Closed Session Report

To: Mayor and Council

From: Stacey Forfar, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: April 1, 2026

Subject: Application for Judicial Review - Settlement Direction

CONFIDENTIAL

Report Highlights

- On Monday March 2, 2026, the Township of Springwater was served with a Notice of Application for Judicial Review from Loopstra Nixon LLP (Appendix A).
- This was served in response to the Mayoral Direction of February 6, 2026 which vetoed the Council directed payment of an invoice from Loopstra Nixon LLP.
- The Loopstra Nixon LLP invoice that is the subject of the Application for Judicial Review is for a total of $60,612.97 (Appendix B).
- On Wednesday March 4, 2026, Township Legal Counsel, Affleck Greene McMurtry LLP, addressed Council in Closed Session to provide advise and recommendations with respect to options to respond to the Application for Judicial Review.
- At the conclusion of this Closed Meeting, Council directed Legal services to pursue settlement discussions with Loopstra Nixon LLP.
- Township Legal services have confirmed that Loopstra Nixon LLP is interested in settling this dispute through the payment in full of the above noted invoice.
- Should Council agree, Township Legal will pursue this direction through a Framework Agreement with Loopstra Nixon LLP which will ensure that as part of the settlement for payment, Loopstra Nixon LLP will not be permitted to bring any Application against the Township for any matter related to the boundary adjustment process moving forward.

Closed Session Recommendation

That the confidential report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding an Application for Judicial Review, dated April 1, 2026, be received; and,

1. That Township Legal services be directed to enter into a Framework Agreement with Loopstra Nixon LLP to settle their account in the amount of $60,612.97, as per Statement Number 185609B, and to settle all matters related to the Barrie Boundary Adjustment matter and prevent any further adjudication efforts.

Note: Council can only pass motions in closed session to provide direction to staff.

Public Recommendation

That the confidential report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding an Application for Judicial Review, dated April 1, 2026, be received; and,

That staff proceed as directed in closed session.

Background

On Wednesday March 4, 2026 Township Council approved the following resolution:

> C096-2026
> Moved by: Garwood
> Seconded by: Alexander
>
> That Council direct staff to work with legal counsel and report back to Council on a timetable and any prospects for settlement relating to the Notice of Judicial Review.
>
> Carried

Conclusion

Staff have the Township litigation lawyer Mr. Michael Binetti from Affleck Greene McMurtry LLP available to join this Closed Session meeting of Council virtually.

Financial Implications

With direction to settle with Loopstra Nixon LLP, their final invoice in the amount of $60,612.97 will be paid (Appendix C).

Approvals

Submitted by:	Stacey Forfar, Chief Administrative Officer
Reviewed by:	Director/Department Head
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	N/A
Approved by:	CAO
Version Code:	

Attachments

Appendix A – Notice of Application for Judicial Review, received March 2, 2026.

Appendix B – Loopstra Nixon LLP Statement Number 185609B for $60,612.97.

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