

# JANUARY 13, 2026

# ABOUT LAST NIGHT



## Looking for an Agenda or Minutes?

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

[www.BonfieldTownship.com](http://www.BonfieldTownship.com)

## Want to connect with Council?

### 1. Write an email or a letter

You can submit your comments to Council regarding municipal matters by emailing the Clerk or dropping it off at the Township Office.

#### Email:

[cao.clerk@bonfieldtownship.com](mailto:cao.clerk@bonfieldtownship.com)

#### Address:

365 Hwy 531, Bonfield ON, P0H 1E0

### 2. Connect with a Member of Council

You can speak to a Council member directly.

Find full contact information at [www.BonfieldTownship.com](http://www.BonfieldTownship.com) in the Municipal Directory.

## More Questions?

Contact the Township Office at:  
705-776-2641

## WANT TO ATTEND A MEETING OR VIEW ONLINE?

**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](https://youtube.com/@townshipofbonfield6354)

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Volunteer Firefighter of the Month

Last night at Council the Volunteer Firefighter of the Month program was announced for 2026. The community is very fortunate to have this dedicated group of volunteers to serve and protect. This program is set up to formally recognize the exceptional service, dedication, and professionalism of the firefighters, while strengthening morale, community pride and public appreciation for emergency services. The Fire Department responded to over 95 emergency calls in 2025. These included fires and fire related matters, with the majority of calls being medical calls to assist residents in urgent need of care. This program will support the volunteers that provide exceptional service during a response, have consistent attendance, demonstrate leadership/teamwork and show a commitment to training and skill development and community involvement. Nominations may be submitted by the leadership team, fellow firefighters and community members. If you would like to nominate someone please email [firechief@bonfieldtownship.com](mailto:firechief@bonfieldtownship.com).

A special thank you to the Dinner Bell, Reptile Camp and Ham and Cricket for supporting this program and providing the Volunteer of the Month with great prizes.

### Cats at Large

Council approved a proposal last night aimed at reducing the number of stray cats within the hamlet, with a focus on both animal welfare and community well-being. A report presented to Council outlined the history of cat colonies in the area. In 2014, cats were removed from the hamlet; however, stray populations have recently re-emerged. Responsibility for the cats has been an ongoing topic of discussion within the community.

Staff advised Council that, over the past two years, they have worked with multiple external organizations in an effort to humanely address the situation. Despite these efforts, available external resources have been exhausted and the stray population has not improved. As a result, Council approved enforcement measures under the newly amended 2024 Animal Control By-law, which addresses cats running at large and cats without identification tags. Under the by-law, the By-law Enforcement Officer may humanely trap cats found running at large and impound them for up to 72 hours. To support pet owners, a dedicated page on the municipal website will list impounded cats so owners can reclaim their pets. When reclaiming a cat, a pound fee and tag purchase, if applicable, will be required.

This initiative cannot succeed without community cooperation. Pet owners are encouraged to:

- ensure their cats are licensed and tagged,
- keep pets from running at large, and
- spay or neuter their cats.

While well-intentioned, residents are also asked to stop feeding stray cats, particularly on public property, as this contributes to the growth of unmanaged colonies.

To support responsible pet ownership, the Humane Society has agreed to offer discounted spay and neuter services for Bonfield residents. Appointments can be booked directly by calling 705-474-1251.

Reducing the stray cat population will take time and sustained effort. The estimated cost of this initiative is \$25,000 in 2026, reflecting Council's commitment to addressing the issue responsibly and humanely.