



Huron County Council

Minutes - March 4, 2015

Fourth Session

GODERICH, ONTARIO



**FOURTH SESSION MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Goderich, Ontario
March 4, 2015

The Council of the County of Huron met in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, March 4, 2015. Warden Paul Gowing called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Warden Gowing welcomed all present to the Fourth Session of 2015.

1. Roll Call:

CAO Brenda Orchard called the roll and all members of Council were present except Councillor Steffler.

2. Warden's Remarks:

Warden Gowing attended the ROMA/OGRA Conference and made a delegation in front of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Jeff Leal stating concerns with the effect of the OMPF cuts as they relate to rural communities.

Warden Gowing informed members that he attended a meeting in Kincardine regarding the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. Further information will be coming on this topic.

3. Approval of Agenda:

MOTION: #060-15

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Van Diepenbeek

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the agenda for March 4, 2015 as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

No declarations of pecuniary interest were stated.

5. Minutes of the Previous Sessions:

MOTION: #061-15

Moved by: Councillor Frayne and Seconded by: Councillor Hessel

THAT:

The minutes of the previous session being the Third Session of February 4, 2015, the Special Audit Committee of February 11, 2015 and the Special Session of February 18, 2015 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Petitions and Deputations:

7. Councillor's Issues:

Councillor MacLellan was concerned about the message that Huron County Council is delivering to the provincial and federal governments regarding the sustainability of the County considering the current reserves. Warden Gowing and Councillor Versteeg stated that the County is speaking on behalf of the lower tiers which are struggling due to the financial cuts.

Warden Gowing informed members that he received a request from the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus to appoint a member of Council to the SWIFT Steering Committee. This will be added to the March 11, 2015 agenda for consideration.

8. Correspondence:

MOTION:

Moved by: Councillor Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron support the following motion:

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has recently introduced "Bill 52, Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014"; and

WHEREAS Bill 52 seeks to amend the *Courts of Justice Act*, the *Libel and Slander Act* and the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act* in order to protect expression on matters of public interest; and

WHEREAS Bill 52 is commonly referred to as Anti-SLAPP legislation and is intended to enact many of the recommendations put forward by the Anti-SLAPP Advisory Panel of 2010; and

WHEREAS SLAPP litigation, an acronym for Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation, is a tactic which is often viewed as a means to silence, intimidate and deter people from participating in discussions on matters of public interest; and

WHEREAS the Province has stated that the ability to freely participate in public discussion about matters of public interest, without fear of retribution, is fundamental to a fair and democratic society.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the County of Huron express its support for Bill 52 which should help protect and encourage freedom of expression on matters of public interest and discourage the use of the courts in ways that unduly limit that freedom; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the County of Huron would encourage the provincial government to make this legislation retroactive to include individuals that are in unresolved legal disputes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Warden be requested to write a letter and forward this resolution to the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Lisa Thompson, MPP for Huron Bruce; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Clerk be requested to circulate this resolution to all other municipalities in Ontario to request endorsement of this resolution be sent directly to the Government of Ontario.

Motion to table was introduced prior to a vote on the motion.

MOTION: #062-15

Moved By: Councillor Morrison and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The above motion be tabled until Committee of the Whole Day 1 meeting of March 11, 2015.

CARRIED

MOTION: #063-15

Moved by: Councillor Frayne and Seconded by: Councillor Van Diepenbeek

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron forward the request by The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 109 Goderich to support the community project to participate in the LAV 111 (Light Armoured Vehicle) Community Monuments Program to the Director of Cultural Services for a report.

CARRIED

MOTION: #064-15

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Versteeg

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive and file correspondence, not specifically dealt with, for information.

CARRIED

9. Reports of Committees

- 9.1 Board of Health – February 5, 2015 meeting minutes: Councillor Hessel, Chair of the Board of Health spoke to the Report.

MOTION: #065-15

Moved by: Councillor Hessel and Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

THAT:

The Board of Health Reports of February 5, 2015 be received and will appear in the printed minutes as Report No. 12.

CARRIED

- 9.2 Committee of the Whole Day 1 – February 11, 2015 meeting minutes: Councillor Versteeg, Chair of the Committee of the Whole Day 1 spoke to the Reports.

MOTION: #066-15

Moved by: Councillor Versteeg and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Committee of the Whole Day 1 Reports of February 11, 2015 be approved as presented and will appear in the printed minutes as Report No. 13.

CARRIED

- 9.3 Committee of the Whole Day 2 – February 18, 2015 meeting minutes: Councillor Morrison, Chair of the Committee of the Whole Day 2 spoke to the Reports.

MOTION: #067-15

Moved by: Councillor Morrison and Seconded by: Councillor Frayne

THAT:

The Committee of the Whole Day 2 Reports of February 18, 2015 be adopted as presented and will appear in the printed minutes as Report No. 14.

CARRIED

- 9.4 Library Board – February 19, 2015 meeting minutes: Councillor Fergusson, Chair of the Library Board spoke to the Reports.

MOTION: #068-15

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Versteeg

THAT:

The Library Board Reports of February 19, 2015 be received and will appear in the printed minutes as Report No. 15.

CARRIED

10. New/Unfinished Business:

- 10.1 County of Huron 2015 Budget Summary: (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

MOTION: #069-15

Moved by: Councillor Vincent and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accept the report entitled “County of Huron 2015 Budget Summary”, presented by Treasurer Michael Blumhagen for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

This report be posted on the County of Huron website.

CARRIED

10.2 2015 Tax Ratios: (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

MOTION: #070-15

Moved by: Councillor Morrison and Seconded by: Councillor Fergusson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report entitled "2015 Tax Ratios", presented by Treasurer Michael Blumhagen for information.

CARRIED

11. **Notice of Motions:** None.

12. **By-laws:**

MOTION: #071-15

Moved by: Councillor Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Vincent

THAT:

Leave be given to introduce the following By-Laws:

By-law No. 2015-15; being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize the County of Huron to enter into an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Education.

By-law No. 2015-16; being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize the execution of a three year contract agreement with The Service Employees International Union Local 1 Canada.

By-law No. 2015-17; being a By-law to adopt estimates, to establish tax rates for the County and to establish the general County Levy for the year 2015.

CARRIED

MOTION: #072-15

Moved by: Councillor Versteeg and Seconded by: Councillor Van Diepenbeek

THAT:

By-law No. 2015-15, 2015-16 and 2015-17 be given first and second reading;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2015-15, 2015-16 and 2015-17 as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

MOTION: #073-15

Moved by: Councillor Morrison and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

By-law No. 2015-15, 2015-16 and 2015-17 be given a third reading in accordance with Part 13 of the Procedural By-law for the County of Huron, Section 1, Subsection 2;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2015-15, 2015-16 and 2015-17 as read a third time; be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

13. **Closed to the Public Session:** None.

14. **Arrangement of Committee/Board Meetings:**

- Board of Health – Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Seminar Room 2 of the Health & Library Complex, south of Clinton.
- Committee of the Whole Day 1 – Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Court House Council Chambers, Goderich.
- Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee – Monday, March 16, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in the Court House Council Chambers, Goderich.

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- Committee of the Whole Day 2 – Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Court House Council Chambers, Goderich.
- Library Board – Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Court House Council Chambers, Goderich.

15. Confirmatory By-law:

MOTION: #074-15

Moved by: Councillor Jewitt and Seconded by: Councillor Hessel

THAT:

By-law No. 2015-18; being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron, be introduced, be given a first, second and third reading in accordance with Part 13 of the Procedural By-law for the County of Huron, Section 1, Subsection 2;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2015-18; as read a third time; be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

16. Adjournment:

MOTION: #075-15

Moved by: Councillor Vincent and Seconded by: Councillor Van Diepenbeek

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn the Fourth Session at 9:58 a.m. to meet again on Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

The Session closed with the singing of O Canada.

Warden Paul Gowing

Clerk Susan Cronin