

**MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Virtual
October 6, 2021

The Council of the County of Huron met virtually on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. All members of Council were present.

1. Warden Glen McNeil called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Warden's Remarks:

Warden McNeil attended the Seaforth Fall Fair on September 18, 2021 where long serving 4-H Club volunteers were recognized. On September 19, 2021, he attended the dedication of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) plaque in Vanastra honouring military and civilian employees who served in RCAF Clinton.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for October 6, 2021 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Moved by: Councillor Harding and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 2 meeting and the Audit Committee meeting of September 15, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations: None.

7. Councillor's Issues:

Councillor Finch requested an update on correspondence sent to the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada on November 25, 2020 regarding the Homelessness Task Force Request for Support.

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Klopp

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to resubmit correspondence containing the following motion to the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada and Social Service Managers in Ontario:

Whereas the County of Huron has established a "Huron County Homelessness Task Force" to address the rapidly increasing issue of homelessness in the County. That the County of Huron, due to the substantial increase in chronic homelessness not only in Huron County but across Ontario and Canada, requests the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada to identify Homelessness a "Provincial" and "National Crisis" across the Province of Ontario and Canada.

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AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada acknowledge that lack of resources to support addiction and mental health programs to be a leading cause of homelessness.

AND FURTHER THAT the County of Huron requests the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada to provide further financial support for housing and homelessness programs as well as increase funding to mental health and addiction services.

CARRIED

8. Consent Agenda – Items 8.1 through 8.9:

Moved by: Councillor Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

Items 8.1 through 8.9 be approved with the actions as noted.

CARRIED

9. Planning and Development:

9.1 Consent File C53-21- Jonathan Eelman for Bakker Properties, Plan 410 Park Lot 77, PT Patrick Street between Mary and Adelaide St. 22R-6316 Part 5, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry (presented by Jenn Burns)

The purpose of this application is to create a total of three residential building lots. The proposed vacant land to be severed (see Lot 2 in Figure 2) is approximately 0.47 ha (1.16 acres) and the proposed vacant land to be retained is approximately 0.47 ha (1.16 acres) (see Lot 3 in Figure 2) and 1.4 ha (3.4 acres) (see Lot 1 in Figure 2). The subject property is designated Residential and Natural Environment on Schedule B of the Morris-Turnberry Official Plan. This application is being processed concurrently with Zoning By-law Amendment Application ZBA04-21. The application is disputed with objections being received from neighbouring property owners. The application is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms with the Huron County and Morris-Turnberry Official Plans. Morris-Turnberry Council has reviewed the application and recommends approval with conditions. The Planning and Development Department recommends approval with conditions. Cheryl Inglis spoke in opposition to the application.

Moved by: Councillor Jewitt and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation of Jenn Burns, Planner, that consent application C53-2021 by Jonathan Eelman for Bakker Properties requesting the severance of a parcel of land for residential development on lands described as PLAN 410 Park Lot 77, PT Patrick Street between Mary and Adelaide St. 22R-6316 Part 5, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, be approved with conditions.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

Consent File C53-21 by Jonathan Eelman for Bakker Properties requesting the severance of a parcel of land for residential development on lands described as PLAN 410 Park Lot 77, PT Patrick Street between Mary and Adelaide St. 22R-6316 Part 5, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry. Public comments were received on the issues of septic beds located within the flood fringe, location of septic systems and nitrate/hydrogeology, stormwater management and impact on wildlife. Comments were thoroughly considered but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the application. Agency comments were received in support of the application, the effect of which resulted in a decision to approve the application.

CARRIED

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9.2 Consent File C64-21, Arthur Woods for Bluevale Farms, Concession 1, Part Lots 56 & 57, Turnberry Ward, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry (presented by Jenn Burns)

This application proposes to sever a surplus farm residence and out buildings. The proposed severed area is 38.45 hectares (95 acres) of farmland and natural environment features and the proposed retained area is 2.02 hectares (5 acres) containing a house and outbuildings. Due to a previous severance on this parcel (100 acre/100 acre split), the farmland needs to be considered to be the severed lands and the house portion is considered the retained. Under current policies, the subject residence is not deemed to be surplus to the current owner or proposed purchaser. The applicant does not have another farm with a house and does not intend to sell the farmland to another farmer who would qualify the subject house as surplus. The application is not consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and does not conform to the Huron County or Morris-Turnberry Official Plans. Morris-Turnberry Council has reviewed the application and recommends approval with conditions. The Planning and Development Department is recommending the application be denied.

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves Consent Application C64-21 by Arthur Woods requesting the severance of a surplus farm residence severance on lands described as Concession 1, Part Lots 56 & 57, Turnberry Ward (42514 Amberley Road), with conditions listed in the planning report.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

Consent File C64-21 by Arthur Woods for Bluevale Farms requesting the severance of a surplus farm residence on lands described as Concession 1, Part Lots 56 & 57, Turnberry Ward, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry. No public comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. Agency comments were received on this application on the issue of ownership and nonconformity with Official Plan policies, but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the application.

CARRIED

9.3 Consent File C72-2021 – Burns Acres Limited (Owner), Betty Burns (Applicant), Concession 3, Lot 30, Tuckersmith Ward, Municipality of Huron East (presented by Laura Simpson)

The purpose of this application is to create a new lot under the surplus farm residence severance policies. The application is not consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and does not conform to the Huron East and Huron County Official Plans and the policies for a surplus residence severance. The Municipality of Huron East has recommended that the application be denied and the Planning and Development Department recommends the application be denied.

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves Consent application C72-2021 by Burns Acres Limited (Betty Burns) requesting the severance of a parcel of land, described as Con 3, Lot 30, Tuckersmith Ward, Municipality of Huron East, with conditions listed in the planning report.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Harding and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

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Consent File C72-2021 by Burns Acres Limited (Owner), Betty Burns (Applicant), requesting the severance of a parcel of land described as Concession 3, Lot 30, Tuckersmith Ward, Municipality of Huron East. No public comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. Agency comments were received on this application on the issue of nonconformity with Official Plan policies but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the application.

CARRIED

9.4 Consent File C76-21, James Desmond Devlin, Lot 25, Concession 10, Township of Howick (presented by Jenn Burns)

This application proposes to sever a vacant surplus farm residence parcel for the purposes of constructing a house. The proposed severed parcel is located where a historic home was previously on the property. The owner/applicant advised that the house was demolished and removed in 2004. The proposed residential lot is 1.05 hectares (2.6 acres) with no existing buildings, and the vacant retained farmland is 43.7 hectares (108 acres). The application is not consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and does not conform to the Huron County or Howick Official Plans. Howick Council reviewed the application and recommends approval with conditions. The Planning and Development Department recommends the application be denied. Ben Devlin and Desmond (Dessie) spoke in favour of the application.

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Jewitt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves Consent Application C76-21 by James Desmond Devlin requesting the severance of a surplus farm residence lot described as Lot 25, Concession 10, Township of Howick, with conditions listed in the planning report.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

Consent File C76-21 by James Desmond Devlin, requesting the severance of a surplus farm residence lot described as Lot 25, Concession 10, Township of Howick. No public comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. Agency comments were received on this application on the issue of nonconformity with Official Plan policies but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the application.

CARRIED

9.5 Update on Ontario Land Tribunal Decision - Appeal to Consent Files C58-20 and C59-20, Municipality of Huron East (presented by Sandra Weber)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Sandra Weber, Director, titled Update on Ontario Land Tribunal Decision - Appeal to Consent Files C58-20 and C59-20, Municipality of Huron East dated October 6, 2021, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9.6 Planning Fees Review (presented by Sandra Weber)

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Sandra Weber, Director, titled Planning Fees Review, dated October 6, 2021;

AND FURTHER THAT:

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The approved 2022-2026 Planning Fees be adopted and included as part of the annual update of the County of Huron's fee by-law to be in effect as of January 1st, 2022;
AND FURTHER THAT:
The local municipalities be asked to proceed to revise their Planning Fees by-law based on the approved 2022-2026 Planning Fees effective January 1st, 2022.
CARRIED

Council recessed at 10:29 AM and resumed at 10:35 AM.

10. Cultural Services:

11. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

11.1 2022 Budget - Community Engagement (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor Murdock 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 October 6, 2021, titled 2022 Budget - Community Engagement, as presented for information.

CARRIED

11.2 COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (presented by Erin Thomson)

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report from Erin Thomson, Safety & Wellness Supervisor, dated October 6, 2021 titled Proposed COVID-19 Vaccination Policy, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy as presented effective November 1, 2021;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The authority to make minor amendments to the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy be delegated to the CAO.

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor Heffer.

YEAS: Councillors Bailey, Dietrich, Fergusson, Finch, Fisher, Ginn, Grace, Harding, Jewitt, Klopp, Murdock, MacLellan, Watt, Warden McNeil

NAYS: Councillors Heffer

YEAS: 14, NAYS: 1

CARRIED

11.3 Return to Steady State (presented by Lara Vanstone)

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report from Lara Vanstone, Director of Human Resources, dated October 6, 2021, titled Return to Steady State as presented for information.

CARRIED

11.4 Future Council Meeting Participation (presented by Susan Cronin)

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Moved by: Councillor Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Susan Cronin, County Clerk, dated October 6, 2021, titled Future of Council/Committee Meeting Participation, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves continuing with Option 1 – That meetings will be held fully electronically for participation of members, delegations, presenters and public for Council, Boards and Committees;

AND FURTHER THAT:

Staff be directed to prepare a report on Option 3 – for the Use of a hybrid In-person/Electronic Participation for meetings of Council, Boards and Committees, which includes Financial and Information Technology options.

CARRIED

11.5 Enbridge Gas Franchise Renewal (presented by Meighan Wark and Susan Cronin)

Moved by: Councillor Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Meighan Wark, CAO and Susan Cronin, County Clerk, dated October 6, 2021, titled Enbridge Gas Franchise Renewal Agreement as presented;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the form of draft by-law and franchise agreement attached hereto and authorizes the submission thereof to the Ontario Energy Board for approval pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron requests that the Ontario Energy Board make an Order declaring and directing that the assent of the municipal electors to the attached draft by-law and franchise agreement pertaining to the Corporation of the County of Huron is not necessary pursuant to the provisions of Section 9(4) of the *Municipal Franchises Act*;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted and given first and second reading at the October 20, 2021 meeting. Third and final reading will be given once the County of Huron is in receipt of the Decision and Order form from the Ontario Energy Board.

CARRIED

11.6 Attrition Management Plan Report (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor Grace

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Meighan Wark, CAO dated October 6, 2021 titled Attrition Management Plan, as presented for information.

CARRIED

11.7 Strategic Priorities - September 2021 (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by CAO Meighan Wark, dated October 6, 2021, titled Strategic Priorities - September 2021, as presented for information.

CARRIED

12. Correspondence:

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

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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 Watt and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

Leave be given to introduce the following By-Law:

By-law No. 2021-068, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to enter into a contract with B.M Ross and Associates Limited for Contract HC 21-504 Engineering Services for the Rehabilitation of Zetland and Forester's Bridges.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

By-law No. 2021-068, be given a first and second reading;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2021-068, as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Grace

THAT:

By-law No. 2021-068, 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. 2021-068, as read a third time, be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

Council recessed at 11:49 AM and resumed at 11:55 AM.

16. Closed to the Public Session:

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 11:55 AM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss an item that relates to:

- Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them – Economic Development – Funding Grant;

AND FURTHER THAT:

CAO Meighan Wark, Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen, Director of Planning and Development and Interim Director of

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Economic Development Sandra Weber, and Immigration Partnership Coordinator Kristin Crane, remain in attendance.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 12:07 PM.

CARRIED

- Reporting Out of Closed Session – CAO Wark stated that the purpose of going into closed session was to discuss information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them – Economic Development – Funding Grant.

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of direct staff to proceed as per direction given in Closed to the Public Session of October 6, 2021.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Bailey and Seconded by: Councillor Grace

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves entering into an agreement for an Immigration project with additional funds used from the one time funding that was received by the County in 2013 under the Municipal Immigration Innovation Ontario program to complete the project:

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Immigration Partnership Co-ordinator be delegated the authority to execute the agreement and any other required documents for the Immigration project funding grant pending approval from the Director of Economic Development.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron direct staff to send correspondence to the Federal Government of Canada stating concerns that Immigration projects are very important and are inadequately funded and should be fully funded by the Federal Government.

CARRIED

17. Arrangement of Committee/Board Meetings:

Huron County Library Board - Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Huron County Economic Development Board - Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 5:00 PM - Virtual Meeting

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

18. Confirmatory By-law:

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

By-Law No. 2021-069, 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,

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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. 2021-069, as read a third time; be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

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. 2021-069 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 Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 12:13 PM to meet again on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

Warden Glen McNeil

Clerk Susan Cronin