

# MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Mayor Brian Ropp

Deputy Mayor Paul Hodgins Councillor Ward 1 Sara Nirta Councillor Ward 2 Bill Irwin

Councillor Ward 3 Charles Daigle Councillor Ward 4 John Keogh

Councillor Ward 5 Adrian Cornelissen

Staff Present:

Clerk Richard Beachey

Interim CAO/Treasurer, Estelle Chayer
Manager of Public Works Vance Czerwinski

Facilities Manager Brandon Drew Fire Chief Greg Vandenheuvel

Manager of Infrastructure and Operations Jaden Hodgins

Staff Absent:

**Economic Development and Communications Coordinator** 

**Natalie Core** 

Drainage Superintendent Joanne Sadler

Executive Assistant/HR Coordinator Donna Vanhooydonk Ashley Kwarciak, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator

The Special Meeting of the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex was held under the provisions contained within the North Middlesex Procedural Bylaw and may be held in whole or in part without physically being present at 229 Parkhill Main Street, Parkhill.

# 1. NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

## 2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ropp called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. with a quorum present.

# 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

(*Municipal Conflict of Interest Act – Section 5* requires any member of Council to declare a pecuniary interest and general nature thereof, prior to any consideration on that matter. Where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the Act. The disclosures become part of a Public Registry as required under the Act.

# 4. CONTINUATION OF DRAFT 2023 MUNICIPAL BUDGET - RESPONSES TO QUERIES AND CAPITAL

The Interim CAO/Treasurer will provide responses to the previous nights deliberation questions as well as present and review the draft 2023 Municipal Capital Budget. A series of recommended resolutions are provided to implement important elements of the budget as follows.

The Interim CAO/Treasurer began the review by responding to requests that had been made the previous night. She provided a comparison of the impacts of a 2.5% water rate increase versus a 5% increase and the impact on revenues. It was reported that to achieve an equitable comparison with other municipalities a base rate charge and consumption rate charge for a specific consumption had to be developed. Using this scenario, the Municipality of North Middlesex does not have the highest rate in the County. The Council agreed to change the consumption covered by the first consumption category to 0 - 75 M3 from 0 - 50 M3.

A recommendation was provided to increase mileage compensation to Council members from \$75.00 to \$85.00 per month. There has been no change since this was implemented in 2012. Council agreed.

The Interim CAO/Treasurer stated that the insurance service provider was last tendered in 2003.

A question regarding traffic counters used in North Middlesex was answered.

The Draft Capital Budget was presented and the responsible Senior Management representative for that item in the budget provided an explanation of the item and answered questions.

Following the presentation and explanation of items in the Draft 2023 Capital Budget, Council undertook a series of votes regarding the proposed items.

ITEM ACTION

#### ADMINISTRATION PROJECTS

Fire Master Plan Approved

Zoning By-law Update Pending per clarification

from Durk Vanderwerff,

County Director of

**Planning** 

Paved Road Condition Assessment Approved

Structural Analysis Arena Approved

Water Engineering Studies Approved

Stormwater Drainage Studies Approved

LAND IMPROVEMENT

Ball Diamond Netting Approved

**VEHICLES** 

2012 Truck Replacement Approved

2013 Ford F250 Pickup Replacement Approved

2013 International Replacement Approved

2005 EZ Load 21 ton tag float Approved

Compact 4 X 4 Crew Cab Approved

Trackless MT57 Sidewalk Tractor Pending - To be

confirmed refurbished

vs. new warranty

and delivery time

MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

Bunker Gear Replacement Approved

Meter Pit Installations Approved

Generator - Ye Olde Towne Hall Approved - final

location to be

determined

Computers - lifecycle replacement Approved

Digital Sign - Ailsa Craig Ye Olde Towne Hall Approved

Refueling System - Parkhill and McGillivray garage Pending - investigate

potential fuel supplier

subsidy

**FACILITIES** 

Ailsa Craig Rec Center Cooler Approved

Ailsa Craig Rec Center Flooring Approved

Ailsa Craig WWTP Roof rehabilitation Approved

Mount Carmel Reservoir - upgrade design Approved

Steel roof on Lieury Ball diamond pavillion Approved

YMCA weight flooring Approved

Ball Diamond dugout upgrade Approved

William Street Pumping Station Approved

LINEAR ASSETS

Station Street/Mill Street catchbasin sidewalk Approved

Sidewalk Improvements Approved

Rolling Road Rehabilitation Approved

Queen Street Watermain - Ailsa Craig Deferred

Queen Street gas main relocation Approved

Fernhill - Wood Road Culvert Approved

McGuffin Hills slope stabilization Pending - further

information regarding

historical erosion -

funding source (if

climate change

related)

#### Motion # 40/2023

Moved By: A. Cornelissen Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT Council approves the Water/Wastewater Budget for 2023,

AND FURTHER that the water/wastewater rates be established for 2023 representing an increase of 2.5%,

AND FURTHER that Council hereby directs staff to incorporate the following change to the water/wastewater billing structure: that the existing user rate category of 0-50 cubic meters be modified for lower consumption users to 0-75 cubic meters,

AND FURTHER that Council supports using the three year historic average to establish the user's base charge rate category.

**CARRIED** 

#### Motion # 41/2023

Moved By: A. Cornelissen Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT Council approve the implementation of a part-time Facilities Operator (24 hours weekly) within the Recreation Department personnel.

CARRIED

#### Motion # 42/2023

Moved By: A. Cornelissen Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT Council approve the modification of the Fire Chief's Schedule from a part time position (28 hours weekly) to a full time position (35 hours weekly) for a one year period.

**Defeated** 

Motion # 43/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle Seconded By: B. Irwin

THAT Council approve the modification of the Fire Chief's schedule from a part-time position (28 hours weekly) to a full-time position (35 hours weekly).

**CARRIED** 

## Motion # 44/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT Council approve the Operational and Capital Budgets for 2023 resulting with a Tax Levy of \$8,634,511 and set the general residential tax rate at 0.00824625 which represents an increase of 2% from 2022.

**CARRIED** 

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion # 45/2023

Moved By: B. Irwin Seconded By: S. Nirta

That the Meeting adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

CARRIED

**MAYOR** 

**CLERK**