



**MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

February 9, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Brian Ropp
Deputy Mayor Adrian Cornelissen
Councillor Ward 1 Doreen McLinchey
Councillor Ward 2 Joan Nichol
Councillor Ward 3 Gord Moir
Councillor Ward 4 John Keogh
Councillor Ward 5 Andrew Hemming

Staff Present: CAO Jonathon Graham
Clerk Jackie Tiedeman
Infrastructure Manager Jonathan Lampman
Facilities Manager Brandon Drew
Fire Chief Greg Vandenheuvel
Treasurer, Estelle Chayer
Ashley Kwarciak, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator

Staff Absent: Drainage Superintendent Joanne Sadler
Executive Assistant/HR Coordinator Donna Vanhooydonk

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex was held under the provisions contained within the North Middlesex Procedural By-law and may held in whole or in part without physically being present at 229 Parkhill Main Street, Parkhil

1. CALL TO ORDER - SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

Mayor Ropp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present in person. The meeting was livestreamed on the North Middlesex You Tube Channel.

2. 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.

None.

3. PRESENTATION OF DRAFT 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

The details of the presentations can be viewed in the attachments.

The Treasurer provided a overview of the changes since the proposed budget was presented on January 19, 2022 which included increase to Group Benefit Premiums, Creation of a Lead Hand Position in the Public Works Department and the addition of a loan interest expense to the Water Dept. Matters before Council for consideration include the Metercor program, 2021 Non-revenue cubic metre and dollar value loss, proposed increase and combination of user fees for Waste and Recycling, Loan Repayment to Lake Huron and Elgin Area Water Supply Systems Strathroy Pipeline, Capital Project Prioritization, Water/Wastewater Rate Study from Watson Associates, Public Sector Digest - Asset Management Plan recommendations, Reserves and Reserve Funds. The 2022 Proposed Residential Tax Rate Impact with a 2% increase of over 2021 and 2022 Water/Wastewater Rate Impact at 5% increase over 2021 rates on an average home was depicted along with impact if the proposed increase to waste bin rate was implemented.

The review began with the Draft Operating Budget and going through each department allowing questions from Council and to be responded to by the applicable Manager.

The Operating Budget for all departments includes a 2% COLA increase for non-union staff. The Collective Agreement negotiations is set for 2022. As well, there has been provision for a full time Communications Officer on a one year contract as discussed at Budget Committee.

There was a fulsome discussion on several areas within the Operating Budget relating to the purpose of a Lead Hand Position and that no additional operator position is proposed, Dress Uniforms for Firefighters, contracted services for Building Department, Implementation of the on-line facility booking software, year-end financial position of the YMCA, reallocation of a portion of the CAO salary to include Economic Development . It was also suggested that a

delegation invite should be extended to Bluewater Recycling Association at some point to discuss the program and impact to the Municipality in the future.

It was the consensus of Council to end the first budget meeting following the presentation of the draft 2022 Operating Budget.

4. ADJOURNMENT

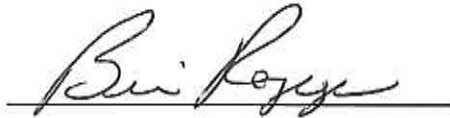
Motion # 031/2022

Moved By: D. McLinchey

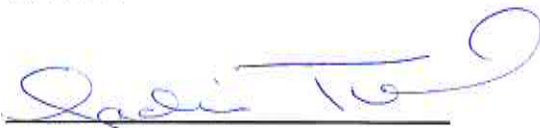
Seconded By: J. Keogh

That the Meeting adjourn at 8:43 p.m.

CARRIED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Royce", written over a horizontal line.

MAYOR

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jodi To", written over a horizontal line.

CLERK