

Committee of the Whole

March 12, 2020

Grey County Council met on the above date at 10:17 AM at the County Administration Building. Warden Paul McQueen assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order with all members present except Councillor Soever. Alternate Councillor Sampson was in attendance on behalf of Councillor Soever.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Business Arising From the Minutes

CW60-20 Moved by: Councillor Desai Seconded by: Councillor Milne

Whereas, Canada's federal excise tax currently exempts 100% Canadian wines; and

Whereas, Australia has asked the World Trade Organization (WTO) to rule that this exemption is discriminatory; and

Whereas, if the WTO were to rule with Australia, Canadian wineries making 100% Canadian wine would no longer be exempt; and

Whereas, the present value of the excise exemption is \$39 million annually across Canada; and

Whereas, in the 13 years since this exemption was created, the production of 100% Canadian wine has increased by almost 30 million litres, representing an additional annual contribution of \$2.7 billion to the Canadian economy; and

Whereas, Grey County, specifically the municipalities of Meaford and Town of Blue Mountains, is home to a number of successful, award winning, boutique wineries;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved That, the County of Grey supports the excise exemption for 100% Canadian wines; and

That, the County of Grey appeals to the Federal government to ensure the exemption remains in place by reaching an agreement with Australia prior to the WTO ruling; and

That, this motion be forwarded to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; The Honourable Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition; Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois; Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada; Jo-Ann Roberts, Interim Leader of the Green Party of Canada; The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion, and International Trade; Alex Ruff, Member of Parliament for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; AMO Member Municipalities; FCM Member Municipalities; Vintner's Quality Alliance; Ontario Craft Wineries; Ontario Craft Cider Association; and

That this resolution be forwarded prior to County Council approval as per Section 25.6 b) of Procedural By-law 5003-18.

Carried

Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

The following items were requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved under Items for Discussion: a) and e)

Consent Agenda

CW61-20 Moved by: Councillor Hicks Seconded by: Councillor Burley

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.

- b. That the Economic Development and Planning Advisory Committee minutes dated February 25, 2020 be adopted as presented.**
- c. That the Health Care Funding Roles and Responsibilities Task Force minutes dated March 2, 2020 be adopted as presented.**
- d. That the Affordable Housing Task Force minutes dated March 3, 2020 be adopted as presented; and**

That the resolutions contained therein be endorsed:

- i. That Report PDR-AF-01-20 be received for information purposes; and**

That the Report be shared with member municipalities in Grey County for their information.

Carried

Items for Direction and Discussion

PDR-CW-17-20 Municipal and Growth Boundaries Planning Report

CW62-20 Moved by: Councillor Mackey Seconded by: Councillor Keaveney

That Report PDR-CW-17-20 be received for information purposes; and

That the Report be shared with member municipalities in Grey County for their information; and

That staff be directed to begin working with member municipalities, neighbouring municipalities, and neighbouring counties on identifying future growth and infrastructure needs and the challenges therein where two or more municipal boundaries are involved; and

That staff bring back a report summarizing findings and recommendations for next steps.

Carried

PDR-CW-18-20 Alfred Street West Information Report

CW63-20 Moved by: Councillor Burley Seconded by: Councillor Potter

That Report PDR-CW-18-20 regarding an overview of proposed plan of subdivision application 42T-2019-03, consisting of fifteen (15) total units - two semi-detached lots (4 units), five single-detached dwelling lots (5 units), and two, 3-unit townhouse lots (6 units), on lands described as Part of Lots 1-3, RP No. 105 (geographic Town of Thornbury) in the Town of The Blue Mountains, be received for information.

Carried

Councillors Boddy and Hicks then left the meeting.

Council recessed briefly and then resumed.

Delegations

Climate Change Action Plan

Sarah Shenstone-Harris, Climate Change & Energy Planner and Hiba Kariem, Climate Change Project Officer - ICLEI Canada

Ms. Shenstone-Harris outlined the current state of climate change globally and locally. Action can be taken to manage the impacts of climate change (adaptation) and reduce emissions that cause climate change (mitigation). She explained the role of municipalities, outlined the areas of focus and explained how to create goals, objectives and actions.

Ms. Shenstone-Harris spoke about the potential benefits to implementing a climate action plan including improved energy security, reducing energy and saving money, encouraging economic growth and green jobs through low-carbon investment, improving health and wellbeing of community members.

Council and staff then participated in a climate change exercise led by the presenters. The results of the exercise will be brought forward in a future report to Council.

HDR-CW-03-20 Housing Benefit Transfer Payment Agreement

CW64-20 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor Milne

That Report HDR-CW-03-20 regarding the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit Program Transfer Agreement be received; and

That any additional funds made available to Grey County through the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit program be approved for use in 2020; and

That staff be authorized to proceed prior to County Council approval as per section 25.6 (b) of Procedural By-law 5003-18.

Carried

SSR-CW-03-20 Ontario Works Electronic Document Management

CW65-20 Moved by: Councillor Mackey Seconded by: Councillor Paterson

That Report SSR-CW-03-20 be received; and

That the Ontario Works department adopt an Electronic Data Management system under the guidelines of the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services; and

That the contract to implement Electronic Data Management in the Ontario Works department be single sourced to Nimble Information Strategies Inc; and

That the costs of implementing Electronic Data Management, not to exceed \$59,021.50 plus HST, be provided from the Social Services General Caseload Reserve.

Carried

Councillors Hicks and Boddy then re-entered the meeting.

EDTC-CW-08-20 Local Immigration Partnership Agreement

Savanna Myers was joined by Jill Roote, Manager of Economic Development Bruce County to present the local immigration partnership report.

CW66-20 Moved by: Councillor Desai Seconded by: Councillor Carleton

That Report EDTC-CW-08-20 regarding the Local Immigration Partnership

Agreement with Bruce County be received; and

That the Warden and Clerk be authorized to enter into an agreement with Bruce County for the delivery of the Grey Bruce Local Immigration Partnership as outlined by the Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada Contribution Agreement and its schedules.

Carried

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Correspondence regarding the release of the Provincial Policy Statement

Randy Scherzer stated that the Provincial Policy Statement comes into effect May 1, 2020. He elaborated on elements being reviewed by staff. A future staff report will be coming forward for Council's consideration that will summarize staff's findings.

CW67-20 Moved by: Councillor Gamble Seconded by: Councillor Keaveney

That the correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the release of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 be received for information.

Carried

County of Haliburton Correspondence regarding a deferral or phased-in approach to Tourism Oriented Destination Signage

Kim Wingrove spoke about raising awareness about TODS signage. There are significant cost increases to businesses being proposed. There is concern in the Tourism industry about the proposed increased costs.

CW68-20 Moved by: Councillor Woodbury Seconded by: Councillor Potter

That the correspondence from the County of Haliburton regarding a deferral or phased-in approach to Tourism Oriented Destination Signage be supported.

Carried

Other Business

COVID-19 Update

Kim Wingrove provided an update on COVID-19. The Long-Term Care Committee of Management received information from the Province to enhance screening activities at long-term care homes. Jennifer Cornell indicated that anyone coming into a Grey County long-term care home will be participating in an active screening process. Visitors will be supported as necessary. Staff will diligently share information as it becomes available.

The World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a pandemic. At this point, there are no known positive cases in Grey County.

Conversations with Grey County's insurance providers for financial supports have been initiated for potential isolation or self-isolation. Provisions for full and part-time staff were discussed as well as working from home. Staff may be redeployed to support other County departments/services. Ongoing communication will be provided to all staff and Council as the situation develops.

CAO Wingrove requested Council's support in decisions to cancel or postpone events as necessary.

The provincial emergency operations centre has requested information sharing from all municipalities.

Blue Box Program

Warden McQueen mentioned changes to the blue box program. AMO will be asking municipalities to pass a resolution including a date to move from the old system to the new system.

Georgian College Marine Program

Councillor Boddy reported that a new state-of-the-art marine simulator was unveiled today at Georgian College's Owen Sound campus. Canada Steamship Lines, a division of the CSL Group, contributed \$540,000 toward the new advanced integrated simulator. Georgian College is the only educational facility in Canada that has this electronic communications system.

Notice of Motion

There were none.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Milne and O'Leary, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:24 PM to the call of the Chair.

Paul McQueen, Warden

Heather Morrison, Clerk