listed.

Councillor Runnalls declared conflict of interest on the following agenda items;  
4.a & b  
6.c.ii & iii; and  
8. a-e  
and did not participate in the discussion that took place during the items listed.

Councillor Lenover asked if a vote on providing an MSR could be added to the agenda. Councillor Seymour and Reeve Phillips did not agree to add the item.

**4. Delegations:**

**a. John Bloetjes – Wind Turbine Project Concerns**

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Mr. Bloetjes read a letter to Council regarding his concerns about the proposed wind turbine project within the Township. *(entire presentation is available by contacting the municipal office)*

2025-115

**Moved: Mark Lenover                      Seconded: Carter Seymour**

That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt of presentation by John Bloetjes regarding his wind turbine project concerns.

“CARRIED”

**b. Gordon Verok & Shannon Wever – Horizon New Energy – Letter of Commitments**

Horizon New Energy gave Council a general history of turbines within Ontario. Approximately 75 people attended the open house and Horizon plans to hold two more open houses during the environmental assessment process. Horizon is willing to support the administrative office through financial compensation or third-party support or another means which can be discussed at a later date. The estimated property tax calculation per turbine/year is \$7,748. A vibrancy fund, which would be shared equally with Hudson Township would be \$70K annually. A community fund of \$500K annually which will be allocated based on the percentage of turbines located within each township. Non-participating Landowner Fund of \$25K annually will be available for landowners within ½ mile of a turbine location. The regulatory process is tried and true. All environmental and other studies will be completed by third parties. Shannon stated there are no peer reviewed studies that show adverse effects from wind turbines. Landowner’s annual payments will allow more funds to be put back within the community. She encouraged council to reach out to other areas seeking opinions on operational wind turbine projects. Gordon asked council if they would consider showing their support to MSR this evening.

Council was provided an opportunity to ask questions.

**Q:** Councillor Seymour asked what is the submission date for a bid to be placed.

**A:** October 16, 2025 is the deadline.

**Q:** Reeve Phillips asked when was the last time the 550m distance was reviewed.

**A:** This distance measurement is calculated and based on a noise impact study which translates to approximately 500m between turbines and residential homes. The size of the turbine is not a factor when calculating distances, but rather the noise each unit makes will determine the appropriate distance recommendation. All factors are considered and the 500m is a minimum so often turbines are placed further away. Studies with this information are done by third parties will be sent to the Township for review and are also public facing. Feedback, comments, and questions are welcomed.

2025-116

**Moved: Carter Seymour                      Seconded: Mark Lenover**

That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt of presentation by Horizon New Energy representatives regarding a letter of commitments.

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“CARRIED”

**5. Payment of Accounts – Voucher No. 2025-08**

2025-117    **Moved: Dennis Jibb**                      **Seconded: Loren Runnalls**  
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns, do hereby, approve the payment of accounts as presented:

Roads	\$25,847.20
Fire	\$748.44
Admin	\$46,537.84
Total Voucher 2025-08	<u>\$73,133.48</u>

“CARRIED”

**6. Reports from Staff & Others:**

**a. Roads Department Report**

The Roads Superintendent reports that the approaches on Hillcoat Bridge are done. Latham will start hauling gravel this week. A second application of calcium was laid on Milberta Road. Grading operations have been hindered by the extreme dry weather this summer. Roads crew are aware all roads need to be graded which takes approximately 5 days in the Township of Kerns. The Superintendent asked Council for recommendations or further direction on how to handle grading operations during this time. Calcium was discussed and also how much water would need to be added to the road to grade if done through a water truck. Neither option is economical. No further direction.

**b. Fire Department Report**

The Fire Chief reports that the Pumper Truck was tested this past month and passed. The washer and dryer will be hooked up and installed soon. The fire ban has been lifted except on brush piles and wind-rows.

**i. Fire Protection Grant 2025-26 – Call for Application**

Year 2 of the Fire Protection Grant is open for applications and the department will submit an application which is due September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

2025-118    **Moved: Loren Runnalls**                      **Seconded: Carter Seymour**  
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge communication from the Office of the Fire Marshal regarding a call for applications for the Fire Protection Grant 2025-26; and

Authorize the Clerk-Treasurer and Fire Chief to apply for funding under this program.

“CARRIED”

**c. Others**

- i. Eco-Logix’s Landfill Report – July 2025**
- ii. Memo 25-015 – Wind Turbine Correspondance & Data Update**
- iii. Memo 25-016 – Administrative Capacity and Shared Administrative Services Agreement Regarding Wind Turbine Projects**
- iv. Treasurer’s Report – August 2025**

2025-119    **Moved: Loren Runnalls**                      **Seconded: Mark Lenover**

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That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt and accept the following reports/minutes, and that it be filed along with the minutes of the regular meeting:

- a. Roads Department Report
- b. Fire Department Report
  - i. Fire Protection Grant 2025-26 – Call for Applications
- c. Others
  - i. Eco-Logix’s Landfill Report – July 2025
  - ii. Memo 25-015 – Wind Turbine Correspondance & Data Update
  - iii. Memo 25-016 – Administrative Capacity and Shared Administrative Services Agreement Regarding Proposed Wind Turbine Projects
  - iv. Treasurer’s Report – August 2025

“CARRIED”

**7. Correspondence for Council’s Consideration:**

- a. **Municipality of West Nipissing – Moratorium on Aerial Spraying of Glyphosate in the Nipissing Forest**  
No Action

- b. **Norfolk County – Opposition of Bill C-2 Section 77.5**

2025-120 **Moved: Carter Seymour                      Seconded: Loren Runnalls**

That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt of resolution from Norfolk County endorsing the resolution made by the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan regarding Bill C-2, specifically section 77.5; and

Direct municipal staff to issue a letter of support to the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan.

“CARRIED”

**8. Correspondence for Council’s Information:**

- a. **Correspondance Re: Wind Turbine Project - 1**
- b. **Correspondance Re: Wind Turbine Project - 2**
- c. **Correspondance Re: Wind Turbine Project - 3**
- d. **Correspondance Re: Wind Turbine Project - 4**
- e. **Correspondance Re: Wind Turbine Project Opposition**
- f. **Armstrong Township Public Library Board Vacancy**

**9. Other Business:**

- a. **Armstrong Township Public Library Agreement 2026**

2025-121 **Moved: Dennis Jibb                                      Seconded: Loren Runnalls**

That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby acknowledge receipt of Armstrong Township Public Library’s agreement to provide full library services to the residents of The Township of Kerns for the year 2026; and

Agree to forward payment equal to the Public Library Operating Grant received by Kerns Township to the Armstrong Township Public Library as payment for library services; and

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Authorize the Clerk-Treasurer and Reeve to enter into an agreement with the Armstrong Township Public Library for the service year 2026.  
"CARRIED"

**10. By-Laws:**

None


**11. Resolution to Move to Closed Session:**

None

**12. Adjournment:**

2025-122    **Moved: Dennis Jibb**                      **Seconded: Mark Lenover**  
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:26 p.m. and will meet again on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 or at the call of the Reeve.  
"CARRIED"

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Phillips, Reeve

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer