

**MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Hybrid Meeting
December 20, 2023

The Council of the County of Huron met in a hybrid meeting setting on Wednesday, December 20, 2023. All members of Council were present.

1. Warden Glen McNeil called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

2. Approval of Agenda:

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

THAT:

The Council Day 2 agenda for December 20, 2023 be approved as amended:

- Addition of presentation titled "HC LTC Changing Landscape" under Item 9.1: Changing Landscape of Long Term Care – Then versus Now, report by Connie Townsend, Director of Homes for the Aged.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

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

- Item 11.2: Recommendation to Award RFP HC 23-508 Detailed Design for the Rehabilitation of Boundary Bridge 11 in the County of Huron (presented by Will Williams) due to her daughter being employed by B.M. Ross and Associates Limited.

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

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

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 1 meeting of December 6, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations: None.

6. Councillor's Comments: None.

7. Consent Agenda - Items 7.1 through 7.5:

Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and may require discussion but no action on the part of Council. Consent Agenda items are received in one motion. Council members may request that one or more items be removed for further action.

Moved by: Councillor D. Harding and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

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

CARRIED

8. Social and Property Services:

8.1. National Housing Co-Investment Fund - Contribution Agreement (presented by Barbara Hall)

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

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Barbara Hall, Director of Social and Property Services, titled National Housing Co-Investment Fund - Contribution Agreement, dated December 20, 2023, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves that a by-law be prepared to authorize the Warden and Clerk to execute the Contribution Agreement and the Clerk to authorize the Municipal Attestation, and all other supporting documents regarding this program.

CARRIED

9. Homes for the Aged:

- 9.1. The Changing Landscape of Long Term Care: Then versus Now (presented by Connie Townsend)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron received the report titled The Changing Landscape of Long Term Care: Then Versus Now dated December 20, 2023 by Connie Townsend, Director of Homes for the Aged as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron request staff prepare a report on potential updated long term care operating models.

CARRIED

- 9.2. Heartland and Highland Apartment Rent Review (presented by Connie Townsend)

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Connie Townsend, Director of Homes for the Aged, dated December 20, 2023, titled Heartland and Highland Apartment Rent Review, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the proposed monthly rent increase for new residents as of January 1, 2024 to \$1,300 for a one bedroom apartment and \$1,600 for a two bedroom apartment for Heartland and Highland Apartments;

AND FURTHER THAT:

These new monthly apartment rental fees be added to the County By-Law Tariff of Fees by-law dated December 20, 2023 effective as of January 1, 2024.

CARRIED

10. Emergency Services:

- 10.1. Seaforth Optimist Park - Defibrillator Purchase (presented by Jeff Horseman)

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor T. Bazinet

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Jeff Horseman, Director Emergency Services, dated December 20th, 2023, titled Seaforth Optimist Park – Defibrillator Purchase” as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the donation of the Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) to be placed at the Seaforth Optimist Park – Ball Diamonds purchased by Huron East / Seaforth Community Development Trust.

CARRIED

10.2. Land Ambulance Response Time Comparison (presented by Jeff Horseman)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Jeff Horseman, Director Emergency Services, dated December 20, 2023, titled Land Ambulance Response Time Comparison, as presented for information.

CARRIED

11. Public Works:

11.1. Boundary Bridge 23 (BB23) Transfer Report (presented by Will Williams)

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

THAT:

The County of Huron Council receive and approve the report by Will Williams, Project Manager (Bridges) dated December 20, 2023 titled Boundary Bridge 23 (BB23) Transfer Report as presented;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The County of Huron's 50% portion of ownership of Boundary Bridge 23 (BB23) be transferred to Municipality of Huron East;

AND FURTHER THAT;

A by-law be prepared authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute the transfer of BB23 and all other required documents.

CARRIED

11.2. Recommendation to Award RFP HC 23-508 Detailed Design for the Rehabilitation of Boundary Bridge 11 in the County of Huron (presented by Will Williams)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive and approve the report by Will Williams, Project Manager (Bridges) dated December 20, 2023 titled Recommendation to Award RFP HC 23-508 Detailed Design for the Rehabilitation of Boundary Bridge 11 in the County of Huron;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron award Contract HC 23-508 to B.M. Ross and Associates Limited for a total price of \$34,192 (inclusive of provisional site inspection, contract administration, and net applicable taxes) based on the anticipated scope of work;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The project deficit totaling \$9,192 be funded from the accumulated surplus from other 2023 capital projects;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Director of Public Works be authorized to execute the contracts and all other required documents for RFP HC 23-508 Detailed Design for the Rehabilitation of Boundary Bridge 11 with B.M. Ross and Associates Limited.

CARRIED

11.3. HC 23-169 County Road 25 / County Road 4 Intersection Upgrades – Project Update (presented by Imran Khalid)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report dated December 20, 2023 titled HC 23-169 County Road 25/County Road 4 Intersection Upgrade - Project Update by Imran Khalid, Director of Public Works as presented for information.

CARRIED

12. Economic Development:

12.1 Workforce Project Update (presented by Clara Leney)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Clara Leney, Economic Development Coordinator, dated December 20, 2023, titled Workforce Development Update December 2023, as presented for information.

CARRIED

12.2 Economic Development Departmental Update, December 2023 (presented by Vicki Lass)

Moved by: Councillor J. Heffer 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 20, 2023, titled Economic Development Department December 2023 Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

13. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

13.1. Fees and Service Charges By-law 2024 Update (presented by Susan Cronin and Ljubica Blazevic)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the amended report by Susan Cronin, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk and Ljubica Blazevic, Deputy County Clerk, dated December 20, 2023, titled Fees and Service Charges By-law 2024 Update with the addition of the following amendment under Schedule "G":

Apartment Rentals

(Rates are applicable to new renters as of January 1, 2024)

Heartland Apartment Rent

One Bedroom \$1,300/month

Two Bedroom \$1,600/month

Highland Apartment Rent

One Bedroom \$1,300/month

Two Bedroom \$1,600/month

(Rates approved under 2022-081 as per Residential Tenancies Act will apply to renters prior to January 1, 2024)

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law with the proposed amendments be passed at December 20, 2023 regular meeting of County Council with the effective date of January 1, 2024.

CARRIED

13.2. Additional Capital and Operating Projects – Deferral to 2024 (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

Moved by: Councillor M. Anderson 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 Additional Capital and

Operating Projects – Deferral to 2024, dated December 20, 2023 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the carry forward of the 2023 projects listed in Appendix A into the 2024 budget.

CARRIED

13.3. Procurement Policy (FN 2.01) Amendments (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

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

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, titled Procurement Policy (FN 2.01) Amendments, dated December 20, 2023 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the proposed amendments to the County of Huron Procurement Policy (FN 2.01);

AND FURTHER THAT:

A By-law be drafted that repeals by-law 2022-042 and includes the proposed amendments to FN 2.01 Procurement Policy.

CARRIED

13.4. Community Emergency Preparedness Grant Application (presented by Michael Blumhagen)

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

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron receives the report by Michael Blumhagen, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services, titled Community Emergency Preparedness Grant Application, dated December 20, 2023 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron approves that an application be submitted for the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$15,450 to support training;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be prepared for December 20, 2023 that authorizes the Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services to execute an agreement and any other required documentation with the Province of Ontario for the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant to support training.

CARRIED

14. Correspondence:

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

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. Notice of Motion - presented by Councillor P. Heffer

Motion was made by Councillor P. Heffer, and seconded by Councillor M. Anderson at the December 6, 2023 Council Day 1 meeting. Motion was open for discussion.

Moved by: Councillor P. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor M. Anderson
THAT:
The Council of the County of Huron discontinue the Huron Heritage Fund.
CARRIED

16. Notice of Motion: None.

17. By-laws:

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor T. Bazinet
THAT:

By-law No. 2023-096, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to establish User Fees and Service Charges as amended under Section 9.2 and 13.1 of the December 20, 2023 Agenda.

By-law No. 2023-097, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize the borrowing of money to meet current expenditures of the Council of the County of Huron (the "Municipality").

By-law No. 2023-098, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into an agreement for the Community Preparedness Grant to support training with the Province of Ontario.

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

18. Closed to the Public Session: None.

19. Upcoming Meetings:

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

Library Board - Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich – Hybrid Meeting

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, January 24, 20234 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Accessibility Advisory Committee - Monday, January 29, 2024 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

20. Confirmatory By-law:

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor J. Heffer
THAT:

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By-law No. 2023-099, 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

21. Adjournment:

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

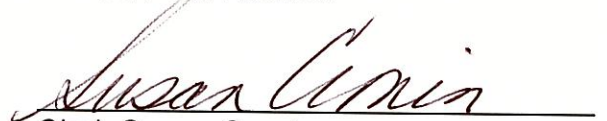
THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 10:17 AM to meet again on Wednesday, January 10, 2023 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED



Warden Glen McNeil



Clerk Susan Cronin