



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex was held on Wednesday April 5, 2017 in the Council Chambers, Shared Services Centre, 229 Parkhill Main Street, Parkhill with a quorum present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shipway called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Mayor Don Shipway

Deputy Mayor Brian Ropp

Councillor Ward One Doreen McLinchey - Absent

Councillor Ward Two Joan Nichol

Councillor Ward Three Gord Moir

Councillor Ward Four Andrew Hemming

Councillor Ward Five Adrian Cornelissen

Clerk, Jackie Tiedeman

Director of Finance and Administrative Services/Treasurer, Nandini Syed

Director of Infrastructure and Operations, Jonathon Graham

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – none

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. March 15, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. March 22, 2017 Special Budget Meeting Minutes

The Clerk advised that these minutes were not available for this meeting however they will be available for the April 19th meeting for council consideration.

5. PUBLIC MEETINGS

MOTION #102/2017

ROPP/NICHOL: That the Regular Meeting adjourn to Committee of Adjustment at 7:01 p.m.

CARRIED

The regular meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m.

6. DELEGATION

7:15 p.m. Jen Cowan, Accessibility Co-ordinator – Draft Accessible Playground Guidelines and Consultation Presentation.

Ms. Cowan advised that the Draft Accessible Playground Guidelines were presented to the Accessibility Advisory Committee on February 17, 2017. The committee is now forwarding the document to local Councils in order to obtain feedback. The intent of these guidelines is not to be restrictive, but to provide each municipality with a baseline for creating accessible playgrounds. Municipalities have the authority to go above and beyond what is set out in these guidelines. Feedback from the public has also been incorporated into the document. Local municipalities are required to consult the public, people with disabilities and the Accessibility Advisory Committee when creating new or redeveloping existing playgrounds. The consultation process also entails consultation with local municipal parks and recreation staff, on-line survey on the municipal websites to allow public to provide input and outreach to local community groups, where necessary. Municipalities are required to incorporate accessibility features such as sensory and active play components into the design of outdoor play spaces. These should address the needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities. The accessibility features must have a minimum of 20% of features incorporated into a play structure. Examples would be play counters, crawl tube/tunnels, sand tables, ramps connecting components and play panels. Surfaces must be firm and stable with characteristics to reduce impact and injuries. Recommend using a surface that will accommodate anyone using a mobility device. Seating areas should provide at least one accessible seating area so that a caregiver, with a disability, can comfortably observe their child. The path of travel must be at least 60 inches wide, sidewalk slope = 5% (1:20) and entry points into play spaces should be a minimum of 1000mm (39") to allow a mobility device to gain entry, while excluding larger vehicles.

Questions from Council included:

Are these units were more susceptible to vandalism? Ms. Cowan did not have any statistics to provide.

Does the concrete on a splash pad meet the requirements? Ms. Cowan was with the understanding that it does.

Are there age groups associated with these guidelines? Ms. Cowan replied that they are general enough that it could be applied to older children or adolescents.

Mayor Shipway thanked Ms. Cowan for her presentation. Council was asked that if they had any further input to these guidelines that they be forwarded to the Clerk.

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a. Report from By-Law Enforcement – Property Standards Update and By-law Revisions (follow up from public commenting period)

Mr. Doupe presented the report advising that no public submissions were submitted regarding this draft By-law. The only changes made to the document since the public meeting presentation was a definition for passageway.

MOTION #103/2017

NICHOL/ROPP: That Council accepts the report on the Property Standards By-law

And further that staff be directed by Council to finalize the Property Standards By-law.

CARRIED

b. Report from By-law Enforcement – Clean Yards Update and By-law Revisions (follow up from public commenting period)

Mr. Doupe then provided an overview of how the public submissions were taken into consideration during the next review of the by-law. In response to these submissions and the review the following changes were made to the first draft: definition for “Domestic Waste”; Section 3.2 g) general maintenance; Section 6.3 and 6.4; and three additional offences added pertaining to these additions.

Council requested some further clarification on the following:

Would stacked firewood be exempt? Mr. Doupe¹ replied that it would, the clear yards is focused on scraps of wood laying in yards among grass/weeds.

Car restorations for older vehicles could entail longer than 30 days? Mr. Doupe replied that his interpretation would be that vehicles being restored over a prolonged period of time would be inside a garage due to the value of vehicle being restored. This is meant to deter motor vehicles being fixed outside for longer than 30 days.

Limit of 5 vehicles in residential areas – some families are larger and may have more vehicles than this when all together. Mr. Doupe said this is not meant to be applied in

situations such as evident family gatherings. This would be compliant driven on vehicles being stored in one area on the property over a period of time.

Are agricultural lands impacted by this limit of vehicles? Mr. Doupe replied that they are not.

Mr. Doupe was asked what enforcement strategy would be put in place with these updated By-laws? He replied that a pro-active approach would be taken in that visible issues would be dealt with sooner. It would still be complaint driven due to the size of the municipality.

MOTION #104/2017

CORNELISSEN/HEMMING: That Council accepts the report on the Clean Yards By-law;

And further that staff be directed by Council to finalize the Clean Yards By-Law.

CARRIED

c.Report from By-Law Enforcement – Noise By-law Update (follow up from public commenting period)

Mr. Doupe explained the review that was completed taking into account feedback from the public and council's concerns from the public meeting. The proposed changes further defined "Noise"; hours and the addition of Sunday for home projects over the weekend were added; exemptions from 60 days to 30 days and emergency exemptions to be approved by council or staff.

A discussion then ensued regarding the following concerns:

How enforcement would be handled with limitations of staff resources.

Potential increased costs for OPP with enforcing complaints under such a by-law after hours and weekends.

Potential implementation of this By-law based upon a few isolated incidents.

Council asked Mr. Doupe if he felt the updated Property Standards and Clean Yards By-law would enable him to address some of these complaints that he has been trying to deal with. He replied that he felt it would allow him to enforce in areas that the current by-laws did not. He explained the complaints around barking dogs is still an enforcement issue. In order for him to lay charges, he has to have these incidents documented as to date and times and most importantly the person complaining willing to be a witness. As he is only part-time, he cannot always be available to attend the property where the complaint is being generated from. He does understand the concerns from these potential witnesses as well. It is not an easy solution and he does not feel this will change with approving a Noise By-law as witnesses are still required.

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2017

Page | 4

After careful consideration the following motion was introduced:

MOTION #105/2017

HEMMING/CORNELISSEN: That Council receive and file the Noise Control By-law Report.

CARRIED

d. Director of Infrastructure and Operations – Street Sweeping Services (Deferred from March 15, 2017)

MOTION #106/2017

ROPP/NICHOL: That Council directs staff to retain Can-Sweep on an hourly rate of \$79.00 (excluding HST) to maintain an “on-demand” level of service for the purposes of street sweeping within Municipality of North Middlesex for the period of one year.

CARRIED

e. Director of Finance and Administrative Services/Treasurer – Commercial Vacancy Rebate Report

MOTION #107/2017

MOIR/CORNELISSEN: That Council authorizes the Treasurer to proceed with the Commercial and Industrial tax rebate for the entire year of 2016 for roll number 39-54-000-020-070-00-0000. Also to proceed with the Commercial tax rebates from August 8, 2016 to December 31, 2016 for roll number 39-54-052-030-001-0000.

CARRIED

8. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

a. Compilation of accounts March 30, 2017

MOTION #108/2017

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That the following bills and accounts be approved for payment:

General Cheques	\$ 58,463.64
General Direct Deposit	\$1,340,867.57
Cemetery Cheques	\$ 375.00
General OnLine/PAP	\$ 141,443.19

CARRIED

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Provision for updates on the following:

ABCA – March 23, 2017 Minutes

Bluewater Recycling Association – Board of Directors Meeting March 16, 2017

Emergency Management Committee – Deputy Mayor Ropp gave a verbal update on a recent Notification Drill that was conducted at each municipality. This was part of the meeting held on April 3, 2017. There was an informative discussion on what challenges were encountered through this drill.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Parkhill Lions Club – Annual Trip of the Month Raffle

MOTION #109/2017

NICHOL/HEMMING: That Council approve the request to submit an application to conduct the annual Trip of the Month raffle for the year 2017-2018.

CARRIED

b. Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs – OAFC 2017 Municipal Officials Seminar May 6 & 7, 2017 in Toronto
(action: receive and file)

c. Hank Halliday – request to continue with roadside ditch program

MOTION #110/2017

MOIR/CORNELISSEN: That Council receive and refer to Director of Infrastructure and Operations – Drainage Division for consultation

CARRIED

d. NMDHS – invitation to commencement exercises June 29, 2017

e. Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands – motion support regarding the waiving of delivery fees on hydro for customers who reside on First Nation reserves.
(action: receive and file)

MOTION #111/2017

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That the correspondence with actions as noted be approved.

CARRIED

11. OTHER OR URGENT BUSINESS

(including County Council Meeting Report)

- a. Request from Barn Quilt Committee on purchase of quilt blocks and location of each to be installed.

Clerk Jackie Tiedeman explained that Gary Walker had attended the municipal office to obtain clarification as to whether the Municipality wished to continue with the purchase of additional quilt blocks. It was explained that one will be provided free of charge however a location for this block needed to be considered.

MOTION # 112/2017

NICHOL/HEMMING: That Council will accept the free quilt block and that the Parkhill Arena be recommended as a location to be erected.

CARRIED

Councillor Cornelissen inquired into the status of the Capital Wish List. Ms. Syed and Mr. Graham advised that a report will be coming to council on April 19th along with a report on Capital Expenditures and Projects for consideration. Council was also advised that an annual report on the status projects will be developed and provided to Council.

Councillor Moir inquired into whether any grants are available for the capital projects? The Directors replied that funding opportunities are always being explored however the projects have to be shovel ready. The grant process always includes the submission of financial information to determine the Municipalities financial health. If finances are determined to be in good shape, generally, you are not successful in obtaining grants. Staff will be incorporating funding opportunities into their reports in order for Council to be better informed on this matter.

Deputy Mayor Ropp reported on a meeting he attended regarding the County Wide Bridge Study. The County Engineer will be in touch with Mr. Graham to discuss the report.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor both discussed the ongoing strategy regarding the Land Ambulance matter. Upcoming Events include the Fanshawe College Survivors Day which highlights success stories from individuals that received care through EMS Land Ambulance. The upcoming Agri-Tour which begins at Longhorn Ranch and a Tourism Symposium on May 16. The Healthy Kids initiative will be setting up a display at Gala Days. The Mayors Breakfast in conjunction with the Strathroy Hospital Foundation will be held in Parkhill on April 13th.

13. CLOSED MEETING (UNDER SECTION 239 OF THE *MUNICIPAL ACT*)

MOTION #113/2017

ROPP/NICHOL: That the regular meeting adjourn to Closed Meeting at 8:30 p.m. to receive information on the following topics:

- a. Personal Matters about an identifiable individual – contract extension to Acting Tax Collector Position
- b. Labour Relations or employee negotiations –Review of outstanding Operational and Organizational Matters
- c. Acquisition or disposition of land – Municipal Land fronting onto King Street

CARRIED

14. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM CLOSED MEETING

MOTION #114/2017

HEMMING/NICHOL: That the Closed Meeting adjourn and return to Regular Meeting with one recommendation at 9:45 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION #115/2017

ROPP/MOIR: That Council approves the extension for the contract of the Acting Tax Collector until March 31, 2018.

CARRIED

Council questioned the status of the plans for the Community Policing Office renovations? Mr. Graham advised that he will be bringing back an estimate to Council as soon as he is able to obtain the required information.

Ms. Syed also advised that she will be preparing a report for council on the Community Vibrancy Funds.

15. READING OF BY-LAWS

- a. By-law #18 of 2017 – Confirming By-Law

MOTION #116/2017

MOIR/HEMMING: That By-law #18 of 2017 be read a first and second time.

CARRIED

MOTION #117/2017

NICHOL/CORNELISSEN: That By-law #18 of 2017 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #118/2017

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That the meeting adjourn at 9:50 p.m.

CARRIED

MAYOR

CLERK