

**MINUTES**  
**LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL**

**February 5, 2020**

Lambton County Council was in session in Council Chambers, Wyoming, Ontario, at 9:00 a.m. on the above date. Warden in the Chair; Roll called; All members present except J. Rombouts. Also present was J. Westgate, Alternate Member to Councillor J. Rombouts, Township of Warwick.

**Alternate Members**

The following Alternate Members were sworn in:

- a) Jerry Westage, Alternate Member to Councillor Jackie Rombouts, Township of Warwick.

**Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest:** Councillor Hand advised that she is a member of the Bluewater Health and Tourism Sarnia-Lambton Boards and, given that, declared a pecuniary interest regarding Item 7. c) and Item 8. c) of the Lambton County Council (Open Session) agenda dated February 5, 2020.

**In-Camera Committee Room #3**

**#1:** Napper/Stark: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera to discuss the following:

- a) a report to update Council on ongoing negotiations for a new lease at Bayside Centre, City of Sarnia, and provide instructions in relation thereto, pursuant to ss. 239(2)(k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- b) to receive a report, seek instructions and formulate a response to negotiations with a third party for fibre network connections within Lambton County, in accordance with section 239(2)(k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- c) litigation over an assessment appeal concerning a property in Watford, Ontario, and to seek instruction from Council in regards thereto, pursuant to the provisions of ss. 239(2)(e) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- d) negotiations and acquisition of property rights to accommodate the County's proposed gateway sign along Highway 402, pursuant to ss. 239(2)(c) and (k) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- e) a property in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to the provisions of ss. 239(2)(e) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

Carried.

### Open Session

The Warden declared that County Council go back into Open Session. Council then reconvened at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

### Silent Reflection

### Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session

The Clerk noted that County Council adopted the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) minutes dated November 27, 2019. County Council also received an update on negotiations for a 20-year lease at Bayside Centre in Sarnia, which is nearing a final agreement; reviewed and discussed fibre network connections within Lambton County; received an update regarding a license agreement to acquire property rights along Highway 402 to house its *Welcome to Lambton* sign; and approved the In-Camera Committee A.M. and P.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020.

#2: Hand/Cook: That Council adopt the report of the Closed Session meeting.

Carried.

### Grant Delegations

#3: Boushy/Hand: That we invite the delegations within the Bar to speak to County Council.

Carried.

### Victoria Playhouse Petrolia

Ms. Laurissa Ellsworth, Director of Marketing, Arts & Communications, Town of Petrolia and Mr. David Hogan, Victoria Playhouse Petrolia, Co-Artistic Director, spoke to County Council regarding a grant request to assist in capital improvements at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia.

### Kiwanis Club Forest: Kineto Theatre

Mr. Glen Starkey, Kiwanis Club of Forest, spoke to County Council regarding a grant request to assist in capital renovations to the Kineto Theatre in downtown Forest.

### Bluewater Health

Mr. Mike LaPaine, President & CEO, Bluewater Health, Ms. Kathy Alexander, Executive Director, Bluewater Health Foundation and Mr. Mark Braet, Treasurer, Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital Foundation, spoke to County Council regarding a grant request to assist in the purchasing of equipment.

#4: Loosley/Cook:

- a) That the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia grant request for \$200,000 annually over the next five years to assist in capital improvements be referred to the 2020 County Budget.
- b) That the Kiwanis Club Forest grant request for \$75,000 to assist in capital renovations to the Kineto Theatre in downtown Forest be referred to the 2020 County Budget.
- c) That the Bluewater Health grant request for \$10,000,000 over 10 years to assist with the purchasing of equipment be referred to the 2020 County Budget.

Carried.

Delegations

Overside Load Corridor Project Update

Mr. Lyle Johnson, Oversize Load Corridor (OLC) Project Manager and Mr. Brad Gray, representing Bluewater Power, provided County Council with an update on the Oversize Load Corridor project.

Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership Update

Mr. Alex Palimaka, Chair, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership and Mr. Stephen Thompson, Chief Executive Officer, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP), provided County Council with an update regarding SLEP's activities and plans.

Tourism Sarnia-Lambton Update

Mr. Mark Perrin, Executive Director, Tourism Sarnia-Lambton, provided County Council with an update regarding Tourism Sarnia-Lambton's activities and plans.

Township of Enniskillen Resolution for Provincial Minimum Distance Policies for Cannabis Operations

Ms. Judy Krall, Deputy Mayor, The Township of Enniskillen, spoke to County Council to regarding The Township of Enniskillen's resolution concerning their request for provincial minimum distances policies for cannabis operations.

Lambton County Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

Staff Sergeant Ryan Olmstead, Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.) and A/Staff Sergeant Ross Stuart, O.P.P., provided County Council with an update on the development of the Lambton County Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

#5: Stark/Arnold: That Lambton County Council provide financial support, by way of an advance, in the amount of \$50,000 to the Planning Committee for the Planning Committee to complete a County-wide Community Safety and Well-Being Plan that meets legislative requirements for every Lambton municipality, subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the Planning Committee apply for a grant to cover its expenses as soon as possible; and
- b) That if the Planning Committee secures grant funding for the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, that those funds be remitted to the County up to \$50,000 to reimburse the County its \$50,000 advance; and
- c) That if the Planning Committee secures insufficient grant funding to repay the County the entirety of its \$50,000 financial support, that any balance owing to the County be invoiced to each of the eleven Lambton County municipalities on a pro-rata basis.

Carried.

### Staff Presentations

#### Local Immigration Strategy: New Resident Attraction and Settlement Update

Ms. Stephanie Ferrera, Project Co-ordinator, Local Immigration Strategy, Lambton County presented to County Council with Mr. Stephen Thompson, Chief Executive Officer, Sarnia–Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP). The purpose of the presentation was to provide Council with the Local Immigration Strategy's new Strategic Plan as well as information on initiatives and community supports in relation to attracting and retaining newcomers to Sarnia-Lambton.

#### Lambton Public Health: Update on Novel Coronavirus

Dr. Sudit Ranade, Medical Officer of Health, County of Lambton, provided County Council with an update on the Novel Coronavirus.

### Minutes

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated November 27, 2019 were presented.

#6: Miller/Marriott: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated November 27, 2019 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

#7: Bradley/Veen: That the regular meeting of County Council adjourn and reconvene for the Annual General Meeting of The County of Lambton Community Development Corporation.

Carried.

**Annual General Meeting of The County of Lambton Community Development Corporation**

The Annual General Meeting of The County of Lambton Community Development Corporation (CLCDC) was held in the Council Chambers and was called to order at 11:46 a.m. on the above date.

#8: Bradley/Broad: That Bill Weber be appointed as Chair of the meeting.

Carried.

The Chair of the Board commenced by introducing its members to the Board and the Staff Advisory Committee who were present for the Annual General Meeting as follows: Board members Bill Weber, Mike Bradley, and Kevin Marriott; and staff members, Larry Palarchio, and Ron Van Horne; and Dr. Katherine Albion, Executive Director.

#9: Cook/Napper: That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting of The County of Lambton Community Development Corporation be approved as presented.

Carried.

No declarations of pecuniary interest were made.

Larry Palarchio, General Manager, Finance, Facilities and Court Services provided an update on the Financial Statements for the Year Ended April 30, 2019.

#10: Marriott/Miller: That the Financial Statements for the Year Ended April 30, 2019 be approved.

Carried.

Dr. Katherine Albion, Executive Director, provided an update to members regarding activities at the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park.

#11: Hand/Cook: That the report provided to update members regarding activities at the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park be received and filed.

Carried.

#12: Arnold/Hand: That the following positions be confirmed for the Board:

- a. Chair, Mike Bradley
- b. Vice Chair, Judy Morris
- c. Kevin Marriott
- d. Bill Weber

- e. Tom Strifler
- f. Miriam Capretz
- g. Alison Ewart
- h. Lisa Cechetto

Carried.

**#13:** Ferguson/Loosley: That the following positions be confirmed for the Board:

- a. Secretary, Ron Van Horne
- b. Treasurer, Larry Palarchio

Carried.

#### Appointment of Auditors for 2020

**#14:** Napper/Miller: That BDO Canada LLP - Sarnia be appointed as auditors to The County of Lambton Community Development Corporation for 2020.

Carried.

#### Adjournment

**#15:** Marriott/Loosley: That the Chair declare the Annual General Meeting of The County of Lambton Community Development Corporation be adjourned.

Carried.

Time: 12:10 p.m.

The Warden called for a 10 minute recess.

#### **Regular Session**

The Warden declared that County Council go back into Regular Session.

Time: 12:20 p.m.

#### Correspondence to Receive and File

**CC 02-22-20** A flyer from Emma Jane Woods, Farmland Ecology Intern, Ontario Farmland Trust dated January 24, 2020. The flyer is for the 2020 Farmland Forum: The Shifting Landscapes of Farmland Protection on March 26, 2020, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Grand Banquet & Event Centre, Guelph, ON.

**#16:** Ferguson/Cook: That correspondence CC 02-22-20 be received and filed.

Carried.

Correspondence

CC 02-13-20 A letter from Mabel Higgins, Co-Chair, and James Houston, Co-Chair, Rail Advocacy In Lambton (RAIL) dated January 10, 2020 regarding a resolution as passed by RAIL on December 10, 2019 concerning transportation connectivity in Southwestern Ontario. RAIL is requesting Lambton County Council to endorse the following resolution:

**Whereas:** Transportation Connectivity continues to be a growing problem in Southwestern Ontario **and,**

**Whereas:** Service reductions in the rail and intercity bus sectors have aggravated mobility of the population in areas west and north of London **and,**

**Whereas:** The municipalities of Sarnia, Strathroy-Caradoc, and London have recently received funding from the province of Ontario through the Inter-City Bus program **and,**

**Whereas:** unless there are integrated connections from outlying communities served by this new program with VIA Rail and Greyhound Bus Lines at London the possibility of a successful operation becoming a reality is slim to none **and,**

**Whereas:** Sarnia is an International rail border crossing, with the USA, via an underground rail tunnel. Increased travel services from Sarnia eastward to London and beyond as a Southwestern Ontario travel hub, complemented by utilization of Sarnia as an intermodal travel hub, will encourage economic development, and encourage tourism not only in Southwestern Ontario, but also in the state of Michigan and beyond. Port Huron MI is presently served with a daily AMTRAK connection to Chicago **and,**

**Whereas:** Preliminary published scheduling indicates a 2.5-hour trip door to door from Sarnia to London, which realistically does not address the issue of connectivity with VIA and/or Greyhound schedules for further travel beyond London **and,**

**Whereas:** Previous studies have revealed that London is the most sensible and convenient transportation hub for outlying communities needing a connection to rail and bus services to major centers in Southwestern Ontario (SWO) the Greater Toronto and Hamilton (GTHA) area and beyond **and,**

**Now therefore be it Resolved: that the municipal councils of Sarnia, Strathroy-Caradoc, London, and other potential connections, work cooperatively towards an integrated intercommunity bus service that will connect with alternate modes of transportation e.g. VIA Rail and Greyhound Bus Lines at London. Such connectivity at this most important transportation hub will be a growth factor in not only economic development, but will be an increased convenience for the residents of Southwestern Ontario as a whole.**

**Duly Moved, Seconded, and Carried Unanimously, at the business meeting of Rail Advocacy in Lambton, held this 10th day of December 2019 in Sarnia ON.**

**#17: Bradley/White:** That County Council endorse the resolution from Rail Advocacy In Lambton (RAIL) as set out in correspondence CC 02-13-20.

Carried.

CC 02-20-20 A letter from Arlene Patterson on behalf of Navigating Senior Care Lambton (NSCL), dated January 20, 2020 regarding motion #4 of the Lambton County Council minutes dated October 2, 2019, which requested that a task force (comprised of County staff and NSCL) submit a report to County Council by January 31, 2020 to provide recommendations on establishing a Seniors' Advisory Committee of County Council. Motion #4 is attached with the correspondence letter.

Navigating Senior Care Lambton is asking County Council to extend the January 31, 2020 timeline to March 31, 2020.

**#18: Bradley/Hand:** That County Council accept the request from Navigating Senior Care Lambton to extend the January 31, 2020 timeline for their report to March 31, 2020.

Carried.

#### Correspondence from Member Municipalities

CC 02-19-20 A letter from Dianne Gould-Brown, City Clerk, The Corporation of the City of Sarnia, dated January 13, 2020 regarding Veteran parking spaces. The City of Sarnia is requesting County Council to support the following motion, which was passed at its December 9, 2019 Council meeting:

**That Staff study the opportunity to designate “veteran only” parking spots around various City facilities as a way to honour those who have served our Country; and**

**That this request also be referred to Lambton County Council.**

**#19: Bradley/Hand:** That correspondence CC 02-19-20 be received and filed.

Carried.

CC 02-21-20 A letter from Dianne Gould-Brown, City Clerk, The Corporation of the City of Sarnia, dated January 24, 2020 regarding Ontario Power Generation's Deep Geologic Repository Project. The City of Sarnia passed a resolution at its January 20, 2020 Council meeting to support the halting of the construction of the Deep Geologic Repository. The City of Sarnia distributed letters to all 444 Ontario municipalities to seek endorsement of the following resolution:

**That Sarnia City Council support the halting of the construction of the Deep Geological Repository, in the Bruce Peninsular, so that less dangerous solutions can be found for the longer storage of nuclear waste; and**

**That Sarnia City Council instruct the Sarnia City Clerk to notify all 444 Ontario Municipalities, through AMO, by January 24th, 2020, of our objective; and**

**That the Sarnia City Clerk send a copy of our resolution to the County of Lambton Clerk, along with all the County Councillors, asking for their endorsement.**

#20: Cook/Broad: That correspondence CC 02-21-20 be received and filed.

Carried.

### Information Reports

### **INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION**

Information Report dated February 5, 2020 Regarding Planning and Forestry Application Fees

#21: Marriott/White: That Information Report dated February 5, 2020 regarding Planning and Forestry Application Fees be received and filed.

Carried.

### Items Not Requiring a Motion

The following items were presented to County Council for its information:

- a) Creative County Committee minutes dated September 26, 2019.
- b) Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership Board minutes dated November 26, 2019.

### Committee Minutes

Mr. B. White presented the Committee A.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020.

#22: White/Ferguson: That the Committee A.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Mr. A. Broad presented the Committee P.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020.

Re: Motion #14 b) of the Committee P.M. Minutes dated January 15, 2020 Regarding Jobs Task Force Information Report

#23: Bradley/Bird: That Lambton County Council endorse the establishment of a Jobs Task Force.

A recorded vote starting with Councillor Hand was requested by Councillor Bradley on motion #23 of this day's minutes:

S. Arnold	Yes (3)
M. Bird	Yes (3)
D. Boushy	Yes (3)
M. Bradley	Yes (3)
A. Broad	Yes (1)
D. Cook	No (2)
D. Ferguson	Yes (1)
B. Hand	Yes (1)
B. Loosley	Yes (2)
K. Marriott	Yes (1)
S. Miller	Yes (2)
L. Napper	Yes (3)
J. Westgate (Alternate for J. Rombouts)	Yes (2)
M. Stark	Yes (3)
I. Veen	No (1)
B. Weber	No (3)
B. White	Yes (3)

Yeas - 31; Nays - 6.

Motion carried.

#24: Broad/Loosley: That the Committee P.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020 be accepted as amended.

Carried.

#### Items Tabled from a Previous Meeting

Re: Tabled motion #19 of the Committee A.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020 regarding the preservation of the Canatara Park 1838 Log Cabin. (The motion was tabled to allow The Corporation of the City of Sarnia to review and discuss a report that would be brought forward on this matter at its January 20, 2020 Council meeting).

#25: Bradley/Broad: That motion #19 of the Committee A.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020 regarding the preservation of the Canatara Park 1838 Log Cabin be lifted from the table.

Carried.

#26: Bradley/Stark: That County Council support the ongoing discussions with the City of Sarnia on the possibility of relocating the log cabin at Canatara Park to the Lambton Heritage Museum for the purpose of preserving and restoring it as a historical building.

Carried.

Items Deferred from a Previous Meeting

Re: Motion #8 of the Committee P.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020 regarding the 2020 Services and Fees Schedule Report, was deferred to the February 5, 2020 Lambton County Council meeting to allow for follow-up information to be brought forward by County Staff. All relevant motions are attached for reference, specifically motion #8, motion #9, motion #10, and motion #11 of the Committee P.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020.

#27: Arnold/Marriott: That motion #8 of the Committee P.M. minutes dated January 15, 2020 regarding the 2020 Services and Fees Schedule Report be approved as amended.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Grant Delegations Information Sheets for Budget

#28: Bradley/Arnold: That staff prepare a one-page report for the 2020 Budget showing the impact of the grant requests on each individual municipality.

Carried.

By-Laws

#29: Hand/Ferguson: That By-Laws #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6 of 2020, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#30: Ferguson/Hand: That By-Laws #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6 of 2020, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

#31: Stark/Veen: That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned with the next regular meeting of County Council to be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 for Budget deliberations at 9:00 a.m.

Carried.

Time: 12:40 p.m.

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Bill Weber  
Warden

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Stéphane Thiffeault  
County Clerk