



Huron County Council

Minutes - April 20, 2012

Special Session

GODERICH, ONTARIO



SPECIAL SESSION HURON COUNTY COUNCIL

Goderich, Ontario
April 20th, 2012.

Huron County Council met in the Council Chambers on Friday April 20th, 2012. Warden Bernie MacLellan called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Chief Administrative Officer Larry C. Adams called the roll and all members of Council were present except for Councillors Dietrich, Grace and Shewfelt.

Warden MacLellan introduced Fred Dean, Facilitator for this Strategic Planning Meeting. Mr. Dean has been a municipal solicitor for over 30 years. Fred Dean is also a principal of Amberley Gavel.

A resolution was passed at the January 12th, 2011 Committee of the Whole Day 1 meeting and approved by County Council at their Second Session on February 9th, 2011 that states:

Moved by: Councillor D. Shewfelt and Seconded by: Councillor T. Hessel:

THAT:

The Motion for County Council to review the composition of County Council; be tabled until there is further discussion at the Strategic Planning meeting.

MOTION: 126 - 12

Moved by: Councillor N. Vincent and Seconded by: Councillor A. Versteeg.

THAT:

The resolution tabling the review of the composition of County Council; be raised from the table.

CARRIED

5. Items for Discussion:

5.1 County Council Composition:

There was a great deal of discussion about MPAC and the need for improved Voters' Lists.

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Fred Dean requested members of Council give examples of what is working with the current County composition By-law. After much discussion Mr. Dean asked to give examples of what is not working with the current County composition By-law. There were several structures of Council composition discussed.

MOTION: 127 - 12

Moved by: Councillor J. Steffler and Seconded by: Councillor A. Versteeg:

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; agree to the following composition of County Council:

The following Lower Tier Municipalities will have one representative on County Council:

- The Township of Howick
- The Municipality of Morris-Turnberry
- The Township of North Huron

The following Lower Tier Municipalities will have two representatives on County Council:

- The Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh
- The Municipality of Bluewater
- The Municipality of Central Huron
- The Town of Goderich
- The Municipality Huron East
- The Municipality of South Huron

A Recorded Vote was requested by Councillor N. Vincent:

YEAS:

Versteeg

Rintoul

Steffler

Van Diepenbeek

Robertson

Ginn

MacLellan

Jewitt

NAYS:

Gowing
Vincent
Dowson
Klopp
Hessel

ABSENT:

Dietrich
Grace
Shewfelt

YEAS – 8; NAYS – 5; ABSENT - 3
CARRIED

5.2 Policies for discussion:

Warden MacLellan offered some suggestions for the review of some Policies of the Corporation.

The first was the Policy regarding a Driver's Abstract for all employees who are driving County-owned vehicles. The initial Driver's Abstract cost would be paid by the new employee as a condition of employment. A Driver's Abstract should be done periodically as a risk management tool.

The second was the Sick Day Policy. Whereas the County is endeavouring to reduce sick time; the Policy cannot be enforced if records are not kept for all employees. There needs to be a credible paper trail by someone to control the sick time records.

MOTION: 128 - 12

Moved by: Councillor T. Hessel and Seconded by: Councillor J. Ginn:

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; direct staff to re-visit the following Policies and report back to County Council with recommendations for revisions:

- Drivers' Abstract
- Sick Time Policy Records

CARRIED

Councillor Robertson suggested the Warden's salary should be reviewed.

MOTION: 129 - 12

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; agree to allow Warden MacLellan to vacate the Chair for the continuation of this discussion;

AND FURTHER THAT:

Councillor Vincent; assume the Chair for the continuation of this discussion.

CARRIED

MOTION: 130 - 12

Moved by: Councillor T. Hessel and Seconded by: Councillor P. Gowing:

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; agree to request a report regarding the Warden's remuneration for a future Strategic Planning meeting.

CARRIED

Warden MacLellan resumed the Chair.

5.3 County-wide Fire Protection:

Warden MacLellan, Chief of Emergency Services Lew and CAO Adams have had discussion with the Office of the Fire Marshal. The County of Huron has authority to be the fire protection service for the lower tiers; thus the lower tiers would purchase it from the County. It was confirmed that the County would not have to have full-time fire fighters. In order for more information to be considered by Council, there needs to be more direction.

MOTION: 131 - 12

Moved by: Councillor P. Gowing and Seconded by: Councillor J. Ginn:

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; agree to direct staff to investigate the possible costs savings or administration of a single tier fire service.

DEFEATED

5.4 County-wide Policing:

CAO Adams advised that a small amount of research was done preparing for this meeting. All the lower tier municipalities have policing contracts with the Huron County OPP. There are three municipalities in Huron County that have a level of service that offers a minimal amount of By-law enforcement.

MOTION: 132 - 12

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; agree to remain status quo for policing.

CARRIED

5.5 3% Budget increase on a year over year basis – Total Future Highways Capital Expenditures Report from Treasurer Carey:

Treasurer David Carey prepared a report entitled Total Future Highways Capital Expenditures; for the information of Council.

The purpose of the report was to provide the merits of considering long-term planning.

MOTION: 133 - 12

Moved by: Councillor A. Versteeg and Seconded by: Councillor J. Steffler:

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron; agree to direct staff to provide Total Future Capital Expenditures and Operating reports for all departments in the County; for Council information and consideration.

CARRIED

5.6 Future Issues for Strategic Planning meetings:

- Long-Term Care
- Museums & Archives
- Social Housing
- EMS
- Libraries

The Committee of the Whole structure was discussed. Many of the Councillors commented they are satisfied with the structure. Director of Public Works Laurie requested the Department of Public Works change from Committee of the Whole Day 1 to Committee of the Whole Day 2 for the purposes of tendering.

Clerk Wilson was given direction to proceed with amending the County of Huron Procedural By-law. A report will be forthcoming to Committee of the Whole Day 1 in May, 2012 with the revisions to the Procedural By-law.

The paperless agenda was briefly commented on as a positive tool for the Committee and Council meetings.

5.7 Future Strategic Planning dates:

CAO Adams advised another Strategic Planning meeting should be looked at for September 2012. Three tentative dates have secured the Council Chambers; Thursday September 13th, Friday September 14th and Wednesday September 26th, 2012. There were some brief discussions about reviewing the 2013 Budget earlier.

Confirmatory By-law:

MOTION: 134 - 12

Moved by: Councillor P. Gowing and Seconded by: Councillor T. Hessel:

THAT:

Leave be given to introduce the following By-law:

By-law No. 25-2012; 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.

CARRIED

MOTION: 135 - 12

Moved by: Councillor N. Vincent and Seconded by: Councillor A. Versteeg:

THAT:

By-law No. 25-2012; be given first and second reading;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 25-2012; as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

MOTION: 136 - 12

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

THAT:

By-law No. 25-2012; be given a third reading in accordance with Part 7 of the Procedural By-law for the County of Huron, Section 25, Subsection 2;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 25-2012, as read a third time, be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

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Adjournment:

MOTION: 137 - 12

Moved by: Councillor G. Robertson and Seconded by: Councillor N. Rintoul:

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron; do hereby adjourn the Special Session at 1:29 p.m.; to meet again on Wednesday May 2nd, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.; or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk

CARRIED

Warden Bernie MacLellan

County Clerk Barbara L. Wilson