



Minutes
Council meeting
Municipality of West Grey

Tuesday, November 5, 2024, 9 a.m.
West Grey municipal office, council chambers and virtual

Members present: Mayor Kevin Eccles
Deputy Mayor Tom Hutchinson
Councillor Scott Foerster
Councillor Doug Hutchinson
Councillor Joyce Nuhn
Councillor Geoffrey Shea
Councillor Doug Townsend

Staff present: Michele Harris, Chief Administrative Officer
Jamie Eckenswiller, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Geoff Aitken, Director of Infrastructure and Public Works
Kodey Hewlett-Mowbray, Corporate and Community Initiatives Officer
Ashley Noble, Communications Coordinator
Krista House Langdon, Legislative Services Coordinator

1. Call to order

Mayor Eccles called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Moment of reflection

Mayor Eccles called for a moment of reflection.

3. Declarations of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof

3.1 Deputy Mayor Hutchinson - Delegation from The Care Committee Re: Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni Fundraising Hockey Game

Deputy Mayor Hutchinson declared a conflict with agenda item 4.1 - delegation from The Care Committee Re: Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni Fundraising Hockey Game, as he is one of the organizers of the event.

4. Delegations/presentations

Having declared a conflict of interest with item 4.1, Deputy Mayor Hutchinson left the council chambers at this time.

4.1 Janice Daize, The Care Committee Re: Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni Fundraising Hockey Game

Don Tremble, The Care Committee, provided an overview of The Care Committee's plan to bring a Toronto Maple Leafs alumni team to Durham for a fundraising hockey event; monies raised will support local schools.

The Care Committee is seeking Council's support through the waiving of venue rental and associated fees. The event will require the use of Durham Community Centre's kitchen, hall, and arena, with an estimated rental value of approximately \$1,500.

Staff advised council that the budget for community grants had been expended for 2024.

Deputy Mayor Hutchinson returned to council chambers at this time.

4.2 Daniel Segal, Segal Construction Re: Municipal Housing Development

At the request of the delegate, this delegation was deferred to the November 19, 2024, meeting.

5. Public meetings

There were no public meetings.

6. Comment period

There were no comments.

7. Unfinished business

There was no unfinished business.

8. Adoption of minutes

8.1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 15, 2024

8.2 Minutes of the Public Council Meeting held on October 15, 2024

8.3 Minutes of the Special Council (Budget) Meeting held on October 22, 2024

R-241105-001

Moved by Councillor Townsend

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

"THAT the minutes of the regular Council meeting and the public planning meeting held on October 15, 2024, and the special Council meeting held on October 22, 2024, be adopted."

Carried

9. Committee and board reports

9.1 Minutes of the West Grey Public Library Board meetings held on June 12, 2024 and September 11, 2024

9.2 Minutes of the Saugeen Municipal Airport Commission meeting held on October 9, 2024

9.3 Minutes of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority meeting held on September 19, 2024

R-241105-002

Moved by Councillor Foerster

Seconded by Councillor Shea

"THAT the minutes of the committees and boards are hereby received."

Carried

10. Correspondence

10.1 Correspondence received for which direction of council is required

There was no correspondence for which direction of Council was required.

10.2 Correspondence received which is presented for the information of council

Mayor Eccles relinquished the chair to speak to the following motion. Deputy Mayor Hutchinson took the chair.

R-241105-003

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

“THAT in consideration of correspondence received from the Township of Southgate and the Town of the Blue Mountains respecting Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program, Council directs staff to send a letter of support for the resolution to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Transportation; the Minister of Infrastructure; the Minister of Agriculture; the Minister of Rural Affairs; the Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response; the Minister of Health; Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; and Good Roads.”

Carried

Mayor Eccles reclaimed the chair.

R-241105-004

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

“WHEREAS there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding on the streets in our cities, large and small, urban and rural, across Ontario. The time for words is over, we need immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023 and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023; and

WHEREAS the province has provided additional funding and supports, such as the recent investment of \$378 million for HART Hubs and approximately 375 beds with wraparound supports, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and

WHEREAS municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and WHEREAS this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and

WHEREAS there is no provincial lead focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of West Grey supports the SolvethCrisis.ca Campaign; and

Calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially; and

THAT the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority; and

Appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports; and

THAT the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan; and

THAT this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis; and

THAT the federal government is included in these conversations; and

THAT both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted; and

THAT this Council calls on the residents of the Municipality of West Grey to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting SolveTheCrisis.ca and showing your support; AND further,

THAT a copy of this motion be sent to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions; Alex Ruff, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; Rick Byers, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; and Ontario's Big City Mayors."

Carried

R-241105-005

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

"THAT council receives all correspondence not otherwise dealt with."

Carried

11. Staff reports

11.1 Corporate and Community Initiatives Officer

11.1.1 Community Services - Durham Town Hall Park Naming Request

The Corporate and Community Initiatives Officer provided an overview of the report.

R-241105-006

Moved by Councillor Townsend

Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

"THAT in consideration of staff report 'Community Services – Durham Town Hall Park Naming Request', Council forgoes renaming Durham Town Hall Park to 'Durham 150 Park'."

Carried

11.1.2 Community Services - Riverside Park Trail - Motorized Use Update

The Corporate and Community Initiatives Officer provided an overview of the report.

R-241105-007

Moved by Councillor Foerster

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

"THAT in consideration of staff report 'Community Services – Riverside Park Trail – Motorized Use Update', Council directs staff to proceed with allowing motorized use (snowmobile only) on the section of trail between Riverside Park and Douglas Street."

Carried

11.2 Director of Infrastructure and Public Works

11.2.1 IPW-2024-39 - Request for Compensation - Water Damage

The Director of Infrastructure and Public Works provided an overview of the report.

R-241105-008

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

"THAT in consideration of staff report 'IPW-2024-39 – Request for Compensation-Water Damage', council forgoes granting the request by William Bishop for compensation for water damage at his property."

Carried

11.3 Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

11.3.1 2024 Procedural Bylaw Update

The Director of Legislative Services/Clerk provided an overview of the report.

R-241105-009

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Foerster

"THAT in consideration of staff report '2024 Procedural Bylaw Update', council directs staff to bring forward a bylaw to:

- 1. Adopt an updated procedural bylaw as attached to this report; and**
- 2. Repeal bylaw 16-2021."**

Carried

11.3.2 Coral-Lea Drive Renaming Request Follow-up

The Director of Legislative Services/Clerk provided an overview of the report.

R-241105-010d

Moved by Councillor Shea

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

"THAT in consideration of staff report 'Coral-Lea Drive Renaming Request Follow-up', Council forgoes renaming 'Coral-Lea Drive' to 'Watson Drive'."

Defeated

R-241105-011
 Moved by Councillor Townsend
 Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

“THAT in consideration of staff report ‘Coral-Lea Drive Renaming Request Follow-up’, Council directs staff to bring forward a bylaw to rename ‘Coral-Lea Drive’ to ‘Watson Drive’.”

Carried

12. Questions

Councillor Hutchinson inquired about road safety initiatives specific to Durham Road East, and if the installation of a stop sign could be considered as an interim measure until sidewalks are installed.

13. Bylaws

13.1 Bylaw No. 2024-087 - Confirming November 5 Meeting

13.2 Bylaw No. 2024-088 - Declare Lands in the Geographic Town of Durham Surplus to the needs of West Grey

13.3 Bylaw No. 2024-089 - ZA29.2021 Wideman

13.4 Bylaw No. 2024-090 - Stop up and close municipal road allowance being PT 5 of Unnamed Street on Plan 16R-12134, PT of PIN 37318-0550

R-241105-012
 Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson
 Seconded by Councillor Townsend

'THAT Bylaw Numbers 2024-087, 2024-088, 2024-089, and 2024-090 be passed and enacted.'

Carried

14. New business

There was no new business.

15. Announcements

Councillor Nuhn recognized the work of Mary Lou Pfeffer for her detailed coverage of the recent bridge open house in the Hanover Post.

Councillor Forester advised that the Neustadt Craft Show was well attended, with just under 1,500 people attending. Councillor Foerster also noted that the Halloween event held in October was very successful despite the weather.

Councillor Townsend advised that the poppy campaign continues at the Legion. Remembrance Day is on November 11, 2024, and there will be a service at cenotaph in Durham at 11:00 am.

Councillor Townsend advised that the South Bruce Grey Hospital will host a community engagement session at the Durham Community Centre on November 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. and that registration is requested.

Mayor Eccles advised that the Ontario Health Coalition is campaigning across Ontario to protest the way rural and northern healthcare is happening and the attack on the public health care system. The group will be at the Durham Town Hall on November 27, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. with their trojan horse campaign. The campaign will be in Chesley on November 26.

Mayor Eccles thanked staff and volunteers for their work on another fantastic craft show in Neustadt, and recognized the Neustadt Lions Club on a successful pork and kraut dinner.

16. Closed session

Council recessed at 10:09 a.m. and reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

R-241105-013

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Foerster

"THAT council now moves into closed session to consider:

- a. Minutes of the closed session of the regular Council meeting held on August 13, 2024;**
- b. Minutes of the closed session of the special Council meeting held on October 17, 2024;**
- c. One matter regarding personal matters about identifiable individuals, and labour relations or employee negotiations respecting a municipal department."**

Carried

17. Report from closed session

Mayor Eccles advised that in closed session, council discussed:

- Minutes of the closed session of the regular Council meeting held on August 13, 2024;
- Minutes of the closed session of the special Council meeting held on October 17, 2024; and
- One matter regarding personal matters about identifiable individuals, and labour relations or employee negotiations respecting a municipal department, and no direction was given.

18. Adjournment

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Mayor Eccles adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

Mayor Kevin Eccles

Jamie M. Eckenswiller, Clerk