

MINUTES
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL

October 4, 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, Councillors Broad and McRoberts attended virtually. Also present was N. McEwan, Alternate Member to Councillor G. Atkinson, Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

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: Boushy/Ferguson: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera:

- a) to review the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) minutes dated September 6, 2023, the Committee P.M. minutes dated September 20, 2023 and the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees dated September 20, 2023 pursuant to s. 239 (2)(d) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.pursuant to s. 239 (2)(c) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- b) to receive a report and provide input into the CAO's appointment and performance, pursuant to ss. 239(2)(b) and (d) of *the Municipal Act, 2001*.
- c) to receive a report and provide instructions about the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia, pursuant to ss. 239(2)(c) of *the Municipal Act, 2001*.
- d) to receive a report and provide instructions about a personnel matter, pursuant to ss. 239(2)(c) and (d) of *the Municipal Act, 2001*.

Carried.

Time: 9:03 a.m.

Open Session

The Warden declared that County Council go back into Open Session. Council then reconvened at 9:40 a.m.

Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session

The Clerk noted that County Council met in camera to:

- a) adopt the Lambton County Council (Closed Session) Minutes dated September 6, 2023; the Committee P.M. minutes dated September 20, 2023 and the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees dated September 20, 2023.
- b) to receive a report and provide input into the Chief Administrative Officer's appointment and performance.
- c) to receive a report on the potential acquisition of property in the City of Sarnia.
- d) to receive a report and provide instructions about a personnel matter.

Presentations

Intersection Improvements

Steven Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, BT Engineering spoke to Council regarding intersection improvements at County Road 4 (Petrolia Line) and County Road 31 (Kimball Road).

#2: Cook/White: That the proposed intersection improvements at County Road 4 (Petrolia Line) and County Road 31 (Kimball Road), as presented, be referred to the 2024 budget.

Carried.

Minutes of Council (Open Session)

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated September 6, 2023, were presented.

#3: Sageman/White: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) minutes dated September 6, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Correspondence to Receive and File

CC 10-02-23 An email dated September 5, 2023 from Lynn Aube, Deputy Clerk, Matachewan communicating that at its August 16, 2023 Regular Council meeting, Matachewan Council adopted a resolution in support of the call by 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 the municipal governments.

Moved By: Emily Stewart

Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

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

WHEREAS, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse:

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

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

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

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

NOW, therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan 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.

WHEREAS, this legislation be prioritized for the fall of 2023 given the urgency of this issue; and

FURTHERMORE, this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, MPP Fedeli, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, AMO and all municipalities.

Carried

CC 10-09-23 A letter dated September 15, 2023 from The Hon. Paul Caladra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing responding to the Housing Affordability Task Force's Recommendations. The deadline to return the completed chart is October 16, 2023.

CC 10-10-23 A letter dated September 22, 2023 from Greg Malczewski, Director, System Planning Branch regarding the Southwestern Ontario Transportation Task Force report. The Task Force's work focused on a range of transportation modes and issues affecting the region to ensure that MTO's transportation planning work is informed by local needs and considerations. The Task Force report was released on September 18, 2023, and can be found at the following links:

English:<https://www.ontario.ca/page/southwestern-ontario-transportation-task-forcefinal-report>

French:<https://www.ontario.ca/fr/page/rapport-final-du-groupe-de-travail-pour-lestransports-dans-le-sud-ouest-de-lontario>

#4: Miller/Veen: That correspondence CC 10-02-23, CC 10-09-23 and CC 10-10-23, be received and filed.

Carried.

BOARD OF HEALTH (LAMBTON PUBLIC HEALTH)

Correspondence to Receive and File

CC 10-04-23 A letter from Sally Hagman, Chair, Board of Health, Algoma Public Health dated July 4, 2023 (received September 12, 2023) regarding income-based policy interventions to effectively reduce household food insecurity. On June 28, 2023, the Board of Health for Algoma Public Health passed a resolution endorsing income-based policy interventions to effectively reduce household food insecurity,

which is an urgent public health problem that imposes serious consequences to the health and well-being of Ontarians.

CC 10-05-23 A letter from Bernie Maclellan, Chair, Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) dated September 8, 2023 regarding support for a healthy public policy regarding alcohol marketplace and product sales. The HPPH Board of Health endorsed the Ontario Public Health Association's (OPHA) letter to the provincial government dated May 31, 2023. The OPHA implores the Government of Ontario to not increase access, availability or affordability of alcohol and recommends five essential policy measures to decrease alcohol-related harms.

CC 10-06-23 A letter from Stacy Wight, Board of Health Chair, Timiskaming Health Unit dated September 15, 2023, regarding the passing of a motion on September 6, 2023 to support a universal, no-cost coverage for all prescription contraceptive options for all Ontarians.

CC 10-07-23 A letter from Fabio Costante, Board of Health Chair, and Dr. Kenneth Blanchette, CEO, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit dated September 21, 2023, regarding a sustainable federal school food policy. The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Board of Health urges the federal Ministries of Families, Children and Social Development and Agriculture and Agri-Food to continue their work towards a comprehensive, cost-shared, universally accessible National School Food Policy and national school nutritious meal program with provinces, territories, municipalities, Indigenous partners, and stakeholders.

#5: Agar/Veen: That correspondence CC 10-04-23, CC 10-05-23, CC 10-06-23 and CC 10-07-23 be received and filed.

Carried.

Information Reports

#6: Sageman/Cook: That the following Information Reports from Lambton Public Health be received and filed:

- a) Information Report dated October 4, 2023 regarding 2023-2024 Fall Respiratory Season Immunization Campaign.
- b) Information Report dated October 4, 2023 regarding Clinical and Family Services Q1-Q2 2023 Activity Report.
- c) Information Report dated October 4, 2023 regarding Health Protection – 2023 Second Quarter Activity Report.
- d) Information Report dated October 4, 2023 regarding Health Equity Strategy Update.

Carried.

Report Requiring a Motion

Report dated October 4, 2023 Regarding Update on Province's New Plan to Strengthen Public Health and Implications for Lambton Public Health – CC 10-08-23

#7: Miller/Sageman: That a Strategic Team be created to communicate with, and respond to, the province regarding any proposed voluntary mergers of public health services. The Strategic Team shall consist of the Warden, Deputy Warden, Chief Administrative Officer and one (1) representative from each of the four municipal quadrants, together with such staff as requested from time to time by the Strategic Team.

Carried.

Reports Requiring a Motion

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Report dated October 4, 2023 Regarding County Road 4/31 - Intersection Improvement Study – Schedule B Environmental Assessment Study

#8: Veen/Sageman:

- a) That County Council endorse the study recommendations as presented within this report.
- b) That County Council support filing the County Road 4 (Petrolia Line) and County Road 31 (Kimball Road) Intersection Improvement Study – Schedule B Environmental Assessment Study Project File Report as prepared by BT Engineering Inc. for the 30-day public review period.

Carried.

Report dated October 4, 2023 Regarding Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force

#9: White/Field: That this report be circulated to all local municipalities in Lambton County to encourage prioritization of affordable housing as part of the responses to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing letter dated September 15, 2023.

Carried.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Report dated October 4, 2023 Regarding Additional Dwelling Unit Incentive Program

#10: Bradley/Miller:

- a) That a pilot Additional Dwelling Unit Incentive program be created following the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Program Guidelines.
- b) That up to \$250,000 of funding be allocated to this pilot as follows:
 - \$100,000 in funds received under the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative 2024/25 funding allocation be reallocated from the Homeownership and Lambton Renovates components; and
 - \$150,000 in funds from the existing Homeownership Revolving Loan Fund, pending Provincial approval to utilize these funds.
- c) That should the pilot funding not be fully utilized; staff be authorized to reallocate program funds between the program components to ensure full utilization of annual allocations.

Carried.

Committee Minutes

Mr. I. Veen presented the Committee A.M. minutes dated September 20, 2023.

#11: Veen/Agar: That the Committee A.M. minutes dated September 20, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Warden Marriott presented the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees minutes dated September 20, 2023.

#12: Cook/White: That the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees minutes dated September 20, 2023 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Mr. D. Ferguson presented the Committee P.M. minutes dated September 20, 2023.

#13: Ferguson/Dennis: That the Committee P.M. minutes dated September 20, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Other Business

Ontario Public Library Week

Warden Marriott advised that this October, Lambton County Library is celebrating Ontario Public Library Week as a time to celebrate the valuable role libraries play in Canadians' lives.

Housing Services Building Tour

Warden Marriott reminded Council that the deadline to register for the Housing Services Building Tour is Friday, October 6, 2023.

Monte McNaughton's Years of Service

#14: Case/Bradley: That County Council extends their thanks for the numerous years of service that Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP, Monte McNaughton, provided to Lambton County, including in acting as Ontario's Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development in Ontario since 2019.

Carried.

By-Laws

#15: Veen/Miller: That By-Law #27 of 2023, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#16: Miller/Veen: That By-Law #27 of 2023, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

#17: Sageman/Veen: That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned and that the next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

Carried.

Time: 10:29 a.m.

Kevin Marriott
Warden

Ryan Beauchamp
Deputy Clerk