



Elgin County Council

Minutes

April 30, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Council Chambers

450 Sunset Drive

St. Thomas ON

Members Present: Warden Ed Ketchabaw
Deputy Warden Grant Jones
Councillor Dominique Giguère
Councillor Mark Widner
Councillor Jack Couckuyt
Councillor Andrew Sloan
Councillor Todd Noble
Councillor Mike Hentz
Councillor Richard Leatham

Staff Present: Blaine Parkin, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Brian Masschaele, Director of Community & Cultural Services
Amy Thomson, Director of Human Resources
Michele Harris, Director of Homes and Seniors Services
Nicholas Loeb, Director of Legal Services
Peter Dutchak, Director of Engineering Services
Katherine Thompson, Manager of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk
Paul Hicks, Acting Manager of Planning
Natalie Marlowe, Manager of Library Services
Jenna Fentie, Legislative Services Coordinator
Stefanie Heide, Legislative Services Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with Warden Ketchabaw in the chair.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Councillor Noble

Seconded by: Deputy Warden Jones

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on April 9, 2024 be adopted.

Motion Carried.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

4. Presenting Petitions, Presentations and Delegations

None.

5. Committee of the Whole

Moved by: Councillor Widner

Seconded by: Councillor Sloan

RESOLVED THAT we do now move into Committee of the Whole.

Motion Carried.

6. Reports of Council, Outside Boards and Staff

6.1 Councillor Giguère - Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Fundraising Committee Community Representative Appointment – Jamie Chapman

Councillor Giguère presented the report recommending that Council support the reappointment of Jamie Chapman to the Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Fundraising Committee.

Moved by: Councillor Leatham

Seconded by: Councillor Couckuyt

RESOLVED THAT Elgin County Council reappoint Jamie Chapman as a Community Representative on the Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Fundraising Committee for the remainder of the current term of Council or until the end of the fundraising campaign.

Motion Carried.

6.2 Acting Manager of Planning - PS 24-7 Summary of Proposed PPS 2024

The Acting Manager of Planning presented the report that provides a preliminary summary of the Proposed Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) 2024 and compares the PPS 2024 to the in-force PPS 2020 and the unadopted PPS 2023. Council has the opportunity to review the PPS 2024 and provide comments during the April 12 to May 10, 2024 commenting period.

Moved by: Councillor Hentz

Seconded by: Deputy Warden Jones

RESOLVED THAT the report titled “PS 24-7 Summary of Proposed PPS 2024” from the Director of Legal Services and Acting Manager of Planning, dated April 30, 2024, be received and filed; and

THAT a comment letter be sent thanking the Province for taking into consideration previous comments and expressing concern that adjustments to settlement area boundaries will pose servicing and infrastructure challenges for municipalities.

Motion Carried.

6.3 Manager of Library Services - Elgin County Library 2023 Performance

The Manager of Library Services provided a presentation to Council detailing the Elgin County Library performance and usage trends in 2023, and shared service goals for 2024.

Moved by: Councillor Giguère

Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT the presentation titled "2023 Library Performance" from the Manager of Library Services dated April 30, 2024 be received and filed; and

THAT additional performance measurement metrics be developed for the 2024 performance report; and

THAT a copy of this presentation be submitted to local municipal partners in the County of Elgin.

Motion Carried.

6.4 Director of Engineering Services - Culvert Rehabilitations (Tender No. 2024-T13) - Tender Award

The Director of Engineering Services presented the report seeking Council's approval to award the contract for culvert rehabilitations on various county roads to Hornblower Earthboring Inc. at a total price of \$355,500 exclusive of HST.

The Director of Engineering Services presented the 2023 Municipal Paving Award that was recently awarded to the County of Elgin and Brantco Construction from the Ontario Good Roads Association. The County was recognized for the resurfacing of Sunset Road in 2023. The Director noted that this was the first time that the County of Elgin has won this annual award.

Moved by: Councillor Hentz
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Jones

RESOLVED THAT Hornblower Earthboring Inc. be selected to complete Culvert Rehabilitations on various roads, Tender No. 2024-T13 at a total price of \$355,500 exclusive of HST; and

THAT the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer be directed and authorized to sign the contract.

Motion Carried.

6.5 Manager of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk - Elgin County Notice By-Law 07-29 Update

The Manager of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk presented the report recommending updates to Council's Notice By-Law 07-29, which establishes a policy respecting the circumstances and manner in which notice will be provided to the public. An update to the by-law is required in order to ensure enhanced clarity and to reflect how changes to technology have affected notice practices.

Moved by: Councillor Hentz
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT Elgin County Council approve proposed changes to the Elgin County Notice By-law.

Motion Carried.

6.6 Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk - The First 90 Days and the Path Forward (walk-on)

The Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk provided a presentation to Council detailing his first 90 days as Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk and shared future goals and strategic objectives.

Moved by: Councillor Sloan
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT the presentation titled "The First 90 Days and the Path Forward" from the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk dated April 30, 2024 be received and filed.

Motion Carried.

7. Council Correspondence

7.1 Items for Consideration

7.1.1 Request from Elder Abuse Elgin to hold a flag raising on June 11, 2024 at the County of Elgin in recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Moved by: Councillor Noble
Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin support the request from Elder Abuse Elgin to hold a flag raising on June 11, 2024 and proclaim June 15, 2024 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Motion Carried.

7.1.2 Request from Jodi Marissen to declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic in the County of Elgin.

Moved by: Councillor Widner
Seconded by: Councillor Couckuyt

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin declare intimate partner violence an epidemic in the County of Elgin.

Motion Carried.

7.1.3 Request from the Elgin Children's Foundation to declare June 8th, 2024 as LemonAID Day in Elgin County.

Moved by: Councillor Noble
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Jones

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin support the request from the Elgin Children's Foundation to proclaim June 8, 2024 as LemonAID Day in Elgin County.

Motion Carried.

7.2 Items for Information (Consent Agenda)

Moved by: Councillor Sloan
Seconded by: Councillor Hentz

RESOLVED THAT Correspondence Items #7.2.1 - #7.2.5 be received and filed.

Motion Carried.

7.2.1 Resolution from the Township of Goderich requesting that the Province review the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates.

7.2.2 Resolution from the Town of Goderich requesting that the Province not proceed with the recommended phase-out of free private well testing in Ontario.

7.2.3 Resolution from the City of Peterborough seeking an amendment to the Ombudsman Act.

7.2.4 Letter from Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs regarding the implementation of new stormwater fee structures and the impacts on agriculture.

7.2.5 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) Annual Report 2023

8. Other Business

8.1 Statements/Inquiries by Members

None.

8.2 Notice of Motion

None.

8.3 Matters of Urgency

None.

9. Closed Meeting Items

Moved by: Councillor Noble

Seconded by: Councillor Widner

RESOLVED THAT we do now proceed into closed meeting session in accordance with the Municipal Act to discuss the following matters under Municipal Act Section 239 (2):

Closed Meeting Item #1 - Closed Meeting Minutes - April 9, 2024

Closed Meeting Item #2 - Collective Bargaining update

(d) labour relations or employee negotiations

Closed Meeting Item #3 - The First 90 Days and the Path Forward (walk-on)

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

Motion Carried.

9.1 Closed Meeting Minutes - April 9, 2024

9.2 Director of Human Resources - Collective Bargaining update

9.3 Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk - The First 90 Days and the Path Forward (walk-on)

10. Motion to Rise and Report

Moved by: Councillor Noble

Seconded by: Councillor Leatham

RESOLVED THAT we do now rise and report.

Motion Carried.

Closed Meeting Item #1 - Closed Meeting Minutes - April 9, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Sloan

Seconded by: Councillor Noble

RESOLVED THAT the April 9, 2024 Closed Meeting Minutes be adopted.

Motion Carried.

Closed Meeting Item #2 - Collective Bargaining update

Moved by: Deputy Warden Jones

Seconded by: Councillor Sloan

RESOLVED THAT the confidential report dated April 30, 2024 from the Director of Human Resources and the Director of Homes and Seniors Services be received for information.

Motion Carried.

Closed Meeting Item #3 - The First 90 Days and the Path Forward (walk-on)

Moved by: Councillor Widner
Seconded by: Councillor Noble

RESOLVED THAT the confidential report from the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk be received for information.

Motion Carried.

11. Motion to Adopt Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole

Moved by: Deputy Warden Jones
Seconded by: Councillor Sloan

RESOLVED THAT we do now adopt recommendations of the Committee of the Whole.

Motion Carried.

12. Consideration of By-Laws

12.1 By-Law No. 24-15 Notice By-Law

BEING a By-Law to Establish a Policy Respecting the Circumstances and Manner in which Notice is Provided to the Public.

Moved by: Councillor Leatham
Seconded by: Councillor Hentz

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 24-15 be now read a first, second, and third time and finally passed.

Motion Carried.

12.2 By-Law No. 24-16 Confirmation

BEING a By-Law to Confirm Proceedings of the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin at the April 30, 2024 Meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Noble
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Jones

RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 24-16 be now read a first, second, and third time and finally passed.

Motion Carried.

13. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Widner
Seconded by: Councillor Hentz

RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 12:01 p.m. to meet again on May 14, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion Carried.

Blaine Parkin,
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk.

Ed Ketchabaw,
Warden.