

Minutes
Council meeting
Municipality of West Grey

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 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
 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 interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Delegations and presentations

4.1 Delegation from Rose Austin Re: Saugeen Connects 2024 Year in Review

Rose Austin, Saugeen Economic Development Corporation, provided a delegation regarding Saugeen Connects' 2024 Year in Review.

Ms. Austin advised that Saugeen Connects is a collaborative initiative, comprised of the Saugeen Economic Development Corporation and several member municipalities, including West Grey, that supports regional economic growth and development.

5. Public meetings

There were no public meetings.

6. Comment period

There were no public comments.

7. Adoption of minutes

7.1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 18, 2025

7.2 Minutes of the Public Council Meeting held on February 18, 2025

R-250304-001

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Foerster

"THAT the minutes of the regular Council meeting and the public planning meeting held on February 18, 2025, be adopted."

Carried

8. Committee and board reports

8.1 Minutes of the West Grey Public Library Board Meeting held on January 8, 2025

8.2 Minutes of the SMART Board Meeting held on January 17, 2025

8.3 Minutes of the SVCA Board Meeting held on January 17, 2025

8.4 Highlights of the Grey County Council Meeting held on February 13, 2025

8.5 Minutes of the Saugeen Municipal Airport Board Meeting held on February 19, 2025

8.6 Minutes of the Durham BIA Board Meeting held on February 24, 2025

R-250304-002

Moved by Councillor Shea

Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

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

Carried

9. Correspondence

9.1 Correspondence received for which direction of Council is required

9.1.1 Autism Ontario Re: World Autism Day Proclamation 2025

R-250304-003

Moved by Councillor Shea

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received from Autism Ontario respecting a request to proclaim April 2, 2025, as World Autism Day, Council proclaims April 2, 2025, as World Autism Day."

Carried

9.1.2 Durham BIA Re: Request for Board Appointment

R-250304-004

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received from the Durham Business Improvement Area Board respecting a request to appoint a member to the Durham BIA Board, Council appoints Nancy Nurse to the Durham BIA Board for the remainder of the 2022-2026 term, effective immediately."

Carried

9.1.3 Reflections Festival Fundraiser Re: Noise Exemption Permit Request (May 16-19, 2025)

R-250304-005

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Nuhn

“THAT in consideration of correspondence received from Kevin Lawson, co-founder of the Reflections Festival respecting a noise bylaw exemption request, Council directs staff to bring forward a report respecting the request for a noise exemption.”

Carried

9.2 Correspondence received which is presented for the information of Council

R-250304-006

Moved by Councillor Townsend

Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

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

Carried

10. Staff reports

10.1 Director of Community and Development Services/CBO

10.1.1 Animal Control Officer - MSS Contract

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

R-250304-007

Moved by Councillor Shea

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

"That in consideration of staff report 'Animal Control Services Contract – Municipal Support Services' Council:

- 1. Authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Municipal Support Services for animal control services; and**
- 2. Direct staff to bring forward a bylaw to amend the fees and charges bylaw to increase dog tags by \$5.00 per tag effective April 1, 2025."**

Carried

10.2 Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

10.2.1 Delegation of Authority to Appoint Municipal Law Enforcement Officers

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

R-250304-008

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Townsend

"THAT in consideration of staff report 'Delegation of Authority to Appoint Municipal Law Enforcement Officers, Council direct staff to bring forward a bylaw to delegate Council's authority to appoint municipal law enforcement officers to the Clerk."

Carried

11. Questions

Councillor Foerster asked for an update related to a motion passed at the Council meeting held on March 19, 2024, which declared Neustadt industrial park lands as surplus to the Municipality and directed staff to proceed with disposal. Staff advised that the process is moving forward, albeit slowly, due to the time required to confirm surveys and prepare the appraisal.

Councillor Foerster asked for an update related to a motion passed at the Council meeting held on December 5, 2023, which directed staff to work with a developer regarding the creation of a potential new subdivision at 451 Durham Road West. Staff advised that a report will be brought forward at an upcoming meeting.

12. Motions for which notice was previously given

There were no notices of motion for which notice was previously given.

13. Notices of motion

There were no notices of motion.

14. Announcements

Mayor Eccles advised that the Trinity Lutheran Church in Ayton will hold their annual pancake supper on March 4, 2025.

Mayor Eccles advised that the Neustadt and District Lions Club hosted a successful chicken wing dinner on March 1, 2025.

15. Closed session

There was no closed session.

16. Report from closed session

There was no closed session.

17. Bylaws

17.1 Bylaw No. 2025-014

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

17.2 Bylaw No. 2025-015

"A bylaw to provide for the indemnification and defence of current and former employees, members of local boards, and members of Council against loss or liability in certain circumstances arising out of acts or omissions done while acting on behalf of the Corporation."

17.3 Bylaw No. 2025-016

"A bylaw to amend the Municipality of West Grey Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw No. 37-2006, as amended, as it relates to ZA10.2024."

17.4 Bylaw No. 2025-017

"A bylaw to designate lands as a site plan control area."

17.5 Bylaw No. 2025-018

"A bylaw to authorize the conveyance of lands legally described as PT BLK 72 PL 1097 PTS 4, 8, 9 PL 16R-12167; S/T BE 20524; WEST GREY being PIN 37215-0063 PT LT 20 CON 10 NDR PTS 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 PL 16R-12167; PT BLK 66 + 67 PL 1097 PTS 1, 2, 5, 6 PL 16R-12167; S/T BE 20524; WEST GREY being PIN 37216-0052 in the geographic Township of Bentinck to the Canadian Lemkos Association in exchange for Part 1, Part of block 60 PL 1097, PL 16R-12048, being part of PIN 37215-0064 in the geographic Township of Bentinck."

17.6 Bylaw No. 2025-019

"A bylaw to provide for the delegation of Council's authority to appoint municipal law enforcement officers."

R-250304-009

Moved by Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson

"THAT Bylaw Numbers 2025-014, 2025-015, 2025-016, 2025-017, 2025-018, and 2025-019 be passed and enacted."

Carried

18. Adjournment

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Mayor Eccles adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Kevin Eccles

Jamie M. Eckenswiller, Clerk