



**MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 15, 2023, 6:00 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
Economic Development and Communications Coordinator
Natalie Core
Recreation and Facilities Manager Brandon Drew
Manager of Infrastructure and Operations Jaden Hodgins

Staff Absent: Manager of Public Works Vance Czerwinski
Deputy Clerk Ashley Kwarciak,
Drainage Superintendent Joanne Sadler
Fire Chief Greg Vandenheuvel
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 be held in whole or in part without physically being present at 229 Parkhill Main Street, Parkhill.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ropp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

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.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 3.1 Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2023 and Court of Revision Minutes for March 1, 2023

Motion # 75/2023

Moved By: J. Keogh

Seconded By: S. Nirta

That the attached minutes be approved as presented

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

- 4.1 Brenda Slater - Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) - Role in property assessment and taxation system

Following the presentation Ms. Slater participated in a question and answer period with Council.

It was noted that the recent electors list provided by MPAC missed long established residents who are living in the same location and were dropped off the list of electors. Brenda Slater reported that she would request detail from MPAC representatives responsible for the elector list and report back to Council.

- 4.2 Susan Mills - Lambton Shores - Transit Coordinator - Huron Area Transit - Transit Report and 2023 goals

Susan Mills and Glen Baillie were in attendance and provided a report and update on the status and activities of the Huron Area Transit System.

Following the presentation, the Huron Area Transit System representatives participated in a question and answer period with Council.

5. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- 5.1 Report from Interim CAO/Treasurer Community Development Fund Program Report

Motion # 76/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: B. Irwin

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accept the report entitled “2023 Community Development Fund Program Report”;

AND THAT Council direct staff to notify all applicants on the status of their application which includes approvals and/or denials as recommended by the Committee; and

THAT the approved allocations be processed accordingly.

CARRIED

- 5.2 Report from Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk - Council Remuneration 2022

Motion # 77/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT Council receive the Council Remuneration 2022 report as information.

CARRIED

- 5.3 Report from Executive Assistant/HR Coordinator - Vaccination Policy

Following the resolution approving the amended policy, concern was expressed that some vaccine policies in other jurisdictions had been dropped and North Middlesex should follow this.

Motion # 78/2023

Moved By: B. Irwin

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT Council approve the COVID-19 Vaccination Administrative Policy as amended.

CARRIED

Motion # 79/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT Council support the previous resolution regarding the amended COVID-19 Vaccination Administrative Policy.

CARRIED

5.4 Report from Manager of Recreation and Facilities - Donation Policy

Motion # 80/2023

Moved By: S. Nirta

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT Council approve the attached donation policy as recommended by the policy committee.

CARRIED

5.5 Report from Executive Assistant/HR Coordinator - Handheld Mobile Devices Policy

Motion # 81/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: S. Nirta

THAT Council adopt the amended version of the "Handheld Mobile Devices Policy" (TP.05) as recommended by the Policy Committee.

CARRIED

6. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

6.1 Report from Treasurer - Accounts Payable

Quarterly reports from Tenet Security on By-law Enforcement were requested. The Clerk to provide.

Motion # 82/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT Council receive and accept the following accounts payable report as information only.

CARRIED

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Lake Huron Primary Water Supply Joint Mgmt Board (Cr. Keogh)

It was reported that there was a meeting on March 2, 2023. A copy of the minutes will be provided going forward.

7.2 ABCA (Cr. Cornelissen)

It was reported that there is a meeting tomorrow.

7.3 BWRA (Cr. Keogh)

7.4 EDAC (Cr. Nirta, Cr. Irwin, Deputy Mayor Hodgins)

7.5 LSAC (Cr. Irwin, Deputy Mayor Hodgins)

It was reported that a contact will be made with Trustee Arlene Morell to determine available dates.

7.6 Recreation Committee (Cr. Daigle, Cr. Keogh, Cr. Nirta)

It was reported that the first meeting is March 28.

7.7 Policies Review Committee (Mayor Ropp, Deputy Mayor Hodgins, Cr. Daigle)

March 9, 2022 Minutes

7.8 Fire Committee (Mayor Ropp, Cr. Cornelissen, Cr. Daigle)

January 12, 2023 Fire Committee Minutes.

Proposed By-law and Terms of Reference - North Middlesex Fire Committee

Motion # 83/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: A. Cornelissen

THAT Council endorse the Fire Committee By-law and Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

7.9 Community Development Fund Committee (Mayor Ropp, Cr. Nirta, Cr. Cornelissen)

7.10 OCWA Client Advisory Board (CAO)

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Township of Dawn Euphemia, City of Port Colborne, Township of Howick - endorse position of Town of Petrolia regarding School Board Elections

(Receive and File - filed at February 15, 2023 meeting)

Filed.

8.2 Joyce Hutchinson - Request to Waive Rental fee for self defense course

(Receive and Consider)

Motion # 84/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: B. Irwin

THAT Council waive rental fees for a teenager's and women's self defense course at the Parkhill Arena to be coordinated by Joyce Hutchinson.

CARRIED

8.3 Town of Cobourg - Resolution - Sheltered and Homeless Persons

(Receive and Consider)

Filed.

8.4 Ministry of Natural Resources - Floating Accommodations and Camping on Water - Regulatory changes

(Receive and File)

Filed.

8.5 Town of Grimsby - Changes to Municipal Heritage Register

(Receive and Consider)

Filed.

8.6 Town of Grimsby - Barriers for Women in Politics

(Receive and Consider)

Motion # 85/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: B. Irwin

THAT the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex endorse the resolution from the Town of Grimsby supporting women in politics and their right to participate in a political environment that is free from misogyny and harassment, and where everyone feels equal.

CARRIED

8.7 City of Port Colborne, Township of Perth South - endorse resolution of County of Huron - Cannabis Act

(Receive and File - filed at February 15, 2023 meeting)

Filed.

8.8 Niagara Region - Resolution regarding Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction

(Receive and Consider)

Filed.

8.9 Township of Moonbeam - Request to extend moratorium on pupil accommodation reviews

(Receive and Consider)

Filed.

8.10 North Middlesex Community Policing Committee - Minutes of February 7, 2023 and Meeting Agenda for March 7, 2023

(Receive and File)

Filed.

Clr. Irwin reported that he has joined the Committee. He will bring back information for Council.

9. OTHER AND URGENT BUSINESS

9.1 Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Information meetings to be held on March 31, 2023 on legacy oil and gas wells. Morning meeting in Simcoe. Afternoon Meeting in Chatham.
Invitation to attend.

9.2 Natural gas line extension from Corbett to Moray

An update on a request made prior to 2020 to the previous CAO was requested. It was reported that at that time a grant program was available, however the onset of COVID deferred the request. The Manager of Infrastructure and Operations reported that he followed up with Enbridge Gas regarding the request. There are a number of funding possibilities for the requesters including: over time; and, a direct charge on the requesting users. The Manager of Infrastructure and Operations stated that this will be examined in further detail and brought back to Council.

9.3 Trail Proposal - Bear Creek Trail

It was reported that there was a trail proposal brought to Council some years ago and an update is requested. The Manager of Recreation and Facilities stated that it is believed that a proposal never formally came to Council, but rather was considered by the CAO and Manager of Recreation and Facilities and went to the Recreation Committee. He explained that the biggest challenge is a bridge which may be unsafe. An engineer is coming out to evaluate another bridge in the Municipality and this bridge will also be examined and reported on.

9.4 Potential Licensed Day Care operator in Ailsa Craig

It was reported that an investigative meeting was held last week with a potential provider of licensed day care in Ailsa Craig.

9.5 Municipal Day event in North Middlesex

It was reported that a County Municipal Day event is occurring in North Middlesex on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. It was asked what involvement, if any, does North Middlesex have. It was stated that the Economic Development and Communications Coordinator is participating. Further plans are being developed.

10. DEFERRED ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

10.1 North Middlesex Surplus Properties

Review of North Middlesex Surplus Properties - deferred at November 17, 2021 (follow up by incoming CAO following Property tour)

10.2 Administration and the Council and Committee's Vaccination Policy's

Administration and the Council and Committee's Vaccination Policy's review and discussion on status of Policy's - CAO - deferred at April 22, 2022

10.3 Parkhill Sewage Lagoon - Potential Third Party Opportunities

Parkhill Sewage Lagoon - Potential Third Party Opportunities - pending additional information deferred at February 1, 2023 (follow up by Manager of Infrastructure and Operations)

10.4 Request for Urban Design Guidelines

Request for Urban Design Guidelines - deferred at February 1, 2023 - policy to be developed (follow up by CAO)

10.5 Presentation by Intact Insurance

Presentation by Intact Insurance - Road Guidelines - deferred at February 15, 2023. (Follow up by CAO)

The Interim CAO/Treasurer reported that this will occur at the June 7, 2023 meeting.

10.6 Future delegation by Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority General Manager and Finance Services Coordinator - Category 3 Services in North Middlesex

Future delegation by Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority General Manager and Finance Services Coordinator. (Follow up by Clerk)

Delegation scheduled for May 3, 2023 Council meeting by General Manager Brian Horner and Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Manager.

10.7 Ferndale culvert failure and road closure

The Manager of Infrastructure and Operations updated Council on the project. He explained that Middlesex Centre had increased the budget for estimated construction costs to \$350,000 plus HST.

Motion # 86/2023

Moved By: J. Keogh

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT Council amend the 2023 Budget to add the capital project “C-588 (Fernhill/Wood) Culvert Replacement” with a cost of \$175,000, excluding HST.

CARRIED

10.8 Health Benefits for Members of Council

The Interim CAO/Treasurer reported that health benefits can be obtained for Members of Council as a new class, but all members of Council must participate. Opting out could occur if there is similar coverage (such as spouse) available elsewhere. Costs were reported as \$219 per month for single coverage and \$490 per month family coverage. It was explained that the benefits would expire for Members reaching the age of 70. Council declined participating in the benefits.

11. COMMUNICATIONS (Including County Council Meeting Report)

11.1 County of Middlesex - Office of Warden - Extension of Mobile Crisis Response Team Funding

11.2 Middlesex - London Health Unit - Board of Health Meeting Summary

11.3 County Budget

It was reported that the County budget has not been completed.

11.4 Blacks Bridge Construction schedule

Mayor Ropp reported that he would confirm the construction period.

12. READING OF THE BY-LAWS

Motion # 87/2023

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: S. Nirta

THAT By-law 034 - 036 of 2023 be read a first and second time

Provision for questions

CARRIED

Motion # 88/2023

Moved By: P. Hodgins

Seconded By: B. Irwin

THAT By-law 034 - 36 of 2023 be read a third and final time

CARRIED

12.1 034 of 2023 Authorize Agreement with North Middlesex Farmers Market

12.2 035 of 2023 Terms of Reference for North Middlesex Fire Committee

12.3 036 of 2023 Council Proceedings

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion # 89/2023

Moved By: J. Keogh


Seconded By: S. Nirta

That the Meeting adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

CARRIED



MAYOR



CLERK