

**MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Virtual
July 8, 2020

The Council of the County of Huron met virtually due to the declared Provincial Emergency on Wednesday, July 8, 2020. All members of Council were present. Councillor McNeil joined at 9:07 AM and Councillor Heffer joined at 9:20 AM.

1. Warden Jim Ginn called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

2. Warden's Remarks:

Warden Ginn stated that he participated in the Canada Day video for the town of Goderich. The Emergency Operation Centre meetings continue weekly. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference will be held virtually this year. There has been a request for a delegation by the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus for a multi-minister delegation and for the Bluewater Centre project. The Warden stated that his time has shifted from the Homes and Economic Development to homelessness. The Western Ontario Wardens Caucus is lobbying for SWIFT 2.0 funding requests. Warden Ginn stated that he would not be putting his name forward for the position of Warden for the next term.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Councillor Harding and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for July 8, 2020 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

Councillor Dietrich declared a pecuniary interest with regards to Item 9.1 as he works for the purchaser.

Councillor Heffer declared a pecuniary interest with regards to Item 8.2 Zoning By-law Report as he lives across the road from a property listed in the report.

5. Minutes of the Previous Session:

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 2 meeting on June 24, 2020 meeting, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations: None.

7. Councillor's Issues:

Councillor Fisher requested clarification on the SWIFT request for proposal issued for December 2020. Warden Ginn and Councillor Watt outlined the timeline for this proposal.

8. Consent Agenda – Items 8.1 through 8.8:

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Jewitt

THAT:

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Items 8.1 through 8.8 be approved with the actions as noted.

CARRIED

9. Planning and Development:

9.1. C34-2020 – Steven and Janine Corbett (Owners), Keith McLean c/o Raymond and McLean (Applicant), Part Lot 15, Concession 4, Hay East Ward, Municipality of Bluewater (presented by Hanna Holman)

The purpose of the application is for the creation of a new lot under the surplus farm residence policies. The proposed land to be severed is approximately 1.9 hectares (4.7 acres). The vacant agricultural land to be retained is approximately 39.6 hectares (97.8 acres). The dwelling on the subject lands is deemed surplus to the consolidated farm operation of the prospective purchasers on the retained lands, Exeter Produce & Storage. The application meets the criteria for the surplus farm residence policies, with the exception of the criteria that the application is kept to a minimal size needed for residential purposes. It has not been demonstrated that a portion of the proposed severed lot with a size of approximately 0.8 hectares (2 acres) is required to support the residential use of the property from a land use policy perspective. The application is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms to the Huron County Official Plan and the Bluewater Official Plan, provided that a condition is included to reduce the size of the proposed severed lot. The Municipality of Bluewater recommended that the application be approved with conditions excluding Condition No. 13 to require a reduction of the size of the proposed severed lot. The Planning Department recommend approval with conditions, including a condition to require the reduction of the size of the proposed severed lot.

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation of Hanna Holman, Planner, that Consent application C34-2020 by Keith McLean c/o Raymond and McLean (Steven and Janine Corbett) requesting the severance of a parcel of land under the surplus farm residence policies, described as Part Lot 15, Concession 4, Hay East Ward, Municipality of Bluewater, be approved with all conditions presented except condition #13 to require the reduction of the size of the proposed severed lot.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

Consent applications C34-2020, by Keith McLean c/o Raymond and McLean (Steven and Janine Corbett) requesting the severance of a parcel of land under the surplus farm residence policies, described as Part Lot 15, Concession 4, Hay East Ward, Municipality of Bluewater. No Public comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. Agency comments were received in support of the application (with the exception of the size of the severed parcel), the effect of which resulted in a decision to approve the application.

CARRIED

9.2 Hensall District Co-Operative Request for Fee refund for Planning Applications (presented by Craig Metzger)

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Craig Metzger, Senior Planner, dated June 22, 2020 titled Hensall District Co-Operative – Request for Fee Refund for Planning Applications, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

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The Council of the County of Huron not approve the request of the Hensall District Co-Operative to refund the County portion of two Minor Variance applications in the amount of \$1,730.00.

CARRIED

9.3 Housing Initiative – Residential Intensification Guidelines Update (presented by Denise Van Amersfoort)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor McNeil

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Denise Van Amersfoort, Senior Planner, dated June 24, 2020, titled Housing Initiative - Residential Intensification Guidelines Update, as presented.

CARRIED

9.4 Planning Act Timeframes – Update in Response to COVID-19 (presented by Denise Van Amersfoort)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor McNeil

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Denise Van Amersfoort, Senior Planner and Sandra Weber, Director, Planning and Development Department, dated June 24, 2020, titled Planning Act Timeframes - Update in Response to COVID-19, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10. Cultural Services:

11. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

11.1 Economic Development Department June 2020 Update (presented by Cody Joudry)

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Reanne Clark, Office Administrator, dated July 8, 2020, titled Economic Development Department June 2020 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

CAO Wark indicated that a report will be presented by the Economic Development department with further information on land development inquiries and project costs to the Economic Development Board and Council, following consultation with the Economic Development Groups.

11.2. COVID-19 Public Portable Sanitations Stations Phase Two (presented by Christine Hoffman)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report prepared by Christine Hoffman, Manager, Housing Services, dated July 8, 2020, titled Public Portable Sanitation Stations - Potential Phase Two of COVID Pandemic Response, as presented for information.

CARRIED

11.3 Housing and Homeless Programs and Initiatives (presented by Barbara Hall)

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Moved by: Councillor McNeil and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report prepared by Barbara Hall, Director, Social and Property Services, dated July 8, 2020, titled Housing and Homeless Programs and Initiatives, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports the development of a Homelessness Task Force with representatives of (4) members of County Council, the Warden, as well as relevant stakeholder groups;

AND FURTHER THAT:

Councillors Bailey, Finch, Grace and McNeil be selected as representatives to participate in the Homelessness Task Force on behalf of County Council.

CARRIED

11.4 Rural Broadband Advocacy (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports the advocacy efforts of WOWC in relation to rural broadband advocacy.

WHEREAS the Government of Canada, via the CRTC, has committed to bring 50/10 broadband service (the Universal Service Objective or USO) to 90% of Canadians in 2021, 95% in 2026 and 100% by 2030; and

WHEREAS increased funding from both the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada is urgently needed to address Southwestern Ontario's large connectivity gaps, so that we can close the digital divide and restart our economies; and

WHEREAS in order to reduce the digital divide within Southwestern Ontario, and to achieve the CRTC's 95% target by 2026, it will cost an estimated \$1B; and

WHEREAS the current CRTC targets and federal funding programs do not specifically address the many rural, remote, and northern communities in Canada that continue to be unserved or underserved by internet service providers (ISP); and

WHEREAS access to high-speed/capacity broadband is vital to municipal sustainability, economic development and diversification, and overall community and social development.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT we support Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) as Southwestern Ontario's funding mechanism to advance the expansion of critical broadband infrastructure across Southwestern Ontario; and

THAT the Municipalities of Western Ontario request the Government of Canada provide direct funding of \$254 million and the Government of Ontario provide direct funding of \$221 million to support development of high speed (50 megabits per second and faster) community broadband; and

THAT combined with a \$68.4M commitment from the region and a \$105M contribution from the private sector (ISPs), we intend to successfully address the \$1B Southwestern Ontario infrastructure deficit and achieving the interim goal of providing 50/10 broadband services to 95% of the population within Southwestern Ontario by 2025.

AND that copy of the preceding resolution be provided to Provincial Minister, The Honourable Laurie Scott, Infrastructure Ontario, and Federal Minister, The Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development and local MP Ben Lobb and MPP Lisa Thompson.

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CARRIED

12. Correspondence:

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts correspondence not specifically dealt with, for information.

CARRIED

13. New/Unfinished Business:

In the interest of being accountable and transparent, where a member of Council or staff would like to present an item of business in this section, it is recommended that they contact the Chief Administrative Officer in advance so that the item can be placed on the published agenda.

14. Notice of Motion: None.

15. By-laws:

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

Leave be given to introduce the following By-Laws:

By-law No. 2020-050, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to enter into a service contract with PRAN Systems Inc. in partnership for RFP 2020-05 Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL) Solution awarded to Rowland Emergency Vehicle Products Inc.;

By-law No. 2020-051, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to enter into a contract with Roubos Farm Service Ltd. for Contract HC 20-501.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Fergusson

THAT:

By-law No. 2020-050 and 2020-051, be given a first and second reading;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2020-050 and 2020-051, as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

By-law No. 2020-050 and 2020-051, be given a third reading in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-law for the County of Huron, Section 1, Subsection 2;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2020-050 and 2020-051, as read a third time; be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

16. Closed to the Public Session:

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 10:41 AM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended; to discuss an item that relates to:

- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local Board - Cultural Services;

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AND FURTHER THAT:

CAO Wark, Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen, County Librarian and Director of Cultural Services Beth Rumble and Senior Curator Elizabeth French-Gibson remain in attendance.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 10:46 AM.

CARRIED

- Reporting out of Closed Session – CAO Wark stated that members of Council were updated on a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local Board - Cultural Services.

17. Arrangement of Committee/Board Meetings:

As per the County's COVID-19 response protocols, all Council and Committee meetings are being held virtually.

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting.

Library Board – **Thursday**, August 13, 2020 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting.

Economic Development Board – **Thursday**, August 13, 2020 at 5:00 PM - Virtual Meeting.

Council Day 1 - Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting.

18. Confirmatory By-law:

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

By-Law No. 2020-052, 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 14 of the Procedural By-law for the County of Huron, Section 1, Subsection 2;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2020-052, as read a third time; be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

19. Adjournment:

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 10:49 AM to meet again on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

Warden Jim Ginn

Clerk Susan Cronin