

**Minutes**  
**Council meeting**  
**Municipality of West Grey**

**Tuesday, December 3, 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  
 Kerri Mighton, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
 Karl Schipprack, Director of Community and Development Services/CBO  
 Geoff Aitken, Director of Infrastructure and Public Works  
 Rob Martin, West Grey Chief of Police  
 Nicole Heber, Environmental Officer  
 Ashley Noble, Communications Coordinator  
 Krista House Langdon, Legislative Services Coordinator

**1. Call to order**

Mayor Eccles called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**2. Moment of reflection**

Mayor Eccles called for a moment of reflection.

**3. Declarations of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Delegations/presentations**

**4.1 Steve Furness, Grey County, and Luigi Presta, ThinkCOMPASS Re: Saugeen Municipal Airport**

Steve Furness, Grey County and Luigi Presta, ThinkCOMPASS, provided a delegation regarding the development potential of the Saugeen Municipal Airport and identified the lands that are considered to have the best potential for commercial or industrial development.

It was noted that successful development of the site would require support from partner municipalities, and Council was asked to consider a two-year commitment to support investment attraction efforts (in partnership with the Municipality of Brockton and the Town of Hanover). A commitment by member municipalities would give the County time to work with the province, funders, and potential investors to maximize the airport's development potential and bring the lands online.

**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 Special Council (Budget) Meeting held on November 12, 2024**

**8.2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 19, 2024**

**8.3 Minutes of the Public Council Meeting held on November 19, 2024**

R-241203-001

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Foerster

**"THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on November 12, 2024, and Regular and Public Council meetings held on November 19, 2024, be adopted."**

**Carried**

**9. Committee and board reports**

**9.1 Minutes of the Saugeen Mobility Board Meeting held on June 28, 2024**

**9.2 Minutes of the West Grey Public Library Board Meeting held on October 9, 2024**

**9.3 Minutes of the Durham BIA Meeting held on September 25, 2024**

**9.4 Minutes of the Durham BIA Meeting held on October 23, 2024**

**9.5 Minutes of the West Grey Police Services Board Meeting held on September 10, 2024**

R-241203-002

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

**"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**

R-241203-003

Moved by Councillor Townsend

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

**"THAT in consideration of correspondence received from the Municipality of Leamington and Howick Township respecting OPP detachment billing increases, Council directs staff to send a letter requesting funding for municipalities with municipal police services to offset cost increases associated with municipal police services to Premier Doug Ford; the Solicitor General; the MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen**

**Sound; all municipalities served by municipal police services; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)."**

Carried

R-241203-004

Moved by Councillor Nuhn

Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

**"THAT in consideration of correspondence received from various municipalities respecting the redistribution of the provincial land transfer tax and GST to municipalities to support infrastructure projects, Council directs staff to send a letter of support for the resolutions to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Premier Doug Ford; the Minister of Finance; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; the MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM); and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)."**

Carried

R-241203-005

Moved by Councillor Townsend

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

**"THAT in consideration of correspondence received from Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) respecting the cessation of winter operations at Durham Upper Dam to prevent structural failure and ensure public safety, Council directs staff to send a letter to SVCA expressing concerns over the decision to discontinue winter operations at the Durham Upper Dam; and further**

**THAT the letter be sent to the Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks; the Minister of Natural Resources; and all SVCA member municipalities."**

Carried

R-241203-006

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Foerster

**"THAT Council receives all correspondence not otherwise dealt with."**

Carried

Council recessed at 10:22 a.m. and reconvened at 10:33 a.m.

## **11. Staff reports**

### **11.1 Director of Community and Development Services/CBO**

#### **11.1.1 Proposed Tower Antenna Installation – Multiple Locations**

The Director of Community and Development Services/CBO provided an overview of the report.

R-241203-007

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

**"THAT in consideration of staff report 'Proposed Tower Antenna Installation – Multiple Locations', Council directs staff to provide a letter of concurrence to the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (IESDC) regarding the proposed telecommunication tower installation at the following locations:**

- i. **262130 Concession Rd. 18, in the geographic township of Normanby, in the Municipality of West Grey;**
- ii. **494137 Baptist Church Rd., in the geographic township of Glenelg, in the Municipality of West Grey; and**
- iii. **503668 Grey Rd. 12, in the geographic township of Glenelg, in the Municipality of West Grey."**

**Carried**

### **11.1.2 2024 Q3 Building Department Activities**

The Director of Community and Development Services/CBO provided an overview of the report.

R-241203-008

Moved by Councillor Shea

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

**"THAT in consideration of staff report '2024 Q3 Building Department Activities', Council receives the report for information purposes."**

**Carried**

### **11.1.3 West Grey Police Services Building Update**

The Director of Community and Development Services/CBO provided an overview of the report.

R-241203-009

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

**"THAT in consideration of staff report 'West Grey Police Services Building Update', Council receives the report for information purposes."**

**Carried**

## **11.2 Director of Infrastructure and Public Works**

### **11.2.1 IPW-2024-37 Blue Box Transition Update**

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

R-241203-010

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Foerster

**"THAT in consideration of staff report 'IPW-2024-37 – Blue Box Programs Update', Council receives the report for information purposes."**

**Carried**

## **11.3 Director of Finance/Treasurer**

### **11.3.1 West Grey 2024 Non-Core Asset Management Plan Update**

The Director of Finance/Treasurer provided an overview of the report.

R-241203-011

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

**"THAT in consideration of staff report 'West Grey 2024 Non-Core Asset Management Plan Update', Council approves the West Grey 2024 Non-Core Asset Management Plan as presented."**

**Carried**

#### **11.4 Director of Legislative Services/Clerk**

##### **11.4.1 2025 Council Appointments to the Committee of Adjustment**

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

R-241203-012

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Shea

**"THAT in consideration of staff report 'Council Appointments to Committee of Adjustment', Council directs staff to bring forward a bylaw to appoint all members to the Committee of Adjustment."**

**Carried**

##### **11.4.2 2026 Election Voting Method**

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

R-241203-013

Moved by Councillor Nuhn

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

**"THAT in consideration of staff report '2026 Election Voting Method', Council directs staff to bring forward a bylaw to authorize internet and telephone voting as the voting method for the 2026 municipal and school board election."**

**Carried**

##### **11.4.3 Request to Purchase Municipal Lands (Lambton St. E. and Kincardine St. N.)**

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

R-241203-014

Moved by Councillor Foerster

Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

**"THAT in consideration of staff report Request to Purchase Municipal Land on Lambton St. E. in the Geographic Town of Durham, Council:**

- 1. Declares the 1.93-acre parcel to be surplus to the needs of the Municipality;**
- 2. Directs staff to obtain a survey of the surplus lands;**
- 3. Directs staff to proceed with the sale of the subject lands through a tender process; and**

**4. Directs staff to establish a minimum bid amount based on the appraised value of the subject lands."**

**Carried**

**12. Questions**

Councillor Hutchinson asked for an update regarding the Durham Hospital. Staff advised that the judicial review was heard on November 13, 2024, and a decision is expected to be rendered before the end of 2024.

Councillor Shea asked about snow removal in downtown cores following major snowfall events. Staff advised that clearing roads is the priority, followed by sidewalk snow removal.

**13. Bylaws**

**13.1 Bylaw No. 2024-096**

"A bylaw to confirm the proceedings of the public and regular meetings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of West Grey."

**13.2 Bylaw No. 2024-097**

"A bylaw to govern the proceedings of Council and committees."

**13.3 Bylaw No. 2024-098**

"A bylaw to amend the Municipality of West Grey Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw No. 37-2006, as amended, as it relates to ZA20.2024."

**13.4 Bylaw No. 2024-099**

"A bylaw to amend the Municipality of West Grey Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw No. 37-2006, as amended, as it relates to ZA23.2024."

**13.5 Bylaw No. 2024-100**

"A bylaw to amend the Municipality of West Grey Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw No. 37-2006, as amended, as it relates to ZA26.2023."

**13.6 Bylaw No. 2024-101**

"A bylaw to amend the Municipality of West Grey Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw No. 37-2006, as amended, as it relates to ZA19.2024."

**13.7 Bylaw No. 2024-102**

"A bylaw to repeal West Grey Communications Strategy Bylaw 52-2020 for the Corporation of the Municipality of West Grey."

R-241203-015

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Shea

**"THAT Bylaw Numbers 2024-096, 2024-097, 2024-098, 2024-99, 2024-100, 2024-101, and 2024-102 be passed and enacted."**

**Carried**

**14. New business**

There was no new business.

**15. Announcements**

Councillor Nuhn advised that she attended the inaugural Grey County Economic Development Symposium on November 21, 2024. Speakers included the former Mayor of Stratford, and representatives from Bruce Power, ThinkCOMPASS, and Georgian College.

Deputy Mayor Hutchinson advised that a very limited number of tickets are still available for the Toronto Maple Leafs alumni hockey game, which will take place in Durham on December 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available at various locations throughout West Grey.

Councillor Hutchinson advised that the Durham bridge lighting will take place on December 3, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. and the Durham Santa Claus Parade will take place on December 7, 2024, starting at 12:30 p.m.

Mayor Eccles advised that the inauguration of a new Warden for Grey County would be taking place on the evening of December 3, 2024.

Mayor Eccles thanked community volunteers for the successful tree lighting and activities in Elmwood on November 24, 2024.

Mayor Eccles advised that Moreston by Candlelight at Grey Roots Museum will take place on December 7 and 14, 2024, from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Eccles advised that the Holstein non-motorized Santa Claus Parade will take place on December 14, 2024, starting at 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Eccles thanked municipal staff for their snow clearing efforts over the past several days.

Mayor Eccles advised that a free hot meal and live entertainment will be available at the Durham Community Center on Christmas Day, starting at 1:00 p.m.

**16. Closed session**

There was no closed session.

**17. Report from closed session**

There was no closed session.

**18. Adjournment**

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Mayor Eccles adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

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Mayor Kevin Eccles

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Jamie M. Eckenswiller, Clerk