



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

ADOPTED COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 12:05 p.m.

Present: Deputy Mayor R. Warburton,
Mayor B. Hendriksen, (via teleconference)
Councillor S. Arden-Smith,
Councillor G. Cochrane,
Councillor R. Foote,
Councillor C. McGurk,
Councillor T. McLennan, (via teleconference) and
Councillor S. Payne.

City Staff: K. Thistle,
C. Caljouw,
D. Gillard,
C. Greencorn,
C. MacLean,
K. Pandoo,
C. White,
G. White, and
S. Jovic.

1. Councillor Payne read the Opening Statement.

AWARDS, CEREMONIES AND PRESENTATIONS

2. There were no awards, ceremonies or presentations.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

- #0021-26
3. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor McGurk seconded,

**That the Minutes of Council for the regular meeting of Monday,
January 26, 2026 be adopted.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



- #0022-26 4. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

**That the Minutes of Council for the regular meeting of
Wednesday, February 18, 2026 be adopted.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

5. Councillor Payne declared a conflict of interest with Item 26, a motion to allocate Reaching Home funding for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 fiscal years, as he is on the Board of Directors for Home Base.
6. Councillor Warburton declared a conflict of interest with Item No. 41 on the agenda, By-law No. 5124, a by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to rezone Lots 1 and 4, Block 157, Plan 1385, and Lot 5, Block 157, Plan 4884 (4002 49 Avenue) from Parks and Recreation (PR) to Old Town Mixed Use (OT), as he is part-owner of the Racquet Club.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

7. There was no correspondence nor were there any petitions.

STATUTORY PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. Deputy Mayor Warburton declared open a Statutory Public Hearing regarding By-law No. 5120, a by-law to amend the Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to permit a 'Recycling Facility' on a portion of Lots 8, 9, Block 46, Plan 140 (5204 51 Street). There were two (2) written submissions received from Hannah Ascough and Emily Blake in favour; one (1) written submission received from Michael Gagnon in opposition and one (1) oral submission from Jane Swim in favour of the proposed by-law. As there were no further submissions Deputy Mayor Warburton declared the Public Hearing closed.
9. Deputy Mayor Warburton declared open a Statutory Public Hearing regarding By-law No. 5121, a by-law to amend the Community Plan By-law No. 5007, as amended, to change the land use designation of portion of Lot 32, Block 568, Plan 4452, (adjacent to Deh Cho Boulevard and Utsingi Drive) from Engle Industrial Business District to Kam Lake, as referenced on Maps 2, 11 and 13 of the Community Plan By-law No. 5007. There was one (1) written submission received from Dennis Nolting in opposition to the proposed by-



law. As there were no further submissions Deputy Mayor Warburton declared the Public Hearing closed.

10. Deputy Mayor Warburton welcomed students from William McDonald middle school, who are developing design concepts for City infill and growth properties. Deputy Mayor Warburton further noted that as part of their project, the students are learning about land use, planning principles, budgets, compatibility, GIS, and the development approval process, including public participation. He noted that they are attending the Council meeting to observe how Council operates, with particular interest in the public hearing and deliberation process.

- #0023-26 11. Councillor Arden-Smith moved,
Councillor Foote seconded,

That Council proceed with Second Reading of By-law No. 5120.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- #0024-26 12. Councillor Arden-Smith moved,
Councillor Cochrane seconded,

That Council proceed with Second Reading of By-law No. 5121.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS PERTAINING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

13. There were no delegations pertaining to items on the agenda.

MEMBER STATEMENTS

14. Mayor Hendriksen welcomed students from William McDonald middle school.
15. Mayor Hendriksen noted that yesterday he signed an MOU with the Mayors of Whitehorse and Iqaluit on behalf of Council and the City Yellowknife. He noted that this is an MOU that was unanimously supported by every member of all three of our Capital City Councils. He further noted that the MOU advances shared priorities focused on investing in northern resilience and core infrastructure, strengthening federal-municipal collaboration, and supporting municipal capacity across the Arctic.



INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance and Priorities Committee Report for January 26, 2026

16. Councillor Payne read a report of a meeting held on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.
17. There was no business arising from this meeting.

Governance and Priorities Committee Report for February 4, 2026

18. Councillor Payne read a report of a meeting held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.
- #0025-26 19. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

That Council adopt for information the draft Climate Action Plan 2026-2036, as amended.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- #0026-26 20. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Foote seconded,

That Council:

- (i) **Adopt the Public Engagement Policy; and**
- (ii) **Direct Administration to implement the Public Engagement Framework and Internal Guidelines & Toolkit.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Governance and Priorities Committee Report for February 11, 2026

21. Councillor Payne read a report of a meeting held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.
- #0027-26 22. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Cochrane seconded,

That the Mayor be authorized to travel to the Town of Inuvik, NT from June 16 – 18, 2026 to participate on the 2026 Arctic Development Expo panel.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Governance and Priorities Committee Report for February 18, 2026

23. Councillor Payne declared a conflict and excused himself from the meeting at 12:18 p.m.
24. Councillor Cochrane read a report of a meeting held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.
- #0028-26 25. Councillor McGurk moved,
Councillor Foote seconded,

That Council approve recommendations from the City of Yellowknife Community Advisory Board on Homelessness to allocate Reaching Home funding for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 fiscal years as follows:

- 1. Continue Housing First at current funding levels of \$1,558,632 for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 fiscal year allocated as follows:**

- **Housing First for Youth** **\$393,893**
- **Housing First for Families** **\$594,893**
- **Housing First for Adults** **\$569,846**

- 2. Continue Prevention and Shelter Diversion funding levels of \$400,000 for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 fiscal year allocated as follows:**

- **Prevention and Shelter Diversion- Youth** **\$100,000**
- **Prevention and Shelter Diversion-Families** **\$100,000**
- **Prevention and Shelter Diversion-Adults** **\$100,000**
- **Prevention and Shelter Diversion-Seniors** **\$100,000**

- 3. Allocate \$600,000 to the City of Yellowknife Street Outreach Program for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 fiscal year.**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

26. Councillor Payne returned to the meeting at 12:19 p.m.



- #0029-26 27. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor McGurk seconded,

That Council authorize the Mayor and City Manager to submit application(s) to the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund – P/T stream for improvements in the City’s drinking water distribution system.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- #0030-26 28. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor McGurk seconded,

That Council appoint Mary Buckland and Lauren King, members at large, to serve on the Yellowknife Heritage Committee for a two (2) year term commencing February 26, 2026 and ending February 25, 2028.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

29. Council read a proposed resolution regarding whether to rename Franklin Avenue.

- #0031-26 30. Mayor Hendriksen moved,
Councillor Foote seconded,

WHEREAS Yellowknife City Council has committed to reconciliation; and

WHEREAS the City’s Reconciliation Action Plan says that the City will seek suggestions from Indigenous governments for street and park names; and

WHEREAS the Yellowknives Dene First Nation have requested the renaming of Franklin Avenue on several occasions; and

WHEREAS Yellowknife City Council passed a motion in March 2024 committing to a change by directing Administration to prepare the work required to rename Franklin Avenue; and

WHEREAS at a Council-to-Council meeting in May 2025, Yellowknife City Council members requested that the



Yellowknives Dene First Nation Council pass a resolution requesting a new name for Franklin Avenue; and

WHEREAS the Yellowknives Dene First Nation Council passed a resolution on September 15, 2025, requesting that the name of Franklin Avenue change to Wiilideh Avenue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Yellowknife City Council direct Administration to bring forward a bylaw no later than the end of August 2026 to change the name of Franklin Avenue to Wiilideh Avenue.

Those in favour of the motion expressed support for renaming Franklin Avenue to Wiilideh Avenue and moving ahead with the required steps. Those in favour highlighted the cultural significance of the change for the YKDFN. Questions were raised about potential impacts on businesses, with Administration noting that any required support could be considered through the budget process. Administration also advised that additional time will help clarify next steps and any budget implications. Mayor Hendriksen noted that, although the YKDFN Chiefs could not be in attendance today, they extended their thanks.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENACTMENT OF BY-LAWS

31. By-law No. 5120 - A by-law to amend the Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to permit a 'Recycling Facility' on a portion of Lots 8, 9, Block 46, Plan 140 (5204 51 Street), is presented for Second and Third Reading.

- #0032-26 32. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor McGurk seconded,

Second Reading of By-law No. 5120.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- #0033-26 33. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

Third Reading of By-law No. 5120.



MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

34. By-law No. 5121 - A by-law to amend the Community Plan By-law No. 5007, as amended, to change the land use designation of portion of Lot 32, Block 568, Plan 4452, from Engle Industrial Business District to Kam Lake, as referenced on Maps 2, 11 and 13 of the Community Plan By-law No. 5007, is presented for Second Reading.

- #0034-26 35. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Cochrane seconded,

Second Reading of By-law No. 5121.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

36. By-law No. 5122 - A by-law to amend the Community Plan By-law No. 5007, as amended, to redesignate a portion of Lot 5, Block 301, Plan 2631 (4302 49 Avenue) from Niven Residential to Downtown Central Residential, as referenced on Maps 2, 4, and 8 of Community Plan By-law No. 5007, as amended, is presented for First Reading.

- #0035-26 37. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

First Reading of By-law No. 5122.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

38. By-law No. 5123 - A by-law to amend the Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to rezone a portion of Lot 5, Block 301, Plan 2631 (4302 49 Avenue) from NA – Natural Area to RC – Residential Central, is presented for First Reading.

- #0036-26 39. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor Cochrane seconded,

First Reading of By-law No. 5123.



MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

40. Deputy Mayor Warburton declared a conflict and excused himself from the meeting and Councillor Cochrane took the Chair at 12:30 p.m.

#0037-26 41. Councillor McGurk moved,
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

That, pursuant to s.5 of Council Procedures By-law No. 5119, Council set aside its rules to propose an amendment to correct the legal description in By-law No. 5124.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#0038-26 42. Councillor McGurk moved,
Councillor Foote seconded,

That By-law No. 5124 be amended by deleting the legal description and replacing therewith:

Lots 1 and 4, Block 157, Plan 1385, and Lot 5, Block 157, Plan 4884

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

43. By-law No. 5124 - A by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to rezone Lots 1 and 4, Block 157, Plan 1385, and Lot 5, Block 157, Plan 4884, is presented for First Reading.

#0039-26 44. Councillor Payne moved,
Councillor McGurk seconded,

First Reading of By-law No. 5124.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

45. Deputy Mayor Warburton returned to the meeting at 12:39 p.m. and assumed the Chair.

46. By-law No. 5125 - A by-law to amend By-law No. 5024 for the purpose of updating a legal description, is presented for First and Second Reading.



DELEGATIONS PERTAINING TO ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

55. There were no delegations pertaining to Items Not on the Agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE ENQUIRIES

56. There were no Administrative Enquiries for the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

#0044-26 57. Councillor Foote moved,
Councillor Cochrane seconded,

That the Meeting be adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

<Original Signed by the Mayor>

Mayor

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

City Manager