MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, August 6th, 2026

Highlights from the August 4th, 2026, meetings of
Montague Township Council and Committee of the Whole

Council

To open the meeting, the Reeve shared the following announcements:

- For those interested in running for a seat on Township Council, nominations are open until August 21st at 2:00pm.

- The Township Office will be closed on August 7th for the annual Council & Staff Appreciation Lunch and Golf Day.

- Join us September 26th for a bus trip to see the Ottawa Redblacks vs the Calgary Stampeders at TD Place. The cost is $20 for SALC members and $30.00 for non-members and includes an all-you-can-eat buffet as well as many fun activities for the whole family. Contact the Township to register.

Following the Land Acknowledgement and Moment of Silence, Council approved the agenda, as amended to move the following items from "Information" to "Action" under Section 8 (Correspondence):

(c) Lanark County Council Media Release dated June 24th, 2026
(f) Lanark County Media Release - Lanark County 2026 Asset Builders
(g) Lanark County Media Release - Business Retention and Expansion Initiative
(h) Lanark County Media Release - Silver Chain Challenge
(i) Lanark County Media Release - Warden's Golf Tournament
(j) Lanark County Media Release - Natural Heritage System (NHS) Strategy
(r) Rideau Valley Conservation Authority - E-Mail re: Project Executive Announcement

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council and Committee of the Whole of June 16th, and the Public Meeting of July 30th, were approved as presented.

Three (3) delegations made presentations to Council, as follows:

- Elliott Fledderus, P. Eng. from Jewell Engineering Inc. - stormwater management and drainage plans for the Matheson and Rosedale Subdivision

- Andrew Vo - request for extension to the Order to Comply for 7526-7528 Roger Stevens Drive

- Anoop Michael, CPA, CGA, FCCA (UK) from KPMG - presentation of the audit findings for the year ended December 31st, 2025

The Public Works Manager presented the following report:

- **Guthrie Road Drainage Options:** Staff presented Council with a Memorandum prepared by Robinson Consultants, summarizing various options to be considered to address drainage concerns on Guthrie Road. Council directed Staff to include engineered drawing costs in the 2027 budget and to place the balance of the gravel maintenance budget line into reserves to fund the Guthrie Road drainage plans in 2027.

The Municipal Manager/Treasurer/Deputy Clerk presented the following reports:

- **Zoning By-law Amendment ZB26-002 - Don Lamadeleine Electric Ltd. (Lewis):** Following the Public Meeting of July 20th, Staff confirmed that the proposed re-zoning was in compliance with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024), Township's Official Plan and Zoning By-law 4070-2024, and presented the draft Zoning By-law Amendment that would allow for the re-zoning of a severed parcel to match the lands it will be consolidated with. The By-law was passed later that evening as 4224-2026.

- **Matheson & Rosedale Subdivision - Questions from Council:** Further to Staff's request of Council to submit questions regarding the proposed stormwater and drainage plans for the Matheson & Rosedale Subdivision, a list of questions was received from Councillor Crabtree, which Council approved as information.

- **Merrickville Draft Library Agreement:** Following discussions between the Merrickville Public Library Board and the Council-appointed negotiating team, the draft Merrickville Library Agreement was presented to Council and Staff have been directed to bring it back to the September 1st Council Meeting for passage by By-law.

- **Property Standards - 7526-7528 Roger Stevens Drive:** Further to Staff issuing an Order to Comply, and the owner's representative appearing as a delegation to Council to request an extension of the compliance date, Staff presented Council with the history of non-compliance for this property. Council directed Staff to advise the owner (or agent) that no further extensions would be granted beyond August 15th, 2026.

- **Municipal Manager (CAO)/Clerk Hiring Committee:** Since the Deputy Treasurer/Deputy Clerk job posting did not result in the hiring of a qualified candidate, Staff presented Council with a job description for the Municipal Manager (CAO)/Clerk position, with a recommendation that the job be posted immediately, both internally and externally, until filled. Council agreed with Staff's recommendation and all Council members will sit on the Hiring Committee, along with an external party from Lanark County or a neighbouring municipality.

The following By-law was passed by Council:

- **4224-2026** - Amend Zoning By-law 4070-2024 (Don Lamadeleine Electric Ltd.)

Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole Agenda was approved as presented, and the following Quarterly Reports for April-June were received as information:

- MRCC 2nd Quarter Report for 2026
- 2nd Quarter Water Report
- 2nd Quarter Fire Department Activity Report
- 2nd Quarter Building Statistics for 2026
- 2nd Quarter Septic Statistics for 2026
- 2nd Quarter Public Works Activities
- 2nd Quarter Senior Active Living Centre (SALC) Report
- 2nd Quarter Planning Statistics for 2026
- 2nd Quarter Clerk's Department Report for 2026
- 2026 2nd Quarter Report on Staff Overtime
- Budgetary Control Report as of June 30th, 2026
- 2026 Capital Works and Grant Projects Update

The Public Works Manager presented the following reports:

- **2026 OSIM (Ontario Structural Inspection Manual) Report:** In compliance with the Ontario Structural Inspection Manual, inspections are to be conducted every two years on bridges, tunnels, culverts and retaining walls. Greer Galloway was hired to complete this assessment on behalf of the Township and Staff noted that with the planned replacement of the Matheson Drive Culvert this year, the structure list is in good shape. Minor maintenance items will be addressed by Public Works Staff. Council approved Staff's report as presented.

- **2026-PW-06 - Stone Dust Award:** Following a request for quotations, Staff confirmed that one (1) submission was received from Thomas Cavanagh Construction for a total cost of $60,191.04 (including non-refundable HST). If required, Staff are directed to use winter maintenance operational reserves to fund this expenditure.

The Municipal Manager/Treasurer/Deputy Clerk presented the following reports:

- **Bill 97 - Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026:** Council received Staff's report regarding various amendments to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, as information.

- **Peer Reviews of Studies Prepared by Professional Engineers:** Council received Staff's report on updates to the *Planning Act* related to studies submitted by professional engineers and authorized Staff to refund a peer review deposit to an applicant as the original submission was prepared by a professional engineer. The cost of that peer review will be funded from the Planning Consulting Fees line. Staff have been directed to conduct a review of local planning fees following the election and to bring back a follow-up report to Council with recommendations to increase planning fees or to remain status quo.

- **Fire 50th Anniversary Update:** In preparation for the Fire Department's 50th Anniversary celebration on September 19th, Council approved the use of up to $5,000 from the donation line for expenses, and a donation of $1,500 to the Rapid Response Team for the BBQ lunch.

- **Building Communities Strong - Direct Stream Application:** Staff advised Council of its submission of an Expression of Interest to the Building Communities Strong Fund for improvements to the Montague 22-Acre Park. These funding streams are geared towards shovel-ready projects such as the proposed covered outdoor recreation space and ballfield, as previously discussed by Staff and Council. If the Township is successful, a report will be brought back to Council regarding its 50% funding requirements.

- **Senior Program Update (Senior Active Living Centre):** The Township has been successful in obtaining funding for 2026/2027, which will significantly reduce the costs for organized trips and social activities for our 55+ SALC community. The amount approved this year was $52,876, with an additional special grant of $2,024.

- **2025 Financial Statements:** Following KPMG's earlier presentation during the Council Meeting, Council accepted and approved the 2025 Financial Statements that were presented. A report regarding the allocation of 2025 surplus will be brought back to a future Council Meeting for direction to Staff.

The next Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole are scheduled for Tuesday, September 1st, 2026

Livestream on YouTube: Montague Township - YouTube

Join In Person: Township Office Council Chambers
6547 Roger Stevens Drive, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4S6

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