

MINUTES
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL

July 5, 2023

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 Councillor D. Ferguson. The following member attended virtually: Councillor J. Field, alternate member for Councillor B. Loosley.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land on which we are gathered today is part of the ancestral land of the Chippewa, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples, referred to collectively as the Anishinaabeg. It is through the connection of the Anishinaabeg with the spirit of the land, water and air that we recognize their unique cultures, traditions, and values. Together as treaty people, we have a shared responsibility to act with respect for the environment that sustains all life, protecting the future for those generations to come.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: None.

In-Camera

#1: Atkinson/Boushy: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera:

- a) to review the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) minutes dated June 7, 2023, and the Committee P.M. (In-Camera) minutes dated June 21, 2023, pursuant to s. 239 (2)(d) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- b) to receive a report, and provide instructions, on the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to s.239(2)(c) and (k) of *the Municipal Act, 2001*.
Carried.

Time: 9:07 a.m.

B. Hand joined the meeting in person at 9:15 a.m.

Open Session

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

Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session

The Clerk noted that County Council met in camera to adopt the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) Minutes dated June 7, 2023; the Committee A.M. Minutes dated June 21, 2023, and obtained instructions on the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia.

Delegation

#2: Agar/Broad: That we invite the delegation within the Bar to speak to County Council.
Carried.

Rotary Club of Sarnia and Affordable Housing

John de Groot, Rotary Club of Sarnia, Heather Martin, Rotary Club of Sarnia, Michael John Kooy, Rotary Club of Sarnia, Brian Mundt, Wellington Ridge, Sarnia spoke to Council regarding supportive and affordable housing. As members of the Rotary Club of Sarnia, they have been in consultation with many specialists in this area, including local service providers as well as affordable housing charities like Indwell that operate in neighbouring communities. The Rotary Club knows that successful solutions are possible if the right steps are taken early on. Building on the County's existing plan, they shared with Council what has been learned, and specific measures Council could adopt to bring permanent new housing to our community.

#3: Bradley/White: That County Council publicly endorse making affordable housing and shelter the number one priority of County Council.

Carried.

Minutes of Council (Open Session)

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated June 7, 2023, were presented.

#4: Cook/Hand: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated June 7, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Correspondence to Receive and File

CC 07-05-23 A letter from Josh Machesney, Clerk, City of Quinte West to Premier Doug Ford dated June 19, 2023 to advise that their council passed the following resolution:

Motion No 23-266 - Notice of Motion - Councillor Sharpe - Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement

Moved by Councillor Stedall

Seconded by Councillor Card

Whereas, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace;

And whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse;

And whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils;

And whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments;

And whereas, municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour;

And whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

And whereas, the Councillors Freeman, Ried, Sharpe and Stedall support “the Women of Ontario Say No”, and their effort to get this legislation passed;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the City of Quinte West supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;

Also be it resolved that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province

- Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner

- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office. **Carried**

#5: Miller/Sage: That correspondence CC 07-05-23 be received and filed.

Carried.

BOARD OF HEALTH (LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH)

Correspondence to Receive and File

CC 07-06-23 A letter from Ann-Marie Kungl, Chair, Board of Health, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit dated June 21, 2023, regarding its financial concerns and noting challenges with the sustainability of public health funding in Ontario. The Board notes and supports Association of Local Public Health Agencies' position for a return to the provision of 75% of the funding by the Province for the base budgets of local public health units.

CC 07-07-23 A letter from Penny Sutcliffe, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, Sudbury & Districts Public Health dated June 23, 2023 regarding the passing of a motion in support of the Board of Health for the City of Hamilton, which calls on the provincial government to improve funding to Public Health.

CC 07-08-23 A letter from Bernie MacLellan, Board Chair, Huron Perth Public Health dated June 1, 2023 regarding funding concerns for Student Nutrition Programs in Ontario. The Board is requesting that the provincial government allocate urgent funding to Student Nutrition Programs that need it, immediately, and allocate more core funding to programs for the 2023/2024 and future school years.

CC 07-09-23 A letter from Bernie MacLellan, Board Chair, Huron Perth Public Health dated June 1, 2023 regarding the upcoming Federal School Food Policy. The Board reiterates the call for the development of a universal, cost-shared school food program for Canada and shares its concerns about the current state of student nutrition programs in Ontario and its region.

CC 07-10-23 A letter from Matthew Newton-Reid, Board Chair, Middlesex-London Health Unit dated June 9, 2023 regarding the passing of a motion supporting Bill C-252, An Act to amend *the Food and Drugs Act* (prohibition of food and beverage marketing directed at children).

#6: Veen/Broad: That correspondence CC 07-06-23, CC 07-07-23, CC 07-08-23, CC 07-09-23 and CC 07-10-23 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

#7: Atkinson/Agar: That the following Information Reports from the Board of Health be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated July 5, 2023 Regarding Assessment of the Immunization Status of School Pupils and the Suspension Process.
- b) Information Report dated July 5, 2023 Regarding Minds Connected Mental Health Promotion Resource.
- c) Information Report dated July 5, 2023 Regarding No One Stands Alone Update.
- d) Information Report dated July 5, 2023 Regarding Supporting Healthy Growth and Development.
- e) Information Report dated July 5, 2023 Regarding Update on Lambton Public Health's Current and Future Budget Pressures.

Carried.

Items Not Requiring a Motion

#8: Sageman/Miller: That the following Items not Requiring a Motion be received and filed:

- a) Lambton Seniors' Advisory Committee minutes dated April 25, 2023.

Carried.

Report Requiring a Motion

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Report dated July 5, 2023 Regarding Housing Accelerator Fund

#9: Bradley/Case: That staff submit an application under the Housing Accelerator Fund to increase the supply of affordable housing.

Carried.

Committee Minutes

Mr. J. Agar presented the Committee A.M. minutes dated June 21, 2023

#10: Agar/Cook: That the Committee A.M. minutes dated June 21, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Mr. B. Dennis presented the Committee P.M. minutes dated June 21, 2023.

#11: Dennis/McRoberts: That the Committee P.M. minutes dated June 21, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Warden Marriott presented the Audit Committee minutes dated June 26, 2023.

#12: Broad/Cook: That the Audit Committee minutes dated June 26, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Other Business

Laurel Lea Centre – St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church

#13: McRoberts/White: That a quarterly report be brought to Council regarding the usage and cost to operate the low barrier shelter.

Motion Withdrawn.

Housing Accelerator Fund

Councillor White congratulated staff on all of their effort and hard work with the accelerator fund and appreciated all that they have done to move forward so quickly.

150th Celebration

Councillor Case thanked all of those that attended the Watford 150th Celebration, especially the County Councillors and senior staff. Councillor Case also congratulated Inwood on their 150th celebration as well.

By-Laws

#14: Case/Broad: That By-Laws #24 and #25 of 2023, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#15: Broad/Case: That By-Laws #24 and #25 of 2023, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

#16: Veen/Hand: That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned and that the next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

Carried.

Time: 10:37 a.m.

Kevin Marriott
Warden

Ryan Beauchamp
Deputy Clerk