

**MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Hybrid Meeting
December 6, 2023

The Council of the County of Huron met in a hybrid meeting setting on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at the Council Chambers. All members of Council were present.

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

2. Warden's Remarks:

Warden McNeil acknowledged the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. On this December 6th, in commemoration of the 1989 tragedy, flags are flying at half-mast. He extended an invitation to everyone to join a noon vigil in front of the Courthouse.

Warden McNeil issued congratulations to the staff for winning the Outstanding Multi-unit Residential Project Award for the Bennet Street Triplexes Project in Goderich.

Warden McNeil stated that a collaborative donation drive has been initiated between the County and the Huron Women's shelter. He encouraged members to take a basket, fill it with the specified items listed inside, and return it to the council meeting on December 20th.

CAO Wark introduced new Senior Management Team members - Jeff Horseman, Director of Emergency Services and Imran Khalid, Director of Public Works.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for December 6, 2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

Councillor L. Noel declared a pecuniary interest with the following item:

- Correspondence Item 12.25 Municipality of Calvin - Resolution Regarding Chronic Pain Treatment Support due to her husband being GP Anesthesiologist providing this type of care.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor D. Harding

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 2 meeting of November 15, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations:

6.1. United Way Perth-Huron - Quality of Life Presentation

Kristin Crane, Director of Social Research and Planning with United Way Perth-Huron presented Quality of Life report findings to County Council.

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives presentation titled United Way Perth-Huron - Quality of Life Presentation by Kristin Crane, Director of Social Research and Planning with United Way Perth-Huron dated December 6, 2023, as presented for information.

CARRIED

7. Councillor's Comments:

Councillor B. MacLellan requested an update on the delegation submission for the ROMA conference regarding Public Health cost increases. CAO Wark stated the request for delegation was submitted but confirmation has not been received.

Councillor P. Heffer stated the news coverage of the road widening project on Highway 83 reflecting the commitment to safety for commuters was very positive.

8. Consent Agenda – Items 8.1 through 8.9:

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

THAT:

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

CARRIED

9. Planning and Development:

9.1. Official Plan Amendment No. 23, Bayfield Secondary Plan Implementation Amendment, Municipality of Bluewater (presented by Denise Van Amersfoort)

The purpose of Official Plan Amendment No. 23 is to incorporate the policy and designation recommendations of the Bayfield Secondary Plan into the Bluewater Official Plan. The amendment is comprised of policy and mapping amendments and applies only within the Bayfield Settlement Area. The Official Plan Amendment is considered disputed due to comments received from a member of the public during the public meeting. Bluewater Council adopted the Amendment on November 6, 2023. The Planning and Development Department recommends the amendment be approved.

Moved by: Councillor J. Becker and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the recommendation of Denise Van Amersfoort, Manager of Planning, that Official Plan Amendment No. 23 to the Bluewater Official Plan, as adopted by the Council of Bluewater, be approved;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Notice of Decision be circulated.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor P. Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

Official Plan Amendment No. 23 to the Bluewater Official Plan. No agency comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. That public comments were received on the expansion of the Highway Commercial designation; comments were thoroughly considered but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the amendment.

CARRIED

9.2. Planning Fees Review (presented by Sandra Weber)

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor M. Anderson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Sandra Weber, Director, titled Planning Fees Review, dated December 6, 2023;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to undertake a review of Planning Fees in consultation with the local municipalities.

CARRIED

10. Cultural Services:

10.1. Huron Heritage Fund History (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor P. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Beth Rumble, Director of Cultural Services and County Librarian, dated December 6, 2023, titled Huron Heritage Fund History, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.2. Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol - Recommended Fee Increase (presented by Elizabeth French-Gibson)

Moved by: Councillor J. Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Elizabeth French-Gibson, Senior Curator, dated December 6, 2023, titled Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol - Recommended Fee Increase, as presented for information.

AND FURTHER THAT:

The recommendations contained within the report be included in the 2024 County of Huron Fees bylaw, schedule F.

CARRIED

10.3. Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol Policy Review (presented by Elizabeth French-Gibson)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Elizabeth French-Gibson, Senior Curator, dated December 6, 2023, titled Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol Policy Review, for information,

AND FURTHER THAT

The Council of the County of Huron approve the following policies: Exhibition Policy, Art Bank Policy, Conservation Policy, Collections Management Policy, Archives Policy, Community Policy, Governance Policy and Finance Policy, as part of the 5-year Huron County Museum policy review process.

CARRIED

11. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

11.1. 2024 Borrowing By-law (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor J. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, titled 2024 Borrowing By-Law dated December 6, 2023 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron approves that a by-law be prepared to authorize the County of Huron to borrow up to the amount of \$4,000,000 to meet current expenditures for the Municipality in 2024.

CARRIED

11.2. September 2023 Year-to-Date Financial Reporting (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor B. Vanstone

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, titled September 2023 Year-to-Date Financial Reporting, dated December 6, 2023 as presented for information.

CARRIED

11.3. 2023 Annual Accessibility Plan and 2024 Multi Year Plan Update (presented by Susan Cronin and Oonagh Vaucrosson)

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Susan Cronin, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk and Oonagh Vaucrosson, Accessibility Coordinator, dated December 6, 2023, titled 2023 Annual Accessibility Plan and 2024 Multi Year Accessibility Plan Update, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the 2023 Annual Accessibility Plan and 2024 Multi Year Plan Update for the County of Huron as required under the AODA;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A copy be posted on the Huron County website as directed in the Integrated Accessibility Standard under the AODA and forwarded to all municipalities in Huron County.

CARRIED

11.4. Strategic Priorities Chart - November 2023 (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by CAO Meighan Wark, dated December 6, 2023, titled Strategic Priorities - November 2023, as presented for information.

CARRIED

12. Correspondence:

Moved by: Councillor L. Noel and Seconded by: Councillor M. Anderson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports correspondence items 12.2 from the Town of Goderich, 12.3 from the Dufferin County, 12.26 from the Township of North Dundas, and 12.30 from the Town of Orangeville regarding Gender Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence and recommends to the province to declare Gender Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic in the province of Ontario.

CARRIED

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Moved by: Councillor D. Harding and Seconded by: Councillor P. Klopp

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports correspondence items 12.41 from the Municipality of South Bruce - Ontario Association of Sewage Industry Services (OASIS) Presentation

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports correspondence item 12.36 from the Bonfield Township - Resolution Regarding Tax Credit Increase to Volunteer Firefighters.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor A. McLellan and Seconded by: Councillor J. Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports correspondence items 12.40 from the Municipality of North Perth, 12.13 from the Bonfield Township, 12.15 from the Elgin County, 12.24 from the Municipality of Temagami regarding Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part).

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich

THAT:

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

CARRIED

At this time, Councillor B. MacLellan commented that a concern was brought forward at their last Council meeting regarding the surpassing capacity at the Homeless shelter, and that currently people are being placed on the 2-week wait list. Councillor B. MacLellan requested an update from County staff and emphasized the need for the website to reflect the accurate shelter address.

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor D. Harding

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron requests staff report on the Huron County Homelessness Program including capacity/ vacancy levels.

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.

13.1. Service Delivery Review Follow Up – Taste of Huron Event Participation (presented by Vicki Lass)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report by Vicki Lass, Director of Economic Development titled Service Delivery Review Follow Up - Taste of Huron Event Participation dated December 6, 2023 as presented for information.

CARRIED

13.2. SBEC Fee For Service Report (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Councillor A. McLellan and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Vicki Lass, Economic Development Director, dated December 6, 2023, titled SBEC Fee for Service Report as presented for information.

CARRIED

14. Notice of Motion:

Notice of Motion was given by Councillor P. Heffer:

Moved by: Councillor P. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor M. Anderson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron discontinue the Huron Heritage Fund.

15. By-laws:

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer

THAT:

By-law No. 2023-093, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into contract RFT (HPS) 2023-06 for the 211 Gibbons Street, Goderich with Bronnenco Construction Limited.

By-law No. 2023-094, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize enter into a contract with Advantage Care Pharmacy RX for pharmaceutical services for Huronview and Huronlea Homes for the Aged.

Be introduced, be given a first, second and third reading, be passed, signed by the Warden and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto, in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-Law for the County of Huron.

CARRIED

16. Closed to the Public Session:

Council recessed at 10:04 AM and resumed at 10:10 AM.

Moved by: Councillor and Seconded by: Councillor

THAT:

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

1. labour relations or employee negotiations - International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 772 (IUOE), Homes for the Aged;

AND FURTHER THAT:

CAO Meighan Wark, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen, Director of Human Resources Lara Vanstone, Senior Manager of Human Resources Jane Anderson and Director of Homes for the Aged Connie Townsend remain in attendance.

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Moved by: Councillor M. Anderson and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 10:19 AM.

CARRIED

CAO Wark reported that Council met in the Closed Session to discuss labour relations or employee negotiations as relating to International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 772 (IUOE), Homes for the Aged.

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron directs staff to proceed as per direction given in closed to the public session of December 6, 2023.

CARRIED

17. Upcoming Meetings:

Economic Development Board - Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Library Board - Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich – Hybrid Meeting

Council Day 1 - Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich – Hybrid Meeting

Economic Development Board - Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

18. Confirmatory By-law:

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor D. Harding
THAT:

By-law No. 2023-095, 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, be passed, signed by the Warden and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto, in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-Law for the County of Huron.

CARRIED

19. Adjournment:

Moved by: Councillor J. Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor J. Heffer
THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 10:21 AM to meet again on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED



Warden Glen McNeil



Clerk Susan Cronin