



**MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

October 16, 2024, 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: Director of Community Services, Brandon Drew
Director of Infrastructure and Operations, Jaden Hodgins
Drainage Superintendent, Joanne Sadler
Director of Corporate Services / Clerk, Alan Bushell
Chief Administrative Officer, Carolyn Tripp
Felicia Krista, Economic Development & Communications
Coordinator
Director of Finance/Treasurer, Ralph D'Alessandro

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 by way of livestream 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.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3.1 Meeting Minutes for October 2, 2024

Moved By: J. Keogh

Seconded By: B. Irwin

THAT the attached minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. COURT OF REVISION – DRAINAGE

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT Council adjourn its Regular Meeting to observe the Court of Revision.

CARRIED

4.1 Court of Revision - Prance Drain

The Court of Revision is called to order at 6:00p.m.

4.1.1 Appointment of Members – Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Ward Councillor Daigle

4.1.2 Drainage Overview Report – Drainage Superintendent

4.1.3 Consideration of Appeal (if any)

4.1.4 Decision - Engineers Report

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT the Court of Revision confirm the assessment schedule(s) as detailed in R. Dobbin Engineering Inc. report dated August 6, 2024, for the Prance Drain Section 76 Report and that a motion be made to accept the assessments.

CARRIED

Moved By: C. Daigle
Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT the Court of Revision adjourn.

CARRIED

5. PUBLIC MEETING - DRAINAGE

Moved By: C. Daigle
Seconded By: S. Nirta

THAT Council reconvene its regular meeting at 6:02 p.m.

CARRIED

5.1 Petition for Drainage Works - Conlin Drain

5.1.1 Overview from the Drainage Superintendent

5.1.2 Questions from affected landowner, if any present

5.1.3 Inquire - if anyone in attendance would like to add or remove their name(s) from petition

5.1.4 Questions from Members of Council

5.1.5 Decision

Moved By: J. Keogh
Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT Council Receive the Petition for Drainage Works by Owners for the Conlin Drain, according to section 4 of the Drainage Act;

AND THAT Council appoints R. Dobbin Engineering Inc., as engineer to the project.

CARRIED

5.2 Request for Improvement – Pickering Drain

5.2.1 Overview from the Drainage Superintendent

5.2.2 Questions from affected landowner, if any present

5.2.3 Inquire - if anyone in attendance would like to add or remove their name(s) from petition

5.2.4 Questions from Members of Council

5.2.5 Decision

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT Council receive the Notice of Request for Drain Major Improvement for the Pickering Drain, according to section 78 of the Drainage Act.

AND THAT Council appoints R. Dobbin Engineering Inc. as engineer to the project.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- 7.1 Reports from Felicia Krista, Economic Development and Communications Coordinator

7.1.1 CIP Application Ailsa Craig Arts Centre

Felicia Krista, Economic Development and Communications Coordinator is providing a brief verbal clarification and update.

7.1.2 CIP Application Gokstorp Farms - Section 3 Request

Moved By: B. Irwin

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT Council award Gokstorp Farms located at 3610 West Corner Drive, with \$1,500 upon completion of their proposed rural economic development project as per the Municipality's Community Improvement Plan.

CARRIED

7.1.3 CIP Application Gokstorp Farms - Section 4 Request

Moved By: S. Nirta

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT Council award Gokstorp Farms located at 3610 West Corner Drive, with \$1,500 upon completion of their proposed rural

economic development project as per the Municipality's Community Improvement Plan.

CARRIED

7.2 Report from Carolyn Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

7.2.1 Environmental and Sustainability Working Group

Moved By: B. Irwin

Seconded By: S. Nirta

THAT the report by Carolyn Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, dated October 16, 2024, be received for information;

AND THAT Council support staff's participation in the Environmental and Sustainability Working Group.

CARRIED

7.3 Report from Jaden Hodgins, Director of Infrastructure and Operations

7.3.1 New Sidewalk on Queen Street in Ailsa Craig

Councillor Irwin provided clarification regarding his proposed resolution stating that maintaining the nature of the street means to not install the sidewalk on the east side of the road.

Moved By: B. Irwin

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT we maintain the current nature of the street (Queen Street) as is.

CARRIED

7.4 Report from Brandon Drew, Director of Community Services

7.4.1 CSRIF – Stream 1 Grant (Facilities Repairs and Improvements)

Moved By: J. Keogh

Seconded By: P. Hodgins

THAT Council defer the West Williams roof replacement to 2025;

AND THAT Council increase the project cost to \$300,000.00 to include Washroom upgrades;

AND THAT Council direct staff to apply for the CSRIF Grant for the West Williams Hall upgrade.

CARRIED

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Lake Huron Primary Water Supply Joint Mgmt Board

8.2 ABCA (Cr. Cornelissen)

Preliminary budget meeting projecting a 5.3% increase, with North Middlesex holds 4.8% increase plus other costs involved.

8.3 BWRA (Cr. Keogh)

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

8.5 LSAC (Cr. Irwin, Deputy Mayor Hodgins)

Possible report/update for the next meeting.

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

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

8.7.1 Minutes - July 17, 2024

8.7.2 Minutes August 14, 2024

8.7.3 Terms of Reference Update

Moved By: C. Daigle

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT the Terms of Reference for the Policy Committee be amended to schedule meetings on a quarterly basis with the Chair being authorized to call meetings for urgent matters.

CARRIED

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

Ailsa Craig event positive mention from Irwin

8.9 Budget Committee (Mayor Mayor)

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

The CAO suggested holding a meeting, with the goal of having the committee discuss having a single stream for funding.

- 8.11 OCWA Client Advisory Board (CAO)

- 8.12 Middlesex County OPP Detachment Board

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- 9.1 Bradford West Gwillimbury - Ontario Deposit Return Program

Moved By: B. Irwin

Seconded By: S. Nirta

THAT Council supports this initiative.

CARRIED

- 9.2 Brock - Rideshare Services

- 9.3 Parry Sound - Update Municipal Elections Act

- 9.4 Town of Cobourg - Support of Involuntary Care for Individuals with Severe Mental Health and Addictions

Moved By: A. Cornelissen

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT Council supports this initiative.

CARRIED

- 9.5 Western Ontario Wardens Caucus -Blue Box Transition

Moved By: B. Irwin

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT Council supports this initiative.

CARRIED

- 9.6 Western Ontario Wardens Caucus -Roadside Zoos

9.7 Waterloo - Solve the Humanitarian Crisis

10. OTHER AND URGENT BUSINESS

Councillor Daigle, requested an update and a focus be put on the road allowance disposition on Prince William Street.

Councillor Nirta, brought forward concerns about the ongoing financial position of the community gardens.

Councillor Cornelissen, discussed that they need more volunteers for flower watering.

Mayor Ropp, asked if the roads will be closed for part of the day when Ailsa Craig by Highway #7. Director Hodgins, Monday next week, but they are keeping traffic moving.

Councillor Keogh, requested that the local grain operators be notified if they close the roads through Ailsa Craig.

11. DEFERRED ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

12. COMMUNICATIONS (Including County Council Meeting Report)

Mayor Ropp, provided an update that the Nairn Bridge will likely back to operations ahead of schedule, with an estimated opening on or before the end of November.

13. READING OF THE BY-LAWS

Moved By: S. Nirta

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT By-laws 085 of 2024 and 086 of 2024 be read a first and second time.

Provision for questions

Moved By: P. Hodgins

Seconded By: B. Irwin

THAT By-laws 085 of 2024 and 086 of 2024 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED

13.1 085 of 2024 - Appoint an Interim Treasurer

13.2 086 of 2024 - Confirming

14. CLOSED MEETING (Under Section 239 of the Municipal Act)

Moved By: S. Nirta

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT the Open Meeting adjourn to Closed Meeting to receive information under the following exception:

239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act.

CARRIED

14.1 Previous Minutes

14.2 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

15. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM CLOSED MEETING

A rise and report included:

Council accepted previous minutes.

Received some information on staff.

Moved By: S. Nirta

Seconded By: C. Daigle

THAT the Closed Meeting adjourn and return to Open Meeting without the recommendations.

CARRIED

16. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By: S. Nirta

Seconded By: J. Keogh

THAT the Meeting adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

CARRIED