

## Committee of the Whole

March 28, 2019

Grey County Council met on the above date at 9:55 AM at the County Administration Building. Warden Selwyn Hicks assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order with all members present except Councillor Mackey. Councillor Greig was in attendance on behalf of Councillor Mackey.

## Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

CW72-19      Moved by: Councillor McQueen      Seconded by: Councillor Desai

**That the Committee of the Whole agenda be amended to permit the Grey County Federation of Agriculture delegation to present ahead of the Notice of Motion regarding farm tax decreases under Business Arising.**

Carried

The required two-thirds majority was received to move the Delegation ahead of Business Arising.

## Delegation

## Hugh Simpson, President and Mike Ryan, Past President – Grey County Federation of Agriculture

Hugh Simpson, President of Grey County Federation of Agriculture, provided background information on agriculture in Grey County.

Mike Ryan, Past President of Grey County Federation of Agriculture, discussed farm taxation. He advised that MPAC farmland assessments have increased significantly. He noted that this is a shift in the tax burden to farm owners. He noted that the Federation is seeking reasonable farm tax rate increases. He suggested the farm tax rate of 0.225 be considered in 2019.

Ben Lefort from Ontario Federation of Agriculture noted that the MPAC assessments are phased in over four years. The increases each year build on increases from the previous years. 2019 is year three of the four year assessment period. He noted the Federation is asking to slow the increase for one year and reassess the rate in 2020.

Discussion occurred on residential tax rates. It was noted that MPAC assessment values are based on land sale prices. It was noted that the farm house is valued separately at the full residential rate.

Discussion occurred on provincial responsibilities. Ben Lefort confirmed that the Ontario Federation of Agriculture advocates to the Province for municipal funding.

## Business Arising From the Minutes

CW73-19      Moved by: Councillor McQueen      Seconded by: Councillor Desai

**Whereas 2019 is the third year of a four year assessment period;**

**And Whereas the average farm assessment will have increased 70% over the four year assessment period;**

**And Whereas staff are currently preparing a tax policy report for the April 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting for consideration; and**

**Now Therefore be it resolved that consideration be given to reducing the farm tax rate under 25% of the residential rate in the tax policy report.**

Carried

## Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved under Items for Discussion.

## Consent Agenda

CW74-19      Moved by: Councillor Burley      Seconded by: Councillor Clumpus

**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 minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee meeting dated March 11, 2019 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted as presented.**
- ii. That the minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Advisory Committee meeting dated March 13, 2019 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted as presented.**
- iii. That the Ministry of Training, Colleges and University correspondence dated March 7, 2019 regarding the Rural Ontario**

**Municipal Association conference delegation be received for information.**

- iv. **That the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing correspondence and media release dated March 20, 2019 regarding investment to improve service delivery and efficiency be received for information.**

Carried

## Items for Direction and Discussion

### PDR-CW-19-19 Development Charge Deferral Requests and Potential Changes to the Development Charges By-laws – Owen Sound

CW75-19      Moved by: Councillor Boddy      Seconded by: Councillor O’Leary

**That staff be directed to prepare development charges deferral agreements with Sound Lifestyles Ltd. for the Ninth Avenue Estates development and with Barry’s Construction for the Strathcona Apartment development with payment of the County’s Development Charges being deferred until time of occupancy permit for the first unit, subject to the developments receiving the necessary approvals under the Planning Act; and**

**That staff be directed to prepare a development charges background report outlining potential changes to the development charges by-law that would encourage construction of purpose built rental housing, secondary units, and residential construction by non-profit housing organizations, and that would give consideration to any changes that the Province may be making to the Development Charges Act to encourage more affordable housing.**

Carried

The Committee recessed briefly and then reconvened.

## Closed Meeting Matter

CW76-19      Moved by: Councillor Boddy      Seconded by: Councillor Milne

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

- a. **litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board (*Land Claims*); and**

**That all staff remain in attendance.**

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session at 11:26 AM.

Council returned to open session at 12:12 PM.

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

## TR-CW-05-19 Award of RFT-TS-08-19 Pavement Marking on Grey County Roads – Owen Sound, Southgate, West Grey, and Grey Highlands

*CW77-19* Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor Soever

**That Report TR-CW-05-19 regarding the tender award recommendations for RFT-TS-08-19 Pavement Marking on Grey County Roads be received and that the tender be awarded to 2228977 Ontario Inc. o/a RanN Maintenance in the amount of \$340,643.66, excluding taxes.**

Carried

## TR-CW-07-19 Road Widening Acquisition Plan – Grey Road 40 - Chatsworth

*CW78-19* Moved by: Councillor Keaveney Seconded by: Councillor Milne

**That Report TR-CW-07-19 regarding the acquisition of road widening be received and that the property identified as Part of Lot A Concession 2 being Part 6 Plan 16R-9099; Geographic Township of Sullivan, Township of Chatsworth, County of Grey be acquired by The Corporation of the County of Grey; and**

**That Grey County's Acquisition of Land Procedure No. G-GEN-003-002 be waived in respect of this acquisition; and**

**That Staff be directed to present a final offer of \$5,275.00, which is in excess of Grey County's Acquisition of Land Procedure by \$2,500.00; and**

**That Staff be directed to proceed with the road acquisition prior to County Council approval as per Section 25.6 b) of the Procedural By-Law in order to allow for a timely acquisition of Part 6 Plan 16R-9099.**

Carried

## TR-CW-08-19 Adopt A Road Program

*CW79-19* Moved by: Councillor Hutchinson Seconded by: Councillor Bartnicki

**That Report TR-CW-08-19 be received and that the updated Adopt A Road Procedure MS-TS-002 and the updated Adopt A Road Program Permit for Organizations and Groups be approved; and**

**That the Director of Transportation Services be delegated signing authority and that this revision be included in the next Delegation of Duties Policy update.**

Carried

The Committee recessed and then reconvened.

Councillor Boddy left the meeting during the break.

## CCR-CW-04-19 Accountability and Transparency Policy Update

*CW80-19* Moved by: Councillor Clumpus Seconded by: Councillor Burley

**That Report CCR-CW-05-19 be received and Council endorse G-GEN-005 being the Accountability and Transparency Policy; and**

**That G-GEN-005-001 being the Accountability and Transparency Procedure 2008 be rescinded as it is now contained within the updated Policy; and**

**That a By-law be brought forward for Council's consideration.**

Carried

## CCR-CW-05-19 Council Staff Communications Protocol Policy

*CW81-19* Moved by: Councillor Carleton Seconded by: Councillor Gamble

**That Report CCR-CW-05-19 be received and that G-GEN-015, being the Council-Staff Communication Protocol Policy be endorsed.**

Carried

## HDR-CW-05-19 Policy for Short Term Loans for Affordable Builds by Non Profits

*CW82-19* Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor Hutchinson

**That Report HDR-CW-05-19 be received and that the short-term loan policy be endorsed.**

Carried

## CAOR-CW-05-19 Update on Regional Skills Training, Trade, and Innovation Center, 'Sydenham Campus'

*CW83-19* Moved by: Councillor Bartnicki Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

**That Grey County Council receive report CAOR-CW-05-19 Update on Regional Skills Training, Trades, and Innovation Centre, 'Sydenham Campus', and;**

**That staff be directed to negotiate a single source consulting contract with the Dr. James Doran to undertake industry and partnership consultations and provide updated business plan scenarios based on revenue opportunities; and**

**That project funding, not to exceed \$25,300 plus HST, be provided from the Economic Development – Initiatives reserve.**

Carried

## Other Business

Councillor McQueen inquired about a Policy regarding the naming of County Roads. The Clerk confirmed there is such a Policy, which she will circulate.

## Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

## Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Milne and Burley, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 1:33 PM to the call of the Chair.

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Selwyn Hicks, Warden

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Heather Morrison, Clerk