



Minutes

Council

June 23, 2022

Grey County Council met at the call of the Warden on the above date at 10:00 AM at the County Administration Building. The Clerk called Council to order and Warden Selwyn Hicks assumed the Chair.

The Warden invited members of Council to stand for O Canada.

The Roll was called by the Clerk with all members present except Councillors Desai and Boddy. Alternate Councillor Richard Thomas was in attendance on behalf of Councillor Boddy.

Councillors Bordignon, Hutchinson, Keaveney and McQueen were participating virtually.

Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer and Tara Warder, Clerk were also in attendance.

The following staff members were in attendance:

Randy Scherzer, Deputy CAO; Anne Marie Shaw, Director of Community Services; Pat Hoy, Director of Transportation Services; Kevin McNab, Director of Paramedic Services; Michael Letourneau, Director of Legal Services-County Solicitor; Jennifer Moreau, Director of Human Resources, Jody MacEachern, Director of Information Technology and Scott Taylor, Director of Planning Services

The following staff members were participating electronically: Mary Lou Spicer, Director of Finance; Savanna Myers, Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture; Jennifer Cornell, Director of Long-Term Care

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge with respect, the history, spirituality, and culture of the Anishinaabek, Six Nations of the Grand River, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples on whose traditional territories we gather and whose ancestors signed Treaties with our ancestors. We recognize also, the Metis and Inuit whose ancestors shared this land and these waters. May we all, as Treaty People, live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with all its diverse peoples.

Declaration of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

Adoption of Minutes

CC53-22 Moved by: Councillor Milne Seconded by: Councillor Woodbury

That the minutes of the County Council meeting and Committee of the Whole meeting dated June 9, 2022 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted as presented.

CC54-22 Moved by: Councillor Soever Seconded by: Councillor Hutchinson

That motion CW84-22 from the June 9, 2022 Committee of the Whole minutes be lifted from the minutes and voted on separately in order to consider amending the resolution surrounding Report CCR-CW-08-22 and the Restricted Acts after Nomination Day delegation by-law.

Lost

The motion as originally presented was then voted on. Councillor Soever requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: Mackey 3, Gamble 3, Burley 6, Carleton 5, Paterson 3, Hicks 3, Clumpus 6, Keaveney 5, Thomas 8, O'Leary 8, Woodbury 3, Milne 3, Robinson 6, Hutchinson 5

Opposed: McQueen 5, Soever 7, Bordignon 6.

The motion was Carried 67-18.

CC55-22 Moved by: Councillor Paterson Seconded by: Councillor Burley

That the Committee of the Whole closed meeting minutes dated June 9, 2022 be adopted as provided to County Council.

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

There was no closed meeting held.

Reports

Integrity Commissioner's Recommendation Report dated June 17, 2022 – Complaint Against Councillor McQueen

Jeffrey Abrams and Janice Atwood – Petkovski attended County Council to speak on the above report.

Mr. Abrams began by providing an overview of the complaint and report and whether informal resolution was appropriate in these circumstances. It was decided that this matter should be accompanied by a public recommendation report instead, as the matter is an important one to bring attention to. There are no formal sanctions being recommended, as the Integrity Commissioners do not believe this is the appropriate case for them. The report calls attention to concerns around whether a member can be diligent in carrying out duties of an elected official while participating in two meetings at once. In the view of the Integrity Commissioners, one cannot. The primary focus is not on the per diem matter. There is recognition of a need for better policy framework around this.

Further policy recommendations include policy language to guide members on proper principles of compensation and reimbursement related to per diems for preparation and meeting attendance.

Councillor McQueen then addressed County Council and responded to questions around the complaint regarding himself and his participation in both the Affordable Housing Task Force meeting and Niagara Escarpment Commission meeting on March 17, 2022 and reasons for not chairing that Task Force meeting.

Further comments were made, including practices around scheduling of committee and task force meetings, whether consideration will be given to resigning from AMO and the NEC and the lack of trust by residents towards elected officials.

Mr. Abrams spoke to options for sanctions, including imposing a reprimand or a suspension of remuneration paid to the Member.

CC56-22 Moved by: Councillor Thomas Seconded by: Councillor Milne

That the Integrity Commissioner Recommendation report dated June 17, 2022 be received; and

That a reprimand be imposed to Councillor McQueen and that staff be directed to bring forward a report amending the Code of Conduct with policy clarifications for inclusion in the Code of Conduct.

The Warden called for a Recess in response to a question raised.

Councillor McQueen raised a point of order regarding whether a recess could be taken

with a motion pending. The Warden noted a recess is permitted.

Council recessed briefly, then reconvened.

The Warden ruled that the question raised prior to the recess is not germane to the pending motion.

Councillor Soever challenged the ruling and requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: Mackey 3, Gamble 3, Burley 6, Carleton 5, Paterson 3, Hicks 3, Clumpus 6, Keaveney 5, Thomas 8, O'Leary 8, Woodbury 3, Milne 3, Robinson 6, Hutchinson 5

Opposed: McQueen 5, Soever 7, Bordignon 6

The motion was Carried 67-18.

CC57-22 Moved by: Councillor Mackey Seconded by: Councillor Burley

That the motion be divided.

Carried

CC58-22 Moved by: Councillor Thomas Seconded by: Councillor Milne

That staff be directed to bring forward a report amending the Code of Conduct with policy clarifications for inclusion in the Code of Conduct.

Carried

CC59-22 Moved by: Councillor Thomas Seconded by: Councillor Milne

That a reprimand be imposed to Councillor McQueen.

Councillor Burley requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: Thomas 8, O'Leary 8, Woodbury 3, Milne 3

Opposed: Mackey 3, Gamble 3, Burley 6, Carleton 5, McQueen 5, Paterson 3, Hicks 3, Clumpus 6, Keaveney 5, Soever 7, Bordignon 6, Robinson 6, Hutchinson 5

The motion was Lost 63-22.

By-Laws

CC60-22 Moved by: Councillor Soever Seconded by: Councillor Bordignon

That By-Laws 5139-22 and 5140-22 be introduced and that they be taken as read a first, second and third time, finally passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation

and engrossed in the By-law book.

5139-22 A By-law to authorize the Disposition of certain Lands in the City of Owen Sound, as described in Schedule A

5140-22 A By-law to Authorize the Disposition of certain Lands in the City of Owen Sound, as described in Schedule A

Carried

CC61-22 Moved by: Councillor Carleton Seconded by: Councillor Clumpus

5141-22 A By-law to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer of the Corporation of the County of Grey to take action, where necessary, on certain acts during the Restricted Acts After Nomination Day “Lame Duck” Period

Councillor Soever requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: Mackey 3, Gamble 3, Burley 6, Carleton 5, Paterson 3, Hicks 3, Clumpus 6, Keaveney 5, Thomas 8, O’Leary 8, Woodbury 3, Milne 3, Robinson 6, Hutchinson 5

Opposed: McQueen 5, Soever 7, Bordignon 6

The motion was Carried 67-18.

Good News and Celebrations

Councillor Robinson thanked the organizers and the Warden for the Warden’s Forum. The Durham Homecoming will take place from June 30th – July 3rd. This is Durham’s 150th birthday event. The Saugeen Valley Children’s Safety Village will hold an open house June 26th from 12-4.

Councillor Mackey noted that Inspector Paul Richardson will be the new inspector for the Grey-Bruce detachment. He comes from Wellington County and will begin on July 10th.

Councillor Soever echoed Councillor Robinson’s comments on the Warden’s forum. The St. George’s fish fry was a success. Adam Smith is the new Director of Planning in the Town of the Blue Mountains. Developers have approached the Town on how they can assist with providing attainable housing.

Councillor Hutchinson thanked the Warden and CAO Wingrove for their delegation at West Grey Council.

Councillor McQueen noted the benefits of showcasing the Sydenham Campus during the Warden's Forum. There will be fireworks in Feversham on July 2nd and other Canada Day events in the municipality.

Councillor Carleton noted that the Ride Don't Hide event will be taking place in Georgian Bluffs on June 27th promoting mental health.

Councillor Clumpus noted that Meaford will be holding Canada Day celebrations. There will be fireworks in Bognor and Annan. There will be an airshow, entertainment and an Indigenous flag raising event. She further noted that July 9th is the annual 5km Run/Walk sponsored by the Meaford Hospital Foundation and proceeds will go to mental health and addictions causes.

Councillor Milne noted that the Egremont Optimist Club will be hosting a car show and fireworks on Canada day in Holstein Park. This Saturday, the local Pride Committee is holding an event for Pride month and will be having a walking parade.

Adjournment

On motion by Councillors McQueen and Hutchinson, Council adjourned at 11:39 AM to the call of the Warden.

Selwyn Hicks, Warden

Tara Warder, Clerk