

Committee of the Whole

April 27, 2023

Grey County Council met on the above date at 10:18 a.m. at the County Administration Building. Councillor Eccles assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order with all members present except Councillors Nielsen, Bordignon, and the Warden. Alternate Councillor Hope attended virtually on behalf of Councillor Bordignon. Councillors Matrosovs, McQueen, and Pringle participated virtually.

Declaration of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

Dave Shorey, Executive Director of Georgian College Grey Bruce - Thank You & Student Stories

Dave Shorey presented to the Committee to share comments in thanks and reflection regarding the college's partnership with Grey County. The presenter spoke about recent partnership initiatives and the impact of those efforts and introduced college students to share their experiences.

Balaji Dhananjay spoke to the Committee about his experience in the Marine Navigation program. He thanked Grey County for contributing to his college experience through the partnership with the college.

Madison Lindsay described her desire to learn and work locally and her experience in the Practical Nursing program.

Bankole Faleye shared his interest in the marine simulator, which drew him to the college, and how the opportunities through the college have introduced him to a variety of experiences.

Dave Shorey further commented on the opportunity for post-secondary education to change lives. Members of the Committee shared comments regarding the importance of the partnership, the benefit of drawing people to the region and supporting recent graduates in finding professional opportunities and housing to remain in the area.

Heather Prescott - Provincial Changes to Uninsured Persons Program

Kevin McNab introduced the delegate and spoke about concern in the healthcare community about recent provincial changes to the uninsured person's program.

Heather Prescott presented to the Committee as the clinical lead for the SOS program and efforts to support vulnerable or marginalized individuals in the community. The presenter reported the services offered through the SOS program and described the challenges some experience in obtaining or maintaining government-issued identification, especially for those experiencing homelessness, and the impact that can have on those attempting to receive healthcare services. The presenter described the effect the provincial changes to the uninsured person's program would have to create barriers to critical services moving forward.

Melissa McCulloch shared a recent local example where several individuals lost their identification following a fire. While they could receive care under this program then, the presenter explained that supporting the residents in obtaining new identification took significant time.

Kevin McNab stressed the importance of access to preventative care and the negative impact that recent provincial changes to the uninsured person's program will have on those in marginalized or vulnerable communities accessing healthcare.

CW69-23 Moved by: Councillor Boddy Seconded by: Councillor Keaveney

WHEREAS the Ministry of Health found it desirable during the COVID-19 pandemic to establish temporary funding for healthcare providers to treat those without coverage under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP); and

WHEREAS this program improved health outcomes and reduced financial hardship or barriers to healthcare for those without insurance or with lost or expired health cards in Ontario before the ministry rescinded it as of April 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS Ontario Medical Association has voiced its concern that ending this program without consultation or a better solution for Ontario's uninsured would be detrimental to those in marginalized communities, such as people experiencing homelessness, those facing language barriers or mobility issues, or newcomers, migrant workers, and international students without coverage; and

WHEREAS removing this program without further action to reduce barriers to healthcare or requirements for obtaining a health card would disproportionately affect marginalized communities at the cost of unnecessary suffering or potential loss of human life.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Grey calls on the Ministry of Health to urgently:

- a. **Extend this program by the six months requested by the Ontario Medical Association to provide the opportunity for fulsome consultation with healthcare stakeholders; and**
- b. **Utilize this program's experience and insight to introduce a new policy that similarly reduces stigma and barriers for those without insurance to access Ontario healthcare and obtain or maintain a health card.**

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Health, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

Consent Agenda

CW70-23 Moved by: Councillor McKay Seconded by: Councillor Dickert

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.

- a. Correspondence - Minister of the Environment Conservation and Parks - Save the date - Provincial Day of Action on Litter

That the correspondence from the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks regarding a save the date for the Provincial Day of Action on Litter held on May 9, 2023, be received for information.

- b. Correspondence - MPP Rick Byers - Increases to Homelessness Prevention Support & Connecting Long-Term Care Residents to Specialized Care and Supports - April 13, 2023

That the correspondence from MPP Rick Byers regarding increases to homelessness prevention support and connecting Long-Term Care residents to specialized care and supports dated April 13, 2023, be received for information.

- c. FR-CW-10-23 - Quarterly Purchasing Report – Quarter 1 2023

That report FR-CW-10-23 regarding the quarterly purchasing report for Quarter 1 of 2023 be received for information.

- d. PDR-CW-16-23 - Tyrolean Minor Exemption Application

That report PDR-CW-16-23 be received, and

That the application for a Minor Exemption under the County's Forest Management By-law for lands legally described as Part Lot 19; Concession 1, Plan 824, Part Lot 6 and RP;16R10341 Part 3, also known as 302 Grey Road 21, in the geographic Township of Collingwood, Town of The Blue Mountains, be approved.

- e. PDR-CW-18-23 - Lora Greens Plan of Subdivision Information Report

That report PDR-CW-18-23 regarding an overview of plan of subdivision application 42T-2023-03 on lands described as Concession 10 Parts Lots 35 and 36 RP;16R3168 Parts 32 through 36 (Geographic Township of Thornbury), in the Town of The Blue Mountains, be received for information.

Carried

Items for Direction and Discussion

PDR-CW-17-23 - Plans of Subdivision and Condominium Public Meetings

CW71-23 Moved by: Councillor Carleton Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

That report PDR-CW-17-23 regarding the hosting of public meetings for plans of subdivision and condominium be received; and

That the report be shared with member municipalities within Grey County for their consideration; and

That staff be directed to inform municipalities and developers that County Council recommends a public meeting be held for new plans of subdivision and condominium, excluding condominium exemption applications and redline revisions, in the following circumstances:

- a. **Where there is a corresponding municipal application, such as a zoning by-law amendment, that the public meeting be included with the municipal public meeting for the municipal planning application(s), and**
- b. **Where there is no corresponding municipal application, that a separate public meeting be held; and**

That staff be directed to improve communications to the public with respect to the comments on plans of subdivision or condominium.

Carried

The meeting recessed and reconvened at 11:26 a.m.

Addendum to PDR-CW-11-23 - Grey County Additional Residential Unit Resource Guide (Student Project)

CW72-23 Moved by: Councillor Paterson Seconded by: Councillor Kentner

That Addendum to Report PDR-CW-11-22 regarding the University of Guelph student project entitled 'Advancing Additional Residential Units in Grey County' be received for information; and

That this report be shared with member municipalities within Grey for their information; and

That staff be directed to continue to work on additional residential unit resources which will support Grey County residents and member municipalities.

Carried

FR-CW-11-23 - 2023 Tax Policy

CW73-23 Moved by: Councillor Hutchinson Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

That report FR-CW-11-23 regarding 2023 property tax policy be received; and

That County Council reduce the tax ratio for the multi-residential property class from 1.441197 to 1.330900, which is one-quarter of the movement required to equalize the treatment of all residential classes; and

That County Council adopt all other 2023 tax ratios and subclass reductions for 2023 taxation; and

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

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

There were no closed meeting matters.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Hope and Matrosovs, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 11:57 a.m. to the call of the Chair.

Kevin Eccles, Chair

Tara Warder, Clerk