



**Minutes
Council meeting
Municipality of West Grey
Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 6 p.m.
Virtual meeting**

Council members present: Mayor Christine Robinson, Deputy Mayor Tom Hutchinson, Councillor Beth Hamilton, Councillor Doug Hutchinson, Councillor Geoffrey Shea, Councillor Stephen Townsend

Council member regrets: Councillor Rebecca Hergert

Staff members present: CAO/Deputy Clerk Laura Johnston, Director of Administration/Clerk Genevieve Scharback, Director of Infrastructure and Public Works Vance Czerwinski, Recreation Supervisor Kodey Hewlett, Director of Finance/Treasurer Kerri Mighton, Director of Development/CBO Karl Schipprack, Manager Planning & Development Lorelie Spencer, Legislative Coordinator Lindsey Glazier

1. Call to order

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2. Moment of reflection

Mayor Robinson called for a moment of reflection.

3. Declaration of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof

None.

Staff outlined how to join the meeting using Zoom meeting software or by telephone, as well as, how to contact staff for assistance for technical issues during the meeting.

4. Delegations / presentations

4.1 Michael Knowlton, West Grey resident - Concession 2 WGR - Enbridge gas

Mr. Knowlton presented concerns of residents of Concession 2 WGR with respect to the installation of the Enbridge Gas line. Concerns included, property damage, loss of privacy, issues with noise, dust, inconvenience and safety. Concerns were also noted regarding ditches, business losses, decreases in property values, and environmental concerns related to nearby waterways. Concerns regarding poor communication from the municipality and Enbridge were raised. Mr. Knowlton shared suggestions from residents on how to rectify the situation and improve future communication.

Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Knowlton for his presentation. She advised that staff will bring a forward a report to the March 16, 2021 council meeting addressing the points in Mr. Knowlton's letter.

4.2 Andy McKee, President of the Board and Mandi Lamb, Mentoring Coordinator, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grey Bruce - Programming

Mr. McKee informed council that Big Brother Big Sister Grey Bruce has expanded their services and informed council on ways in which the municipality can support the organization. Ms. Lamb outlined the programs that Big Brother Big Sister Grey Bruce offer, the benefits of the program and positive outcomes and statistics for participants in the program. Mr. McKee and Ms. Lamb responded to questions from council.

Mayor Robinson thanked them for their informative presentation.

4.3 Michelle Stein, Chair and Bill Noll, Vice-chair, Protect Our Waterways - No Nuclear Waste - Proposed nuclear waste repository - 6:35 p.m.

Ms. Stein shared the history of the nuclear industry in Canada focusing on the possible Deep Geologic Repository (DGR) proposed for the Municipality of South Bruce. She reviewed the selection process and concerns regarding this repository being located under farmlands. She highlighted potential risks associated with having a DGR and the transportation of nuclear waste. Ms. Stein asked for support from council for the Protect Our Waterways - No Nuclear Waste mission. Ms. Stein and Mr. Noll answered questions from council.

Mayor Robinson thanked them for their informative presentation.

5. Closed session

None.

6. Matters arising from the closed session.

Not applicable.

7. Public Meeting

None.

8. Comment period

Staff outlined the process for members of the public to participate in the comment period using Zoom meeting software or by telephone.

Margaret Krauter, West Grey resident, requested council bring forward a report regarding Concession 2 WGR prior to the March 16, 2021 council meeting.

9. Adoption of minutes

9.2 February 2, 2021, council meeting

Resolution: 103-2021

Moved: Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded: Councillor Hamilton

That council hereby adopts the minutes of the special council meeting of January 27, 2021, as circulated and the minutes of the regular council meeting of February 2, 2021, as amended.

Disposition: Carried

10. Committee and local board minutes and reports

10.1 West Grey Police Services Board correspondence

Resolution: 104-2021

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded: Councillor Townsend

That council receives the West Grey Police Services Board resolution wherein the West Grey Police Services Board supports Council's approval of the proposed design for the new Police Building.

Disposition: Carried

11. Miscellaneous correspondence

11.1 Items for information

11.1.1 Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association - Update

11.1.2 Daniel Levitan, Vice President, Stakeholder Relations, Hydro One - Relief for residential customers and small businesses

11.1.3 Dale Ahrens, Chair, Elmwood and District Chamber of Commerce - Elmwood Resource Centre

11.1.4 Perth County - Significant negative impacts of current value assessments in Perth County

The director of finance/treasurer confirmed that the Municipality of West Grey is not impacted to the extent as with Perth County.

11.1.5 Township of Baldwin - Ontario Fire College

Council directed that a motion of support be included in the next agenda regarding the Township of Baldwin's Ontario Fire College Gravenhurst closure.

Resolution: 105-2021

Moved: Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded: Councillor Hamilton

That all correspondence items not otherwise dealt with are hereby received.

Disposition: Carried

14. Communications from the mayor and council

Council members shared updates regarding activities and reported on past activities and events since the last regular meeting of council and on upcoming events and activities.

CAO Johnston informed council that the Municipality of West Grey has entered into the yellow zone of the provincial colour framework after the stay-at-home order was lifted. With COVID restrictions still in place, the West Grey municipal office will be opening to the public on February 22, 2021 at reduced hours from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Staff continue to work with Public Health regarding opening recreation facilities. The West Grey Public Library will continue to provide curbside pickup until the end of February.

15. Business arising from the previous meeting

None.

Council recessed at 7:56 p.m. and reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

16. Staff reports

16.1 Fire Chief

16.1.1 Health and Safety Report Fire Station No. 2, 179 George Street West, Durham

Resolution: 106-2021

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded: Councillor Hutchinson

That council receives report Health & Safety Report: Fire Station #2, 179 George Street West, Durham for information

Disposition: Carried

16.2 Chief Building Official

16.2.1 2020 Year End Building Activity

Resolution: 107-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Councillor Townsend

That CBO report – 2020 Q4 Building Department Activity be received for information.

Disposition: Carried

16.3 Director of Finance/Treasurer

16.3.1 Approval of Accounts - Voucher 26-2020 and 3-2021

Resolution: 108-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

That council approves voucher No. 26-2020 in the amount of \$119,143.34 and voucher No. 3-2021 in the amount of \$606,019.02.

Disposition: Carried

16.3.2 2021 Capital Budget Project Approval

Resolution: 109-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Councillor Shea

That the request for council to approve the 2021 capital budget for the Municipality of West Grey to a maximum of 50% of the 2020 budget for the specific project, police vehicles for \$65,500, be deferred until such time that a recommendation from the police board is received with regards to this purchase.

Disposition: Defeated

Resolution: 110-2021

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

Seconded: Councillor Hutchinson

That council approves the 2021 capital budget for the Municipality of West Grey to a maximum of 50% of the 2020 budget for the specific project:

Police Vehicles \$65,500.

Disposition: Carried

16.4 Recreation Supervisor

16.4.1 Hydro One Building Safe Communities Grant

Resolution: 111-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Councillor Hutchinson

That council directs staff to apply for the Hydro One Building Safe Communities Grant for community garden improvements in Durham, Neustadt, Ayton and Elmwood.

Disposition: Carried

17. Bylaws

17.1 10-2021 - Confirm the proceedings of council

Resolution: 112-2021

Moved: Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hutchinson

That bylaw 10-2021, being a bylaw to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of West Grey, be read a first, second and third and final time.

Disposition: Carried

18. New business

18.1 Support for Municipality of Grey Highlands re Municipal Insurance Rates

Resolution: 113-2021

Moved: Councillor Townsend

Seconded: Councillor Hamilton

The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of West Grey hereby supports the resolution of The Municipality of Grey Highlands dated January 22, 2021 wherein they call on the Province of Ontario to review the seven recommendations of AMO to investigate the following municipal insurance issues, as insurance premiums will soon be out of reach for many communities:

1. The provincial government adopt a model of full proportionate liability to replace joint and several liability.
2. Implement enhancements to the existing limitations period including the continued applicability of the existing 10-day rule on slip and fall cases given recent judicial interpretations and whether a one-year limitation period may be beneficial.
3. Implement a cap for economic loss awards.
4. Increase the catastrophic impairment default benefit limit to \$2 million and increase the third-party liability coverage to \$2 million in government regulated automobile insurance plans.
5. Assess and implement additional measures which would support lower premiums or alternatives to the provision of insurance services by other entities such as nonprofit insurance reciprocals
6. Compel the insurance industry to supply all necessary financial evidence, including but not limited to, premiums, claims and deductible limit changes which support its own and municipal arguments as to the fiscal impact of joint and several liability
7. Establish a provincial and municipal working group to consider the above and put forward recommendations to the Attorney General; and

That this motion be provided to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Attorney General of Ontario, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound and all municipalities in Ontario.

Disposition: Carried

18.2 Notice of motion - eSCRIBE training

Resolution: 114-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Councillor Shea

Whereas the Municipality of West Grey uses eSCRIBE online platform to manage aspects of council and committee meetings;

Whereas eSCRIBE has a variety of features, only some of which West Grey subscribes to and utilizes;

Therefore be it resolved that staff book a presentation from eSCRIBE for council and that staff report on the vote manager module, the public comments module, and any other features which may be of interest to council and staff.

Disposition: Carried

18.3 Notice of motion - Bruce Grey Food Charter

Resolution: 115-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Councillor Shea

Whereas the Bruce Grey Food Charter is a guiding document to assist in the development of policies and programs to promote a healthy and just food system in Grey and Bruce Counties;

Whereas the Charter is a commitment to work together to build a vibrant, sustainable, food secure community;

Whereas a sustainable local food system will prioritize health, social justice, education, economic development, the environment, and culture;

Whereas community leaders can use a charter to define the food, water, and agriculture goals for Grey Bruce and guide decision-making;

Whereas the Food Security Action Group of the Bruce Grey Poverty Taskforce invites organizations to endorse the Charter;

Therefore be it resolved that West Grey Council accepts and endorses the Bruce Grey Food Charter; that the Organizational Endorsement be signed and submitted to Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force; and that this resolution be circulated to: Bruce and Grey counties and municipalities, MPP Walker, MPP Lisa Thompson, West Grey Public Library, Durham Foodbank, and School boards in Bruce & Grey Counties.

Disposition: Carried

18.4 Notice of motion - West Grey Emergency Management Group reporting to council

Resolution: 116-2021

Moved: Councillor Shea

Seconded: Councillor Townsend

Be it resolved that the West Grey Emergency Management Group reports to council on March 16, 2021 with an overview of its roles and responsibilities, including the scope of decisions it makes and the role of council in decision making in a state of emergency.

Disposition: Carried

18.5 Notice of motion - Remote participation for members of council

Mayor Robinson transferred the chair to Deputy Mayor Hutchinson at n 9:26 p.m. She requested that this motion be separated into two separate questions.

Resolution: 117-2021

Moved: Councillor Hamilton

Seconded: Councillor Townsend

That the motion regarding that members of council continue to participate remotely in all council and committee meetings be amended by adding "until such time that all of council can safely attend in council chambers pursuant to public health guidelines and the emergency management group determine it is safe to hold meetings in the council chambers."

Mayor Robinson requested a recorded vote.

	For:	Against:
Councillor Hamilton	X	
Councillor Hutchinson	X	
Deputy Mayor Hutchinson	X	
Mayor Robinson	X	
Councillor Shea	X	
Councillor Townsend	X	

Disposition: Carried

Resolution: 118-2021**Moved:** Councillor Shea**Seconded:** Councillor Hutchinson

Whereas West Grey staff and council are seeking to minimize interpersonal contact during the COVID pandemic; Be it resolved that all members of council will continue to participate remotely in all council and committee meetings until such time that all of council can safely attend in council chambers pursuant to public health guidelines and the emergency management group determine it is safe to hold meetings in the council chambers.

Mayor Robinson requested a recorded vote.

	For:	Against:
Councillor Hamilton	X	
Councillor Hutchinson	X	
Deputy Mayor Hutchinson	X	
Mayor Robinson	X	
Councillor Shea	X	
Councillor Townsend	X	

Disposition: Carried

Deputy Mayor Hutchinson transferred the chair to Mayor Robinson at 9:57 p.m.

22. Question period

Staff outlined the process for members of the public to participate in question period. There were no questions from the public.

Staff clarified various points raised by Councillor Hutchinson and Councillor Shea.

23. Municipal act - notices

None.

24. Adjournment**Resolution: 119-2021****Moved:** Deputy Mayor Hutchinson**Seconded:** Councillor Hamilton

That we do now adjourn at 10:04 p.m., to meet again on February 23, 2021 at 9 a.m. or at the call of the chair.

Disposition: Carried

Mayor Christine Robinson

Clerk Genevieve Scharback