



ABOUT LAST NIGHT

March 25, 2025

www.BonfieldTownship.com

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Looking for an Agenda or Minutes?

To see Agendas for upcoming or past meetings, please visit:

www.BonfieldTownship.com

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

1. Council Pauses Bylaw Review for Further Community Input

After the Town Hall meeting and feedback received that included some misinformation, Council has paused the draft bylaws presented to allow time for the municipality to clarify what is being proposed and to provide more communication to the residents of Bonfield.

Council recognizes the importance of ensuring that there is an accurate understanding of what is being proposed in these bylaws and to gather additional feedback and input from the community.

2. Let Your Voice Be Heard: A Chance to Share Your Thoughts

As members of Council mentioned last night, many community members were unaware that the current bylaws restrict certain uses of property.

Hunt Camps (2025-11): Did you know that hunt camps are not currently permitted in Bonfield? The proposed new bylaw would make hunt camps a permissible option for property owners. We want to know your thoughts—should hunt camps be allowed? And if so, what is the minimum acres of property that a hunt camp should be permitted?

Trailers on Vacant Land (2025-9, 2025-10, 2025-16): The current longstanding bylaw does not allow trailers to be used on vacant lands. The proposed new bylaw would allow trailers to be used on vacant properties in the rural zones from May to December and continue to be stored on the property from December to May. We want to hear your thoughts, should trailers be allowed to be used/stored on vacant property within the rural zones?

Shipping Containers for Storage (2025-11): Did you know that shipping containers were not allowed to be used for storage in Bonfield? The proposed new bylaw would allow shipping containers under 161.4 square feet (approximately 8x20) to be used for storage without a permit – following the same rules as there are for accessory structures (ie. sheds) on your property. (shipping containers bigger than 161.4 will also be allowed with a permit that is required as part of the Ontario Building Code.)

Additional Dwelling Units (2025-11): The proposed new bylaw will allow property owners to build additional dwelling units, either inside their home or as a detached unit. This is a proactive step to address the growing housing needs in our community, providing more rental opportunities and space for extended families.



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Short-Term Rentals (2025-17): Short-term rentals are a valued part of our community, offering visitors a chance to experience the beauty of Bonfield. The proposed new bylaw seeks to enhance the experience for both residents and visitors by streamlining the rules and minimizing potential neighborhood conflicts. This ensures that everyone—whether living here or visiting can continue to enjoy the charm and tranquility of our wonderful township.

If any of these proposals are important to you – whether it's using your trailer on vacant property in the rural zones, building a hunt camp, adding a dwelling for family, or utilizing a shipping container for extra storage—it's important to share your thoughts with Council. The public consultation is designed to gather feedback and make sure these regulations work for everyone. The bylaws will be reviewed again on April 21, 2025 at the Corporate Services Committee meeting.

Stay tuned for a flyer summarizing the bylaws, arriving in your mailbox next week! If you're interested in a deeper dive, full details and presentations from the Town Hall (with notes) are available on the municipal website. Have questions? Feel free to contact Council, their contact details are listed on the side.

3. Petition Received – Community's Concerns Being Heard

Council has received a petition with 494 signatures opposing the passing of bylaws 2025-09, 2025-10, 2025-11, 2026-16, and 2025-17.

It's an exciting time for community engagement, and we encourage everyone to share their thoughts with Council to ensure the bylaws (as noted above) reflect the diverse perspectives of our residents.

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, POH 1E0

Attend online by visiting: youtube.com/@townshipofbonfield6354

Want to be part of Question Period?

Learn more at: www.BonfieldTownship.com.

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