

Committee of the Whole

January 27, 2022

Grey County Council met on the above date at 10:17 AM through Zoom. Warden Selwyn Hicks assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order with all members present.

Declaration of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

Business Arising From the Minutes

CW22-22 Moved by: Councillor Mackey Seconded by: Councillor Burley

Whereas there is evidence of a significant rise in the prevalence of mental health and substance use disorders across the country; and

Whereas access to available resources is critical to supporting those with mental health and substance use disorders; and

Whereas the access to treatment resources is not sufficient to meet the demand for them in Grey County;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that a Mental Health and Addictions Task Force be created; and

That the Task Force consider:

- **Who the treatment providers are operating in Grey County, how they are funded and the treatment services they provide.**
- **The provider's assessments of gaps in treatment options, the waitlists for treatments that are available and how these could be addressed.**
- **Appropriate advocacy to different levels of government for increased access and reduction of barriers to mental health and addiction services, ie. policy, funding or other resources necessary to support system enhancements.**
- **Through stakeholder engagement and partnership involvement create a "local response" strategy that identifies immediate and longer term priorities specifically designed to support the development of mental health supports and harm reduction strategies for Grey County residents; and**

That staff be directed to develop a Terms of Reference for consideration by County Council.

Councillor Mackey requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: S. Mackey 3, B. Gamble 3, D. Burley 6, S. Carleton 5, P. McQueen 5, A. Desai 5, S. Paterson 3, S. Hicks 3, B. Clumpus 6, S. Keaveney 5, I. Boddy 8, B. O’Leary 8, J. Woodbury 3, B. Milne 3, A. Soever 7, P. Bordignon 6, C. Robinson 6, T. Hutchinson 5.

The motion was Carried unanimously.

Delegations

Tanya Roberts, Bruce – Grey Community Safety and Well Being Coordinator – Community Safety and Well Being Plan

Ms. Roberts addressed County Council on the Community Safety and Well Being Plan (CSWBP). She provided background information on the Plan, as well as the goal and vision of the initiative. She outlined the social determinants of health and the roles and responsibilities at the county level. The County will act to facilitate the process for regional initiatives or strategies and will support initiatives as identified in the action plans.

The CSWBP Highlights from 2021 were noted. The indicator report was submitted to the Ministry of the Solicitor General in July of 2021. Ms. Roberts then provided an update on Phase 2 of the Plan, being the implementation process.

The Situation Table for Acute Risk (STAR) was highlighted. STAR is governed by the Community Safety and Well Being Plan’s Advisory Committee. It holds a critical role in connecting individuals with needed services.

Next steps for 2022 were noted, including plans for each of the action tables and a new communications plan.

Questions from council were addressed. The importance of the action tables were noted. The plan leverages the good work that is already being done.

Rob Peacock, CEO and John Leckie, Chair – Meaford Hospital Foundation – Update from the Meaford Hospital Foundation

John Leckie and Rob Peacock addressed County Council and gave an update on the Meaford hospital. The hospital provides care to residents of the Municipality of Meaford, the Town of the Blue Mountains and the north-east area of Grey County.

Mr. Peacock provided information on statistics related to the number of discharges, average length of stay and average age of patients in the hospital.

He spoke to the pace at which Meaford and the Town of the Blue Mountains are growing. New medical equipment and capital expenditures are not covered by provincial funding so the local hospitals and communities raise money to purchase this equipment.

He then spoke to the new cataract surgery suite located at the Meaford Hospital.

The Meaford hospital requests Grey County Council consider a \$250,000 commitment over a five year period to assist with purchasing medical equipment.

Council recessed briefly, then reconvened.

Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

The following items were requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved under Items for Discussion: b. FR-CW-04-22 Quarterly Purchasing Report c. Affordable Housing Task Force minutes dated January 14, 2022

Consent Agenda

CW23-22 Moved by: Councillor Carleton Seconded by: Councillor Woodbury

That the following Consent Agenda items be received; and

That staff be authorized to take the actions necessary to give effect to the recommendations in the staff reports; and

That the correspondence be supported or received for information as recommended in the consent agenda.

- i. That the correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding notification of legislative updates be received for information.**
- ii. That the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes dated January 17, 2022 be adopted as presented; and**

That the following resolution contained therein be endorsed:

- a. That the design of the Arthur Street Municipal Parking Lot in the Town of the Blue Mountains be supported as designed.**

Carried

Items for Direction and Discussion

SSR-CW-02-22 Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy Presentation Summary Report

CW24-22 Moved by: Councillor Paterson Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That report SSR-CW-02-22 regarding the Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy Presentation from July 22, 2021 be received; and

That Grey County Council endorse the identified calls to action through support for on the ground efforts locally, and advocate for policy changes at the Provincial and Federal governments.

Carried

FR-CW-04-22 Quarterly Purchasing Report Quarter 4 of 2021

CW25-22 Moved by: Councillor Soever Seconded by: Councillor Milne

That Report FR-CW-04-22 Quarterly Purchasing Report Quarter 4 of 2021 be received for information.

Carried

Councillor Hutchinson left the meeting at this time.

Affordable Housing Task Force minutes dated January 14, 2022

CW26-22 Moved by: Councillor McQueen Seconded by: Councillor Burley

That the Affordable Housing Task Force minutes dated January 14, 2022 be adopted as presented; and

That the following resolutions contained therein be endorsed:

- i. **That Report HDR-AF-02-21 regarding the request for proposal for architectural services for 396 14th Street Owen Sound project be received for information.**
- ii. **That the correspondence and resolution from the County of Huron regarding the homelessness crisis and need for program support be received for information.**

Carried

Other Business

CAO Wingrove and Council discussed the option of moving back to in person council meetings. It was noted that the hybrid option still exists if members need to participate in a meeting from home. The CAO and Clerk will discuss further and provide an update.

Councillor Desai noted that the Ontario Good Roads Association has postponed its conference until April because of the desire to hold an in-person event. The virtual event last year was cost prohibitive and did not engage people as much as was hoped.

Notice of Motion

There were not notices of motion.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Burley and Mackey, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:34 PM to the call of the Chair.

Selwyn Hicks, Warden

Heather Morrison, Clerk