

March 4, 2014

Grey County Council met at the call of the Warden on the above date at 10:00 a.m. at the County Administration Building. The County Clerk called Council to order and Warden Brian Milne assumed the Chair.

The Warden invited members of Council to join him in prayer or observe a moment of silent reflection.

The Roll was called by the Clerk with all members present except Councillors Barfoot and McKinlay.

Lance Thurston, Chief Administrative Officer, Sharon Vokes, County Clerk/Director of Council Services and Heather Morrison Deputy Clerk/Records Manager were also in attendance.

The following staff members were in attendance for the presentation of their respective reports:

Kevin Wepler, Director of Finance; Rod Wyatt, Director of Housing; Lynne Johnson, Director of Long Term Care; Barbara Fedy, Director of Social Services; Geoff Hogan, Director of Information Technology; Grant McLevy, Director of Human Resources; Michael Kelly, Director of Transportation Services; Mike Muir, Director of Emergency Medical Services and Scott Taylor, Senior Planner.

Medical Officer of Health Dr. Hazel Lynn was also in attendance.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Anderson declared a pecuniary interested related to resolutions TAPS29-14 and TAPS30-14 related the approval of NextEra Energy Entrance permits and East Durham Wind Transmitter, Cargo and Road Occupancy Agreements.

Adoption of Minutes

CC29-14 Moved by: Councillor Burley Seconded by: Councillor McKay

THAT the minutes of the February 4, 2014 Session of Grey County Council be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Retirement Presentation

Mr. Otto Beckman was presented with a retirement gift by Warden Milne. Mr. Beckman started with the County in May of 2000 and has been the Bridge Crew Foremen for the past 14 years. On behalf of County Council, Warden Milne expressed his appreciation and wished Mr. Beckman well in his retirement.

Communications and Correspondence

The Clerk presented correspondence and recommendations for its disposition as follows:

- County of Lambton opposing the requalification of municipal building officials
- United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria opposing mandatory on-site septic system inspections
- Township of Southgate supporting Grey County's resolution requesting the Province implement a permanent program to fund local infrastructure
- Township of Georgian Bluffs supporting Grey County's resolution requesting the Province implement a permanent program to fund local infrastructure
- Note of thanks:
 - Expression of Sympathy-Marcia Smith (Social Services) in passing of mother-in-law
 - Ian Bentley for retirement gift
 - Georgian Bay Children's Choir for Honorarium for Inaugural performance

Received for information

CC30-14 Moved by: Councillor Haswell Seconded by: Councillor McQueen

THAT the disposition of Council correspondence as recommended by the Clerk be approved.

Carried

Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion was given by Councillor Eccles related to rural post offices and the downsizing and potential closing of these facilities.

Councillor Pringle provided a notice of motion related to bringing the federal government back to the table regarding social and affordable housing.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous meeting.

Deputation

Library Review

CAO Lance Thurston presented an overview regarding a County Library Feasibility Review that was recently presented to the Corporate Services Committee at its February 11, 2014 meeting. Mr. Thurston high-lighted the consultations that have taken place to date, the barriers identified, legislated governance structure as well as the various library board structures throughout Grey County.

Mr. Thurston then spoke about the service options for library collaboration including a county-wide integrated library system, county support to local library boards and a purchase of service from neighbouring counties. He noted that there is a requirement to have at least two-thirds of the municipalities interested in operating a county-wide library system before any changes could be made. Mr. Thurston then touched on the factors necessary to continue a review of a county-wide library system. He noted that it is staff's recommendation that the County not pursue the issue further at this time.

Questions and comments followed.

Presentation and Adoption of Reports

Corporate Services Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee.

CC31-14 Moved by: Councillor McQueen Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

THAT resolution CS23-14 regarding updates to the purchasing policy and procedures be pulled from the February 11, 2014 minutes and voted on separately.

Councillor McQueen requested a recorded vote.

In favour: D. Burley 5, W. Fitzgerald 6, P. McQueen 5, K. Maskell 3, D. Haswell 8, A. Wright 8, E. Anderson 6, K. Eccles 6, J. Bell 6..

Opposed: B. Pringle 4, T. McKay 3, B. White 3, F. Richardson 6, H. Greenfield 5, B. Milne 3, N. Jack 3

The motion Carried 53 to 27.

CC32-14 Moved by: Councillor McQueen Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

THAT resolution CS23-14 regarding the updates to the purchasing policy be amended to require council's approval for all awards greater than \$100,000.

Lost

Council then voted on resolution CS23-14 as originally presented.

Councillor McQueen requested a recorded vote.

In favour: B. Pringle 4, T. McKay 3, D. Burley 5, W. Fitzgerald 6, K. Maskell 3, B. White 3, F. Richardson 6, H. Greenfield 5, A. Wright 8, B. Milne 3, N. Jack 3, E. Anderson 6, K. Eccles 6, J. Bell 6.

Opposed: P. McQueen 5, D. Haswell 8.

The motion Carried 67 to 13.

CC34-14 Moved by: Councillor Anderson Seconded by: Councillor Jack

THAT the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee dated February 11, 2014 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.

Carried

CAOR-CC-03-14 County Library Services, Facilitating a Local Dialogue

Mr. Thurston provided an overview of the above noted report.

CC35-14 Moved by: Councillor Anderson Seconded by: Councillor White

WHEREAS at its meeting on February 11, 2014 the Corporate Services Committee endorsed Report CAOR-CS-01-14 of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) recommending that Grey County not proceed further with a collaborative county library feasibility study;

AND WHEREAS the Committee requested the CAO to prepare a report on the cost and resource implications of facilitating discussions between lower tier municipalities and their library boards toward a county-wide solution;

NOW THEREFORE County Council hereby receives Report CAOR-CC-03-14 of the Chief Administrative Officer for information.

Carried

CAOR-CC-04-14 Centre Grey Hospital Brief to Minister Matthews

Mr. Thurston spoke to Report CAOR-CC-04-14.

CC36-14 Moved by: Councillor McQueen Seconded by: Councillor Jack

THAT Grey County Council hereby endorses the Brief to the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, entitled Centre Grey Hospital Replacement, dated March 4, 2014 and requests a meeting with the Minister to review and approve the long-promised replacement of the aging Centre Grey Hospital in Markdale with a new facility designed to meet the current and emerging rural health care needs of the regions, and direct her staff to expedite completion of the project in association with Grey Bruce Health Services;

AND THAT staff provide a copy of the brief to the Minister in advance of the proposed meeting.

Carried

Deputations Continued

Long-Term Care

Director of Long-Term Care Lynne Johnson provided an overview of a “Colour It” program currently being implemented in Grey County’s long-term care facilities. Ms. Johnson high-lighted how the “Colour It” philosophy is used to support Grey County values and principles within County-owned long-term care facilities.

Ms. Johnson along with Administrators Jennifer Cornell, Renate Cowan and Karen Kraus spoke to various projects the long-term care facilities that provide opportunities for residents, staff and community members.

Transportation and Public Safety Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee. A friendly amendment was made to the minutes deleting the sentence “No additional staffing will be needed.”

Councillor Anderson had declared a pecuniary interested earlier in the meeting and did not participate in discussion related to resolutions TAPS29-14 and TAPS30-14 related to wind turbine agreements.

CC37-14 Moved by: Councillor Greenfield Seconded by: Councillor Burley

THAT the minutes of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee dated February 20, 2014 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as amended and engrossed in the minutes.

Carried

Social Services Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Social Services Committee.

CC38-14 Moved by: Councillor McQueen Seconded by: Councillor Bell

THAT the minutes of the Social Services Committee dated February 12, 2014 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.

Carried

Planning and Community Development Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Planning and Community Development Committee.

CC39-14 Moved by: Councillor Anderson Seconded by: Councillor Maskell

THAT the minutes of the Planning and Community Development Committee dated February 18, 2014 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.

Carried

By-Laws

CC40-14 Moved by: Councillor Wright Seconded by: Councillor Jack

THAT By-Laws 4843-14 and 4844-14 be introduced and that they be taken as read a first and second time and that Council go into Committee of the Whole on these By-Laws.

Carried

Councillor Maskell assumed the Chair in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Councillor McKay, Committee arose and Council resumed with Warden Milne in the Chair.

CC41-14 Moved by: Councillor Pringle Seconded by: Councillor Burley

THAT the following By-Laws as passed in Committee of the Whole be taken as read for a 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.

4843-14 A By-law to authorize the Warden and Clerk to execute a funding agreement between the Corporation of the County of Grey and the Ministry of Education for the provision of child care, social services and family support programs

4844-14 A By-law to adopt a policy to guide the procurement of goods and services for the County of Grey

Carried

Business on Motion

CC42-14 Moved by: Councillor Pringle Seconded by: Councillor Wright

WHEREAS the Honourable Linda Jefferies, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has identified that federal funding for housing is declining along with a long-term commitment to address the affordable housing needs of the country;

AND WHEREAS if Ottawa does not change course, social housing providers across Ontario will see a \$1.3 billion decrease in federal funding over the next ten years;

AND WHEREAS Ontario does not receive its fair share of federal funding for housing and homelessness either on a basis of population or core housing need;

AND WHEREAS with the decline of federal support, there is a real risk that tenants may lose their homes and make it increasingly challenging to help 627,000 families in danger of losing their homes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Grey urges the federal government to continue funding long term social and affordable housing for the country's most vulnerable residents.

Carried

CC43-14 Moved by: Councillor Eccles Seconded by: Councillor McQueen

WHEREAS postal services and delivery is a key piece of infrastructure for rural Ontario;

AND WHEREAS an accessible or local service is key to community vibrancy;

AND WHEREAS local access to postal service is important to rural economic development;

AND WHEREAS in rural Ontario, local postal service centres are integrated with other important commercial centres in small urban centres;

AND WHEREAS the actions over the past two years indicate that our federal government has slowly but in a calculated way been extracting itself of a constitutional responsibility;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Grey request that the Government of Canada strike an all-party committee to investigate the direction of postal service in all of Canada;

AND THAT a freeze be put in place on the downsizing of postal service until said report is delivered;

AND THAT the Members of Parliament serving Grey County be circulated on this letter.

Carried

Good News and Celebrations

Council was apprised of good news and celebrations occurring within the County.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Pringle, Council adjourned at 12:18 p.m. to the call of the Warden.

Council closed with the singing of O Canada.

Brian Milne, Warden

Sharon Vokes, County Clerk