

**MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Hybrid Meeting
February 7, 2024

The Council of the County of Huron met in a hybrid meeting setting on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at the Council Chambers. All members of Council were present. Councillor J. Ginn departed at 10:54 AM.

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

2. Warden's Remarks:

Warden McNeil reported attending following events:

- ROMA Conference in Toronto, involved in 10 delegations,
- WOWC Annual General Meeting hosted by Huron County at the Benmiller Inn.

3. Approval of Agenda:

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

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for February 7, 2024 be approved as amended:

- Add Item 11.4. Strategic Priorities Chart - February 2024 (presented by Meighan Wark).

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:

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

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 2 meeting of January 24, 2024 and the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Information Session of January 18, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations:

6.1. Presentation to Recognize Achievement of Certified Road Supervisor Designation

The Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) acknowledges the completion of the Certified Road Supervisor certification by the following Huron County employees: Rick Poels, Darryl Marks, Donald Hastings, Robbie McClure and Jeremy Sallows.

Presentation by Warden Glen McNeil, CAO Meighan Wark and Director of Public Works Imran Khalid.

6.2. Huron Clean Water Project - Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley Conservation Authorities Presentation by Nathan Schoelier

Presentation by Nathan Schoelier, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority on the Huron Clean Water Project Annual Report.

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the report by Nathan Schoelier, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority titled Huron Clean Water Project Annual Report, dated February 7, 2024 as presented.

CARRIED

6.3. Menesetung Bridge Association Presentation by Donna Appavoo and Mike Dawson

Board Member Donna Appavoo and Treasurer Mike Dawson of the Menesetung Bridge Association requested a pledge of financial support for priority concrete repairs on the Menesetung Bridge, as they apply for FedDev Ontario or Trillium grants.

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the presentation by Board Member Donna Appavoo and Treasurer Mike Dawson of the Menesetung Bridge Association, dated February 7, 2024, for information.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor B. Vanstone

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron requests a staff report on the financial request by the Menesetung Bridge Association, of \$90,000 per year for 2 years in the total amount of \$180,000 to secure FedDev funding.

CARRIED

7. **Councillor's Comments:** None.

8. **Consent Agenda – Items 8.1 through 8.7:**

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

THAT:

Items 8.1 through 8.7 be approved with the actions as noted.

CARRIED

9. **Planning and Development:**

9.1. Huron Clean Water Project Categories Update Report (presented by Rachel White)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the proposed changes to the Huron Clean Water Project categories as outlined in the report by Rachel White, County Biologist/Stewardship Coordinator, dated February 7th, 2024, titled Huron Clean Water Project Categories Update Report.

CARRIED

9.2. File C72-2023, Harry VanDiepenbeek, 35325 Amberley Road, Concession 14 Western Division, West Part Lot 5, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (presented by Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk)

This application proposes to sever the existing farmhouse from the farmland under the surplus farm residence severance policies. The property owner is seeking to sever the existing buildings from the surrounding farmland and keep both properties in his ownership.

The applicant does not own another farm with a house and does not meet the policy for a surplus farm residence severance. The severed parcel contains two residential units and a barn. The subject property is approximately 40 ha (100 ac) in size. It is designated Agriculture and Natural Environment in the ACW Official Plan and is zoned AG1 (General Agriculture) and NE1 (Natural Environment) in the ACW Zoning By-law. The Township of ACW has recommended denial of the application as submitted. The Department is recommending denial of the application as it does not meet the surplus farm severance policies of the Provincial Policy Statement, Huron County Official Plan or the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh Official Plan.

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation by Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk, Planner, that Consent Application C72-2023 by Harry VanDiepenbeek requesting severance of a surplus residence, described as 35325 Amberley Road, Township of ACW; be denied.
CARRIED

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

Consent Application C72-2023 by Harry VanDiepenbeek requesting severance of a surplus residence, described as 35325 Amberley Road, Township of ACW. No public comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. Agency comments were received on the issues of the application not conforming to policies, the effect of which influenced the decision of Council to deny the application.
CARRIED

9.3. Draft Plan of Subdivision 40T21004, Sarah Properties, 80281 Bluewater Highway, Town of Goderich (presented by Victor Kloeze)

The purpose of this application is a draft plan of subdivision under Section 51 of the Planning Act. A residential and mixed use subdivision is proposed within the Town of Goderich (southwest area) on lands which are approximately 38 hectares (95 acres) in area. The plan of subdivision proposes 258 single detached units, 8 – 12 single detached or multiple attached units, 85 - 101 townhouse units, 20-40 condominium townhouse units, 50 – 350 multiple residential units, 76 – 461 mixed use / apartment units, along with a neighbourhood park. This would represent a range from 497 to 1222 units.

The subdivision would have access to Bluewater Highway (Hwy 21), South Street, Eldon Street, and eight connections to the adjacent Coast subdivision (40T13002) as it is built out.

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

The Council of the County of Huron approves the recommendation of Victor Kloeze, Senior Planner, that Draft Plan of Subdivision 40T21004 be granted draft plan approval with conditions;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The notice of decision be circulated.

CARRIED

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

Draft Plan of Subdivision 40T21004, Sarah Properties, 80281 Bluewater Highway, Town of Goderich. Council concurs with the planning report regarding the effect of public and agency comments on the decision.

CARRIED

Council recessed at 10:45 AM and resumed at 10:50 AM.

10. Cultural Services:

10.1. McCall MacBain Foundation Donation (presented by Beth Rumble)

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

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Beth Rumble, Director of Cultural Services and County Librarian, dated February 7, 2024, titled McCall MacBain Foundation Donation, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.2. Huron County Museum Collections Deaccession Report - February 2024
(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 February 7, 2024, titled Huron County Museum Collections Deaccession Report – February 2024 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accept the report and recommendation that the catalogue numbers specified within the report be deaccessioned from the Huron County Museum's collection.

CARRIED

10.3. Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol 2023 Hours and Attendance Report
(presented by Elizabeth French-Gibson)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Elizabeth French-Gibson, Senior Curator, dated February 7, 2024, titled Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol 2023 Hours and Attendance Report as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.4. Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol Youth Strategy (presented by Sinead Cox)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Sinead Cox, Curator of Engagement and Dialogue, dated February 7, 2024, titled Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol Youth Strategy, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.5. Museum Space Update (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone 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 February 7, 2024, titled Museum Space Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

11. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:

11.1. Council and Warden, Committee Member Remuneration Audit (presented by Susan Cronin)

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report dated February 7, 2024 by Susan Cronin, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk titled Council and Warden Remuneration Audit as presented;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron does not approve a full audit of Council and Warden, Committee Members remuneration by Gallagher.

CARRIED

11.2. Posting of Council, Committee, Board Meeting Recordings (presented by Susan Cronin)

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

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report by Susan Cronin, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk dated February 7, 2024 titled Posting of Council, Committee, Board Meeting Recordings as presented for information.
CARRIED

11.3. AMO Policy Update - Social and Economic Prosperity Review (presented by Meighan Wark)

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

The Council of the County of Huron support the following motion regarding the Association Municipalities ongoing advocacy efforts for economic prosperity and quality of life of the County of Huron and all Ontario municipalities:

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life.

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year.

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation.

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure.

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises.

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity.

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need.

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities.

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND FURTHER THAT:

A letter of support be sent to MPP Lisa Thompson.

CARRIED

11.4. Strategic Priorities Chart - February 2024 (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor J. Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by CAO Meighan Wark, dated February 7, 2024, titled Strategic Priorities - February 2024, as presented for information.
CARRIED

12. Correspondence:

Moved by: Councillor D. Harding and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron supports correspondence Item 12.1 County of Prince Edward – Resolution 2024-46 regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, due to insurance requirements.

CARRIED

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

13.1. 2023 Huron Business Centre Year in Review (presented by Brittany Wise)

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

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Brittany Wise, Huron Business Centre Manager, dated February 7, 2024, titled 2023 Huron Business Centre Year in Review, as presented for information.

CARRIED

13.2. Fleet Replacement Cycle Review (presented by Jeff Horseman)

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

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Jeff Horseman, Director Emergency Services, dated February 7, 2024, titled Fleet Replacement Cycle Review, as presented for information.

CARRIED

14. Notice of Motion: None.

15. By-laws: None.

16. Closed to the Public Session:

Council recessed at 11:33 AM and resumed at 11:40 AM.

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

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 11:33 AM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss an item that relates to:

1. Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local Board employees: Corporate Reporting Requirement;

AND FURTHER THAT:

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CAO Meighan Wark, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen, and Director of Human Resources Lara Vanstone, remain in attendance.
CARRIED

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

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 11:46 AM.

CARRIED

CAO Wark reported that Council met in the Closed Session to receive an update on a personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local Board employees: Corporate Reporting Requirement.

17. Upcoming Meetings:

Special Council Budget Meeting - Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Session

Simplifying Accessibility with Julie Sawchuk, Sawchuk Solutions Information Workshop - Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Session

Audit Committee - Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting (immediately following the Audit Committee meeting)

Council Day 1- Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Economic Development Board Meeting - Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

18. Confirmatory By-law:

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

THAT:

By-law No. 2024-008, 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

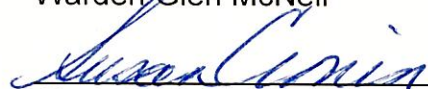
THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 11:47 AM to meet again on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED



Warden Glen McNeil



Clerk Susan Cronin