

Committee of the Whole

April 28, 2022

Grey County Council met on the above date at 10:18 AM at the County Administration Building. Warden Selwyn Hicks assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order with all members present except Councillor O'Leary. Alternate Councillor Richard Thomas was in attendance on behalf of Councillor O'Leary. Councillors Mackey, Boddy, Bordignon, Soever and Clumpus were participating virtually.

Declaration of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

The following items were requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved under Items for Discussion: c. PDR-CW-15-22 Blue Meadows Information Report.

Consent Agenda

CW63-22 Moved by: Councillor Burley Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

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 Mental Health and Addictions Task Force minutes dated April 19, 2022 be adopted as presented; and**

That the following recommendations contained therein be endorsed:

- a. **That the correspondence from MPP Bill Walker regarding funding for Grey Bruce Health Services through the Addictions Recovery Fund, be received for information.**
- b. **Whereas mental health challenges can occur early in life, with children often not having the understanding about what mental health is, supports available, and how to manage mental health in their daily lives; and**

Whereas building resilience early in life is an important aspect of promoting mental well-being; and

Whereas there is strong evidence of the importance of focused education on mental health to target children to build resilience at this age group including identification, prevention, intervention and supports;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Mental Health and Addiction Task Force, on behalf of Grey County Council request that the Minister of Education implement a mental health education curriculum beginning in primary school to provide children with the necessary tools to support ongoing resilience and mental wellness; and

That this resolution be forwarded to all Grey County municipalities for support; and

That, due to the timing of the upcoming provincial election, this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Education, and copied to the Minister of Mental Health and MPP's Bill Walker and Jim Wilson ahead of Council approval in accordance with Section 25.6 (b) of the County's Procedural By-law.

- ii. **That Report HDR-CW-08-22 regarding the declaration of the Westmount property as surplus land be received; and**

That the Westmount property described as LT 22 PL444; OWEN SOUND PIN 37049-0043, Geographic City of Owen Sound and Westmount property described as LT 47 PL444: OWEN SOUND PIN 37049-0068, be declared surplus; and

That the land be valued based on the market evaluation provided by an independent realtor; and

That the Clerk be directed to provide notice of Council's intent to sell the property to the qualified tenant in accordance with the Sale of Land Procedure.

- iii. **That Report PDR-CW-16-22 regarding a proposed County Official Plan Amendment be received; and**

That the proposal proceeds to a Public Meeting to consider an amendment to the County of Grey Official Plan to re-designate a portion of the lands from the 'Rural' designation to the 'Space Extensive Commercial and Industrial - Site Specific' designation to allow for the establishment of a Landscaping Business on lands legally described as Part Lot 16, Concession 5, Registered Plan 16R10169 Part 3 (geographic Township of Derby), now the Township of Georgian Bluffs, provided the Township is prepared to hold a joint public meeting in consideration of the necessary zoning amendment requirements.

- iv. **That Report TR-CW-13-22 containing the tender results for Municipality of West Grey Contract No. 22-10119-00 be received; and**

That SMRS Construction be awarded the Grey County portion of the tender for a total amount of \$1,017,490.99 (excluding HST).

- v. **That Report TR-CW-14-22 being a report containing the tender results for City of Owen Sound Contract RFT-22-021 be received; and**

That MacDonnell Excavating Limited be awarded the Grey County portion of the tender for a total amount of \$2,517,274.60 (net HST) which includes contingency allowance.

- vi. **That Report TR-CW-15-22 be received; and**

That staff be authorized to issue the tender for two tandem trucks prior to 2023 budget approval due to delivery time;

That staff be authorized to issue the tender for two electric half ton trucks prior to 2023 budget approval due to lack of mass availability.

Carried

Items for Direction and Discussion

Councillor Boddy left the meeting at this time.

PDR-CW-14-22 CP Rail Trail Maintenance

CW64-22

Moved by: Councillor Milne

Seconded by: Councillor Thomas

That Report PDR-CW-14-22 containing existing and future rail trail funding challenges and maintenance expenses be received; and

That staff be directed to explore additional funding options for rail trail maintenance efforts; and

That staff be directed to review whether the rail trail is perceived as a safe recreational asset for non-motorized users, ensuring equitable access (i.e., cyclists, pedestrians, equestrians); and

That staff be directed to further promote this trail as a Grey County tourism amenity and look at ways to enhance awareness and overall use; and

That staff be directed to complete further data collection related to trail ridership (i.e., how many pedestrians, cyclists, ATVs, etc.).

Carried

Delegations

Medical Director's Commendation Awards

Kevin McNab introduced the paramedics who are being recognized for the Medical Director's Commendation Awards: Darren Clock, Sherry Foster, Lori Morton, Reid Milne-O'Neil, Sarah Brouwer and Jeff Adams. Every year, the Southwest Ontario Regional Base Hospital Program receives multiple nominations for the Medical Directors Awards of Commendation. The contributions that these individuals made to the COVID-19 outbreak response inside and outside Grey County's borders was worthy of recognition.

Kevin McNab provided background information, noting that a request was made in January 2021 to paramedics across Ontario to assist Windsor-Essex EMS with a COVID-19 outbreak involving migrant workers and the sheltered population. These paramedics worked in two-week rotations offering assistance and support for approximately 8 weeks, assessing and caring for Covid 19 patients, among other tasks. An outbreak in a rooming house in Grey County occurred later in the year and these paramedics assisted again without hesitation.

Kevin McNab then spoke to the mobile response team that was formed following these events. "SOS" or Supportive Outreach Service provides person centred wrap around supports. The work of the team is primarily focused on individuals who are homeless or transient and some have mental health and addictions.

Dr. Mehta, Local Medical Director, then spoke, noting that these paramedics volunteered to go outside the scope of their regular duties.

EMS Chief Bruce Krauter from Essex County then addressed Council and congratulated these paramedics. He noted the importance of sharing and growing and learning from negative situations. On behalf of the community of temporary farm workers and Windsor -Essex, he congratulated the group on their work.

Committee of the Whole recessed briefly, then reconvened.

Integrity Commissioner Annual Report – Principles Integrity

Janice Atwood-Petkovski and Jeffrey Abrams attended to provide the Integrity Commissioner Annual Report.

Janice Atwood-Petkovski addressed Council, noting that the annual report speaks to Council's conduct, as well as the role the Integrity Commissioner plays. The Integrity Commissioner assists in policy development and are available to provide training and education to Council. They also provide advice to members on conflict-of-interest matters. Further, they provide a

mechanism for the public, staff or other members of council to use if there has been a code contravention.

Ms. Atwood-Petkovski then provided an overview of the report. She noted that they have provided confidential advice to members. There were two complaints received during the year. One was out of the jurisdiction of the Integrity Commissioner and the other is still in progress.

She then spoke to the recurring themes around the Province. Of particular note is where there is an improper disclosure of closed session information. Another theme is the issue of non-disparagement/respect. This has been an area that has increased in recent years with the advent of recorded and virtual meetings. Conflict of Interest matters and questions from council are also common. A theme more present at the lower tier is the involvement of some council members in operational matters.

Questions were addressed regarding the action of condemning behaviour or comments of a council member in other municipalities. Ms. Atwood – Petkovski noted that this particular event in the Municipality of Kincardine has been in the media and it is likely this matter is being reviewed by the Integrity Commissioner. She noted that until the process is complete, Council action would be premature.

FR-CW-09-22 2022 Tax Policy

CW65-22 Moved by: Councillor Keaveney Seconded by: Councillor Desai

**That Report FR-CW-09-22 regarding 2022 property tax policy be received;
and**

**That County Council adopt the same tax ratios and subclass tax reductions
that applied in 2021 for 2022 taxation; and**

**That the necessary By-laws be drafted for Council's consideration and
approval.**

Carried

HDR-CW-09-22 Social Services Relief Fund Phase 5

CW66-22 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor Hutchinson

That Report HDR-CW-09-22 be received; and

**That the additional \$878,000 in unbudgeted Social Services Relief Fund
Phase 5 funds be approved for use in 2022, including grants to be made to
outside organizations, in accordance with the SSRF Phase 5 program
guidelines.**

Carried

TR-CW-16-22 Installation of Fibre Conduit and County Road Works

Councillor Boddy returned at this time.

CW67-22 Moved by: Councillor Clumpus Seconded by: Councillor Milne

That Report TR-CW-16-22 being a report providing an update on the possibility of installing fibre conduit within County Road allowances as part of County Road works be received; and

That this report be circulated to member municipalities for their information.

Carried

PDR-CW-15-22 Blue Meadows Information Report

CW68-22 Moved by: Councillor Soever Seconded by: Councillor Bordignon

That Report PDR-CW-15-22 regarding an overview of plan of subdivision application 42T-2022-02 on lands described as Part of Lots 40 – 44 southwest side of Arthur Street, all of Lots 40 – 44 northeast side of Louisa Street, all of Park Lots 11 & 12 southwest side of Louisa Street, Part of Park Lots 11 & 12 northeast side of Alice Street, and Part of Louisa Street, geographic Town of Thornbury, now in the Town of The Blue Mountains, be received for information.

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

CW69-22 Moved by: Councillor Soever Seconded by: Councillor Hutchinson

That Committee of the Whole does now go into closed session pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss:

- i. Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees (Recruitment update); and**
- ii. That the following staff remain in attendance: Kim Wingrove, Randy Scherzer, Jennifer Moreau and Heather Morrison.**

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session at 12:26 PM.

Council returned to open session at 12:34 PM.

The Warden confirmed that only the items stated in the resolution to move into closed session were discussed.

CW70-22 Moved by: Councillor Keaveney Seconded by: Councillor Carleton

That Tara Warder be appointed Clerk for the County of Grey effective June

1, 2022; and

That an appointment by-law be brought forward for Council's consideration.

Carried

Other Business

Councillor Desai noted that there were questions asked at the March 10th and 24th meetings for which follow up had not been received regarding statements made at previous Town of the Blue Mountain Council meetings. He provided analysis regarding taxation and assessment in the municipality relative to comments from the previous meetings.

A Point of Order was called by Councillor Bordignon and Councillor Desai. Warden Hicks ruled on each.

Clerk Heather Morrison noted that Warden Hicks has provided written notice for a leave of absence. He will be on leave until after the June 2nd provincial election due to his candidacy. For the duration of his absence, Deputy Warden McQueen will act as chair for Council and Committee of the Whole meetings.

Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Milne and Mackey, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:54 PM to the call of the Chair.

Selwyn Hicks, Warden

Heather Morrison, Clerk