

**MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Virtual
November 17, 2021

The Council of the County of Huron met virtually on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. All members of Council were present. Councillor Finch departed at 12:38 PM. Councillor Grace departed at 12:41 PM. Councillor Murdock departed at 12:58 PM. Councillor MacLellan departed at 1:12 PM.

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

Warden McNeil stated that there was an addition to the agenda:

- Agenda item 9.3. Request for Approval of Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal and Replacement – Huronview Home for the Aged

2. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Dietrich

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for November 17, 2021 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

There were no declarations stated.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved by: Councillor Harding and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 1 meeting on November 3, 2021 meeting, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations:

5.1 Huron Soil and Crop Improvement Association AND Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA). Alan Willits, President of the Huron Soil and Crop Improvement Association and Ross Wilson, Water and Soils Resource Coordinator, ABCA, provided information on the Huronview Demonstration Farm Profit Mapping.

Moved by: Councillor Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the delegation by Alan Willits, President of the Huron Soil and Crop Improvement Association and Ross Wilson, Water and Soils Resource Coordinator, ABCA, dated November 17, 2021, titled Huronview Demonstration Farm Profit Mapping, as presented for information.

CARRIED

6. Councillor's Issues: None.

7. Consent Agenda – Items 7.1 through 7.5:

Moved by: Councillor MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor Fergusson
THAT:
Items 7.1 through 7.5 be approved with the actions as noted.
CARRIED

8. Social and Property Services:

8.1 2021 Homeless Enumeration & By-Name List (presented by Christine Hoffman)

Moved by: Councillor Bailey and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn
THAT:
The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Christine Hoffman, Manager, Housing Services, dated November 17, 2021, titled 2021 Homeless Enumeration & By-Name List, as presented for information.
CARRIED

8.2 Sole Sourcing of Professional Services (presented by Jeff Kerlake)

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Watt
THAT:
The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Jeff Kerlake, Technical Services Manager, dated November 17, 2021, titled Sole Sourcing of Professional Services, as presented for information;
AND FURTHER THAT:
The Council of the County of Huron appoints the office of Allan Avis Architect as the Architectural firm to design the two tri-plex units scheduled to be built at 33 and 47 Bennett Street, Goderich;
AND FURTHER THAT;
A by-law be drafted authorizing the Warden and the Clerk to execute the contracts and all other required documents.
CARRIED

8.3 Be Part of the Solution Campaign (presented by Erin Samuell)

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Ginn
THAT:
The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Erin Samuell, Corporate Communications Specialist, dated November 17, 2021, titled Be Part of the Solution Campaign, as presented for information.
CARRIED

8.4 Housing Initiative - Housing Renewal Plan (presented by Barbara Hall)

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Finch
THAT:
The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Barbara Hall, Director, Social and Property Services, dated November 17, 2021, titled Housing Initiative – Housing Renewal Plan, as presented for information.
CARRIED

9. Homes for the Aged:

9.1 Request for Approval of Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal and Replacement-Huronlea Home for the Aged (presented by Angela Steadman and Brad McLaughlin)

Moved by: Councillor Jewitt and Seconded by: Councillor Grace

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Interim Director of Homes for the Aged, Angela Steadman and Environmental Services Manager, Brad McLaughlin, dated November 17, 2021, titled Request for Approval of Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal and Replacement-Huronlea Home for the Aged, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves using 2021 Capital and Reserve fund overages and Homes fund reserves for the Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal and Replacement-Huronlea Home for the Aged.

CARRIED

9.2 Considered after agenda Item 9.3

9.3 Request for Approval of Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal & Replacement-Huronview Home for the Aged (presented by Angela Steadman and Brad McLaughlin)

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Interim Director of Homes for the Aged, Angela Steadman and Environmental Services Manager, Brad McLaughlin, dated November 17, 2021, titled Request for Approval of Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal and Replacement-Huronview Home for the Aged, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves using 2021 Capital and Reserve fund overages and Homes fund reserves for the Emergency Galvanized Pipe Removal and Replacement-Huronview Home for the Aged.

CARRIED

9.2 Update Information on Report Request for Sole Sourcing and Reallocation for Ceiling Lifts-Huronlea (presented by Angela Steadman)

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Interim Director of Homes for the Aged, Angela Steadman and Environmental Services Manager, Brad McLaughlin dated November 17, 2021, titled Update Information on Report Request for Sole Sourcing and Reallocation for Ceiling Lifts-Huronlea, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10. Emergency Services:

10.1 Emergency Services - Review of Departmental Vacancies (presented by Jeff Horseman)

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Jeff Horseman, Chief Emergency Services, dated November 17, 2021, titled Emergency Services - Review of Departmental Vacancies, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation by Emergency Services Administration to proceed with the re-evaluation of departmental positions as outlined, including the creation of the Superintendent of Professional Standards and Community Programs position.

CARRIED

Council recessed at 10:21 AM and resumed at 10:25 AM

11. Public Works:

11.1 Blyth Intersection Improvement Study and EA Update (presented by Cameron Harper). Lisa Courtney and Darren Alexander representing BM Ross provided information on the County Road 4 and 25 Intersection Improvements – Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.

Moved by: Councillor Bailey and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Cameron Harper, Manager of Public Works, dated November 17, 2021, titled Blyth Intersection Improvement Study and EA Update, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation of BM Ross for the preliminary preferred alternative-installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Huron County Road 25 and Huron County Road 4 – Blyth, Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to include this project in the 2022 budget for consideration.

CARRIED

12. Economic Development:

12.1. Economic Development Department October 2021 Update (presented by Sandra Weber)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Murdock

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Reanne Clark, Office Administrator, dated November 17, 2021, titled Economic Development Department October 2021 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

12.2 Huron-Perth Ag Science Centre - Request for Economic Development Staff Support (presented by Alex Ripley)

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Alexander Ripley, Economic Development Officer, dated November 17, 2021 titled Huron-Perth Ag Science Centre – Request for Economic Development Staff Support, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the request by Huron Perth Ag Science Centre for five hours per month of Economic Development staff time for questions, advice and research support.

CARRIED

12.3 Tourism Relief Fund Application (presented by Rick Sickinger)

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Jewitt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Rick Sickinger, Tourism Development Officer, dated November 17, 2021, titled Tourism Relief Fund Application, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the submission to the Tourism Relief Fund on behalf of the Huron County Economic Development Department for up to \$120,000 to support Huron County's public art and tourism program;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted delegating the authority to the Warden and Clerk to execute the funding agreement and any other required documents for the Tourism Relief Funding if successful.

CARRIED

12.4 Huron County Tourism Summer/Fall 2021 Update (presented by Rick Sickinger)

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Rick Sickinger, Acting Tourism Development Officer, dated November 17, 2021, titled Huron County Tourism Summer/Fall 2021 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

12.5 Discrimination Experiences by Immigrants, Visible Minorities and Indigenous Peoples in Huron County and Perth Region, an Empirical Study (presented by Kristin Crane and Mark Nonkes)

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report from Kristin Crane, Immigration Partnership Coordinator, and Mark Nonkes, Immigration Partnership Support Officer, dated November 17, 2021, titled Discrimination Experiences by Immigrants, Visible Minorities and Indigenous Peoples in Huron County and Perth Region, an Empirical Study, as presented for information.

CARRIED

13. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

13.1 3rd Quarter 2021 Year-to-Date Financial Reporting (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich 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 November 17, 2021, titled 3rd Quarter 2021 Year-to-Date Financial Reporting, as presented for information.

CARRIED

13.2 Capital and Operating Projects – Deferral to 2022 (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, dated November 17, 2021, titled Capital and Operating Projects – Deferral to 2022, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the carryforward of the 2021 projects listed in Appendix A into the 2022 budget;

AND FURTHER THAT:

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
~ Page 6 ~

The Council of the County of Huron approves transferring the 2021 Homes for the Aged surplus to the Homes for the Aged Reserve up to a maximum of \$201,480.
CARRIED

13.3 Approval for Early 2022 Procurement (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor Fergusson 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 November 17, 2021, titled Approval for Early 2022 Procurement, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves that Public Works, Emergency Services, Homes for the Aged, Information Technology, Library, and Social and Property Services be authorized to procure up to 80% of their 2022 capital budgets prior to the 2022 Budget approval.

CARRIED

13.4 Updates to User Fees and Service Charges (presented by Susan Cronin)

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Harding

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Susan Cronin, County Clerk, dated November 17, 2021, titled Updates to User Fees and Service Charges;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be prepared with the proposed amendments for the December 1, 2021 regular meeting of County Council.

CARRIED

13.5 Council Staff Holiday Gift Exchange (presented by Susan Cronin)

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Fisher

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Susan Cronin, County Clerk, dated November 17, 2021, titled Council Staff Holiday Gift Exchange, as presented for information.

CARRIED

13.6 Nomination to SWIFT Board of Directors (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron nominates Councillor Roger Watt to the SWIFT Board of Directors on behalf of Huron County Council.

CARRIED

13.7 Letter re: Land Ambulance Dispatch from Middlesex (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron County sends a letter to Minister Christine Elliott in support of the Land Ambulance Dispatch Project Pilot program as proposed by Middlesex County.

CARRIED

14. Correspondence:

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
~ Page 7 ~

Moved by: Councillor Finch and Seconded by: Councillor Jewitt

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.

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. 2021-078, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to appoint an Integrity Commissioner, Municipal Ombudsman and Closed Meeting Investigator and to authorize the execution of the agreement.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Murdock and Seconded by: Councillor Heffer

THAT:

By-law No. 2021-078, be given a first and second reading;

AND FURTHER THAT:

By-law No. 2021-078, as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

By-law No. 2021-0078, 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. 2021-078, 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 Grace and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 12:14 PM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss an item that relates to:

- Labour relations or employee negotiations – Non-Union Market Review and Compensation Update and Non-Union Annual Compensation Report;

AND FURTHER THAT:

CAO Meighan Wark, Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Mike Blumhagen, Director of Human Resources Lara Vanstone, Senior Manager of

County of Huron
COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
~ Page 8 ~

Human Resources Jane Anderson, Gallagher consultants Jane Mizanski and Sue Fong, remain in attendance.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Fisher and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 2:12 PM.

CARRIED

- Reporting Out of Closed Session – CAO Wark stated that the purpose of going into closed session was to discuss Labour relations or employee negotiations – Non-Union Market Review and Compensation Update and Non-Union Annual Compensation Report.

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Bailey

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve a 2% wage percentage increase for 2022 for Non Union staff to be included in the 2022 budget for consideration.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Jewitt and Seconded by: Councillor Fergusson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the updated 2021 pay structure that maintains 4 steps for each pay band, with 4% between steps to job rate, is inclusive of pay equity considerations, aligns job rates to target pay policy of P50;

AND FURTHER THAT:

This pay structure is in effect as of January 1, 2022 wherein incumbents are placed at their current step in the new grid.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Bailey and Seconded by: Councillor Jewitt

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the following with regard to the Non Union Compensation Program:

1. That those employees identified will be red-circled
2. The Salary Grid will be adjusted as presented for 2022 and annually thereafter by COLA
3. The Gallagher Job Evaluation Plan will be utilized to evaluate new and changed jobs
4. Periodic market reviews will be conducted every 3 to 5 years to assess market position
5. Testing for pay equity compliance will be done annually

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, December 1, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Huron County Library Board - Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Huron County Economic Development Board - Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 5:00 PM – Virtual Meeting

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

20. Confirmatory By-law:

Moved by: Councillor Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor Watt

THAT:

By-Law No. 2021-079, 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. 2021-79; 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 2:17 PM to meet again on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

Warden Glen McNeil

Clerk Susan Cronin