

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON

Virtual
June 23, 2021

The Council of the County of Huron met virtually on Wednesday, June 23, 2021. All members of Council were present. Councillor Grace joined the meeting at 9:20 AM and departed at 11:10 AM.

1. Warden Glen McNeil called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council Day 2 agenda for June 23, 2021 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

There were no declarations stated.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 1 meeting on June 9, 2021 meeting, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations: None.

6. Councillor's Issues:

Councillor MacLellan clarified a previous comment that he made. Municipalities do not have the option to pay loans from the Ontario Government prior to the end date of the loan.

Councillor Harding informed members that Huron-Perth MPP Lisa Thompson has been appointed as Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of Ontario.

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

The Council of Huron County sends a letter of congratulations to Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson on her appointment as Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of Ontario.

CARRIED

7. Consent Agenda – Items 7.1 through 7.5:

Moved by: Councillor Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

Items 7.1 through 7.5 be approved with the actions as noted.

CARRIED

8. Social and Property Services:

8.1 Children's Services Service Agreement (presented by Cheryl Patience)

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 2 ~

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Cheryl Patience, Manager of Ontario Works and Children's Services, dated June 23, 2021, titled Children's Services Service Agreement, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted authorizing the Warden and Clerk to complete and execute service agreements and any other required documentation on behalf of the County of Huron for the provision of child care within Huron County, once the Agreements have been executed by the respective child care provider.

CARRIED

8.2 Local Authority Services - Natural Gas Appointment and Retainer Agreement
(presented by Jeff Kerslake)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Jeff Kerslake, Technical Services Manager, dated June 23, 2021 titled Local Authority Services - Natural Gas Appointment and Retainer Agreement as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the Natural Gas Appointment and Retainer Agreement with Local Authority Services (LAS) for the County buildings enrolled in the natural gas procurement program;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted authorizing the Warden and County Clerk to execute the Local Authority Services - Natural Gas Appointment and Retainer Agreement, renewal agreements and any other required documentation for the natural gas procurement program.

CARRIED

8.3 Employment Services Transformation - Provincial Rollout (presented by Barbara Hall)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Director of Social and Property Services Barbara Hall, dated June 23, 2021, titled Employment Services Transformation - Provincial Rollout, as presented for information.

CARRIED

8.4 Emergency Shelter Season and Housing Stability Supports – 2021-2022 (presented by Barbara Hall)

Moved by: Councillor Bailey and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report from Director of Social and Property Services Barbara Hall, dated June 23, 2021 titled Emergency Shelter Season and Housing Stability Supports - 2021- 2022, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation by the Huron County Homelessness Task Force to continue to operate an emergency shelter for the upcoming winter and provide housing stability supports after the shelter season ends;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute agreements for a one year extension of the operation of the emergency shelter for 2021-2022 and provide

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 3 ~

housing stability supports after the shelter season ends with Choices for Change and CMHA Elgin-Middlesex:

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation for staff to engage identified community partners and provide authorization to commit levy funds in 2022 to cover the anticipated shelter and stability expenses, as outlined in the Emergency Shelter Season and Housing Stability Supports - 2021-2022.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Jewitt and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to prepare a report on best practices and options for supportive housing in Huron County.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of County of Huron send correspondence to the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus (WOWC) requesting advocacy for supportive housing funding.

CARRIED

9. Homes for the Aged: None.

10. Emergency Services: None.

11. Public Works:

11.1 Highway Coarse Bulk Salt Procurement 2021-2024 (presented by Steve Lund)

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by the County Engineer/Director of Operations Steve Lund, dated June 23, 2021, titled Highway Coarse Bulk Salt Procurement 2021-2024, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves an exemption to the procurement by-law be made and staff be directed to annually negotiate the price for the supply of highway coarse bulk salt with Compass Minerals Canada Corporation for a 3 year period (2021-2024).

CARRIED

11.2 Tender Results for the 2021 Guiderail Replacements and Installation at Various Locations - Contract HC 21-601 (presented by Cameron Harper)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron Council approves the report by Manager of Public Works Cameron Harper, dated June 23, 2021, titled Tender Results for the 2021 Guiderail Replacements and Installation at Various Locations - Contract HC 21-601 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the tender submitted by Elliott Fence Inc. in the amount of \$171,480.86 (inclusive of contingency allowance and net applicable tax), based on the anticipated scope of work;

AND FURTHER THAT:

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 4 ~

A by-law be prepared authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute the contracts and all other required documents for Contract HC 21-601;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The project shortfall totaling \$21,480.86 (including contingency allowance) be funded from an accumulated surplus from other 2021 capital projects.

CARRIED

11.3 HC 21-54 Supply and Delivery of Alternative Non-Liquid De-Icing Material
(presented by Cameron Harper)

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Manager of Public Works Cameron Harper, dated June 23, 2021, titled HC 21-54 Supply and Delivery of Alternative Non-Liquid De-Icing Material as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the tender submitted by Compass Minerals Canada Corp. for Contract HC 21-54 for the tendered price of \$320,544.00 including net applicable taxes;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be prepared authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute the contracts and all other required documents for Contract HC 21-54.

CARRIED

11.4 Tender Results for the Rental and Operation of Three (3) Snowplows with Sanding and Salting Equipment for the Wingham Patrol (presented by Cameron Harper)

Moved by: Councillor Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Manager of Public Works Cameron Harper, dated June 23, 2021, titled Tender Results for the Rental and Operation of Three (3) Snowplows with Sanding and Salting Equipment for the Wingham Patrol and recommendation to award Contract HC 2021- 140, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the tender submitted by Joe Kerr Ltd. for HC 2021-140 for a minimum of (3) winter seasons starting in November 2022 at an estimated total value of \$606,326.78 (including net applicable tax) per season plus a 2% increase per year starting January 1, 2024;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Huron County Public Works Department be authorized to exercise the option of two (2) single year extensions for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 winter seasons including at a 2% increase per calendar year;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute the agreement, optional agreement extensions and any other required documents for HC 21-140 Contracted Plow Services.

CARRIED

11.5 Tender Results for Tender HC 21-1207 – Three Pickup Trucks (presented by Steve Lund)

Moved by: Councillor Harding and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Fleet Supervisor Donald Hastings, dated June 23, 2021, titled Tender Results for Tender HC 21-1207 - Three Pickup Trucks, as presented for information;

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 5 ~

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the recommendation to award HC 21-1207 to Finch Chevrolet at the tendered price of \$120,500.13, including net applicable taxes (1.76%) for Three Pickup Trucks;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted delegating the authority to execute any required documentation for HC 21-1207 to the Fleet Supervisor.

CARRIED

11.6 Bluewater Request for Infrastructure Improvements for Zurich County Road #84 in 2022 (presented by Steve Lund)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Klopp

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by County Engineer Steve Lund, dated June 23, 2021, titled Bluewater Request for Infrastructure Improvements for Zurich County Road #84 in 2022, as presented for information.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron prioritize the Zurich County Road 84 rehabilitation project in 2022 in coordination with the Municipality of Bluewater.

CARRIED

12. Economic Development:

12.1 Economic Development Department May 2021 Update (presented by Cody Joudry)

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Reanne Clark, Office Administrator, dated June 23, 2021, titled Economic Development Department May 2021 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

12.2 Huron County Housing Demand Survey 2021 (presented by Natasha Gaudio Harrison)

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The Huron County Council receives the report by Natasha Gaudio Harrison, Economic Development Officer, dated June 23, 2021, titled Huron County Housing Demand Survey - Final Report, as presented for information.

CARRIED

Council recessed at 11:05 AM and resumed at 11:12 AM.

12.3 Huron County Immigration Partnership Anti-Racism Project Update (presented by Hana Aria)

Moved by: Councillor Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report from Hana Aria, Immigration Partnership Support Officer, dated June 23, 2021, titled Huron County Immigration Partnership Anti-Racism Project Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

13. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

13.1 Municipal Insurance Options (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, dated June 23, 2021, titled Municipal Insurance Pools, as presented for information.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to coordinate with local Huron County Municipal staff to investigate potential options for pooled or joint insurance coverage.

CARRIED

13.2 Accounts Receivable – Write-Off (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, dated June 23, 2021, titled Accounts Receivable Write-Off, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the write-off of outstanding accounts receivables in the amount of \$46,667.97.

CARRIED

14. Correspondence

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

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

CARRIED

15. 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.

15.1 Huron County Land Acknowledgment Policy (presented by Elizabeth French-Gibson, Rick Sickinger and Sinead Cox)

Moved by: Councillor Jewitt and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Elizabeth French-Gibson, Interim Director of Cultural Services, Sinead Cox, Acting Senior Curator, Museum, and Rick Sickinger, Acting Tourism Development Officer, dated June 23, 2021, titled Huron County Land Acknowledgement Policy, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 7 ~

The Council of the County of Huron approves the Huron County Land Acknowledgement Policy as presented.
CARRIED

16. Notice of Motion: None.

17. By-laws:

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

Leave be given to introduce the following By-Laws:

By-law No. 2021-044, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to approve the submission of an application to Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (OILC) for the long-term financing of certain Capital Work(s) of Corporation of the County of Huron; and to authorize the entering into of a Rate Offer Letter Agreement pursuant to which the County of Huron will issue debentures to OILC;

By-law No. 2021-045, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to enter into a contract with Bell Mobility Inc.;

By-law No. 2021-046, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to enter into Recreation Program Service Agreements.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

By-law No. 2021-044, 2021-045, and 2021-046 be given a first and second reading;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2021-044, 2021-045, and 2021-046, as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

By-law No. 2021-044, 2021-045, and 2021-046, 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. 2021-044, 2021-045, and 2021-046, as read a third time, be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

18. Closed to the Public Session:

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 12:00 PM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss an item that relates to:

1. Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose - County Roads/Intersection Safety;
2. Labour relations or employee Negotiations - Non-Union Benefits;

AND FURTHER THAT:

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 8 ~

CAO Meighan Wark (Items 1 & 2), Clerk Susan Cronin (Items 1 & 2), Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen (Items 1 & 2), County Engineer and Director of Operations Steve Lund (Item 1), Donnelly Murphy Solicitor Greg Stewart (Item 1), Director of Human Resources Lara Vanstone (Item 2), Total Rewards Advisor Yasemeen Iravani (Item 2), and Safety and Wellness Supervisor Erin Thomson (Item 2) remain in attendance.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Klopp

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 12:45 PM.

CARRIED

- Reporting out of Closed Session
CAO Wark stated that the purpose of going into closed session was to discuss two items: advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose- County Roads/Intersection Safety; and labour relations or employee negotiations-Non Union Benefits.

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to prepare a report that establishes parameters for the placement/installation/requirements of LED stop signs within the County of Huron.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation of Yasemeen Iravani, Total Rewards Advisor for the Non-Union Benefit Plan enhancements as follows:

Effective January 1st, 2022

- Increase Massage, Chiropractor, Psychologist to \$400.
- Increase Eye Wear to \$350.
- \$200 annual HCSA (Health Care Spending Account) allocation

Effective January 1st, 2023

- Increase Massage, Chiropractor, Psychologist to \$500.
- Add Major Dental - 50% up to \$1,000.

CARRIED

19. 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 1 - Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Huron County Library Board - Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Huron County Economic Development Board - Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 5:00 PM - Virtual Meeting

20. Confirmatory By-law:

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, June 23, 2021
~ Page 9 ~

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

By-Law No. 2021-047, 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. 2021-047; as read a third time; be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

21. Adjournment:

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 12:48 PM to meet again on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

Warden Glen McNeil

Clerk Susan Cronin