



Municipality of West Elgin

Minutes

Council Meeting

April 8, 2021, 9:30 a.m.

Electronic Participation Meeting via Zoom

Present:
Mayor D. McPhail
Deputy Mayor R. Leatham
Councillor T. Tellier
Councillor A. Cammaert
Councillor B. Rowe

Staff Present:
M. Badura, CAO/ Treasurer
J. Nethercott, Clerk
L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services
Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief
Bryan Pearce

Also Present:
S'rana Scholes, Blumetric
Brenda Slater, MPAC
Chris Leys, West Elgin Nature Club
Julie Gonyou, Secretary-Administrator Elgin Group Police Services Board
Sally Martyn, Chair Elgin Group Police Services Board
Ida McCallum, Vice Chair Elgin Group Police Services Board
Mike Baker, Elgin County
Rick McFadden, Port Glasgow Yacht Club

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and physical distancing requirements this meeting was held electronically.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Duncan McPhail called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2021- 105

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

That West Elgin Council hereby adopts the Agenda as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures

4. Timed Delegations

4.1 9:30 am: S'rana Scholes, Blumetric - Landfill Monitoring Report

S'rana Scholes presented the 2020 Landfill Monitoring Report to Council. Blumetric is suggesting a new landfill survey be completed to confirm the estimated life expectancy of the landfill, which currently sits at 20 years.

4.2 10:00 am: Brenda Slater - MPAC

Brenda Slater presented to Council information on the Municipal Property Tax Classifications of West Elgin. The current assessed value for 2021 of properties in West Elgin sit at \$990.8 million, based on the Current Value Assessments that were last updated in 2016.

4.3 10:30 am: Chris Leys - Proposal for Rodney Lagoon

Chris Leys of the West Elgin Nature Club presented some information on the current naturalization level of the Rodney Lagoon and hopes that this lagoon can have some improvements made to the naturalized areas. Sam Smith, OCWA stated that the lagoon is a working lagoon and therefore subject to restrictions by the Ministry of Environment, however as the work progresses to de-sludge the lagoon OCWA would be doing their best to mitigate any issues to the naturalized areas and would take into consideration the suggestions for improvements once the project is completed.

Council recessed at 10:53 a.m. and reconvened 11:00 a.m.

4.4 11:00 am: Julie Gonyou & Sally Martyn, Elgin County - OPP Board Representation

Council received a presentation from Sally Martyn, Chair Elgin Group Police Services Board, Julie Gonyou, Secretary-Administrator Elgin Group Police Services Board and Ida McCallum, Vice Chair Elgin Group Police Services Board regarding any changes wanted in the representation on the Elgin Group Police Services Board. Ms. Gonyou is to report back to Council on recommendations from other partner municipalities.

Council recessed at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 11:38 a.m.

5. Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 2021- 106

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Leatham

That the Minutes of the Council meeting on March 25, 2021 be adopted as circulated and printed.

Carried

6. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

7. Staff Reports

7.1 Fire

7.1.1 J. McArthur, Fire Chief - Fire Safety Grant

Resolution No. 2021- 107

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief; and

That Fire Chief be approved to sign the Transfer Payment Agreement as shown in the by-law portion of the agenda; and

That West Elgin Council hereby approves the proposal for spending the funds provided.

Carried

7.2 Planning

7.2.1 B. Pearce, Planner - Severance Applications E16-21 to E19-21 – Comments to County of Elgin

Resolution No. 2021- 108

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Leatham

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Bryan Pearce regarding the severance applications, File E16-21 to E19-21; North Part Lot 6, Concession 7; Part Lots 2 and 11, Plan 202;

And that West Elgin Council hereby recommends approval of the Land Division Committee of the County of Elgin for the severance application, File E16-21, subject to the Lower-Tier Municipal conditions in Appendix Two of the staff report;

And that West Elgin Council hereby recommends approval of the Land Division Committee of the County of Elgin for the severance application, File E17-21, subject to the Lower-Tier Municipal conditions in Appendix Three of the staff report;

And that West Elgin Council hereby recommends approval of the Land Division Committee of the County of Elgin for the severance application, File E18-21, subject to the Lower-Tier Municipal conditions in Appendix Four of the staff report;

And that West Elgin Council hereby recommends approval of the Land Division Committee of the County of Elgin for the severance application, File E19-21, subject to the Lower-Tier Municipal conditions in Appendix Five of the staff report;

And further that West Elgin Council directs Administration to provide this report as Municipal comments to the County of Elgin.

Carried

7.2.2 B. Pearce, Planner - Initial Draft of the Site Plan Control Area By-law – Preliminary Report

Resolution No. 2021- 109

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Bryan Pearce, Planner re: Initial Draft of the Site Plan Control Area By-law – Preliminary Report;

And that West Elgin Council directs Administration to publicize the draft by-law with Stakeholders and on the Municipal website for public engagement opportunities until April 30, 2021, in order to bring a final draft of the Site Plan Control Area By-law, for consideration of enactment at the May 13, 2021 Council Meeting.

Carried

7.3 Administration

7.3.1 M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer - Municipal Office Building Renovations

Resolution No. 2021- 110

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer re: Municipal Office Building Renovations; and That L360 Architecture be retained to provide the necessary design development, construction and permit drawings required to comply with all applicable provincial codes, legislation, and standards. In addition, that L360 Architecture provide all the services to the Municipality of West Elgin as set out in their March 12, 2021 fee proposal in the amount of \$27,000.00 excluding HST; and

That CAO/Treasurer be directed to sign the proposal agreement.

Carried

Council recessed at 12:50 p.m. and reconvened at 1:01 p.m.

. Timed Delegations

4.5 1:00 pm: Mike Baker, Elgin County - Request for Rodney Library Mural

Mike Baker, Elgin County presented the idea of a cycling themed mural to be painted by a local artist on a metal sheet that has special anti graffiti coating and is affixed to the Rodney Library. Prior to the chosen design

being commissioned, it will be presented to Council. Elgin County Libraries were presented with a bequest and are being used to fund a series of murals throughout Elgin County on or near cycling routes. Mr. Baker shall return to Council once an agreement has been drawn up for all participating municipalities in Elgin County.

4.6 1:30 pm: Port Glasgow Yacht Club - Request to Conduct Maintenance

Rick McFadden, Vice President of the Port Glasgow Yacht Club presented the idea of the Yacht Club completing some minor maintenance on Municipal property around the Yacht Club. Council requested that staff draw up an agreement to outline terms of the maintenance and any conditions required such as proof of insurance and approvals from conservation authority.

8. Committee and Board Report

8.1 Councillor Reports from Committees

None.

9. Accounts

Resolution No. 2021- 111

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

That the Mayor and Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign Payment Voucher #4 amounting to \$1,784,245.34 in settlement of General, Road, Water and Arena Accounts including EFT#3754-3817, online Payments# 650-660, cheque# 25671-25693 and Payroll PP06.

Carried

10. Council Inquires/Announcements

10.1 Notice of Motion

None.

10.2 Statements/Inquires by Councillors

None.

10.3 Matters of Urgency

None.

11. Waiver of Fee Requests

Resolution No. 2021- 112

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That West Elgin Council agree to waive the rental fees for the Rodney Shufflers and Carpet bowlers for two (2) half day rentals, pending availability, for the calendar year 2021.

Carried

12. Correspondence

12.1 Elgin County - Council Highlights March 23, 2021

12.2 Elgin County Land Division - Notices of Decision

12.3 Canada Post - Request to support Canada Post Expanded Services

12.4 Owen Sound - Municipal Insurance Rates

Resolution No. 2021- 113

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council, in consideration of correspondence received from Owen Sound, respecting the support of the resolution of West Grey respecting Municipal Insurance Rates does hereby approve supporting the request that the Province of Ontario review the seven recommendations of AMO to investigate the 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 imitation 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 non-profit 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.

Carried

12.5 Kingsville - Resolution re: Bill C-21

Resolution No. 2021- 114

Moved: Deputy Mayor Leatham

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council, in consideration of correspondence received from the Town of Kingsville, respecting Bill C-21, specifically Amendment 26 Section (58.01(1-8), Conditions-by-law, does hereby support the following:

Whereas municipalities have never been responsible for gun control laws in Canada;

And Whereas law abiding residents who own legal handguns have already been thoroughly vetted through CFSC, PAL and ATT applications;

And Whereas illegal gun owners and smugglers do not respect postal codes;

And Whereas if one municipality enacts a ban and not a neighbouring municipality, this will create a patchwork of by-laws;

And Whereas a municipal ban would be difficult to enforce and easy to get around;

Now Therefore the Municipality of West Elgin is opposed to the adoption of any by-laws restricting the possession, storage and transportation of legally obtained handguns

And Be It Further Resolved that this resolution be sent to MP Karen Vecchio, Premier of Ontario The Honourable Doug Ford and the Town of Kingsville.

Carried

12.6 Municipality of Calvin - Paid Sick Days

Resolution No. 2021- 115

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council, in consideration of correspondence received from the Municipality of Calvin, respecting universal sick days for employees, does hereby support the following:

Whereas workers in Ontario without paid sick leave often feel forced to work when unwell so they can feed and support their families and are at risk of losing a paycheque or even their jobs if they stay home; and

Whereas the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit is temporary, not accessible to all and not usable for the crucial first few days of an illness, and;

Whereas had legislated paid sick leave been in place before the global pandemic, lives would have been saved because infection rates would have been reduced, and;

Whereas the Ontario Medical Association, 11 GTHA Mayors and Chairs representing Ontario's largest municipalities, the editorial board of the Toronto Star, the Toronto Board of Health, the Decent Work and Health Network, the Ontario Nurses Association, and several other professional associations representing thousands of healthcare workers have all called on the provincial government to legislate paid sick days;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Municipality of West Elgin endorses legislated sick leave and calls on the government of Ontario to permanently legislate universal paid sick days for all workers in Ontario during the pandemic and beyond, regardless of workplace size, type of work or immigration status, and;

Be it Further Resolved that this motion be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario The Honourable Doug Ford, The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and MP Karen Vecchio.

Carried

12.7 Township of Pickle Lake - Amendments to the Elections Act

Resolution No. 2021- 116

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council, in consideration of correspondence received from the Township of Pickle Lake, respecting Amendments to the Elections Act, does hereby support the following:

Whereas elected Officials of a Municipality, or a Township are expected to be above reproach and to conduct themselves with integrity, truth, justice, honesty and transparency and courtesy.

And Whereas there are people of dubious character who have a criminal record, having been convicted of a Federal Offence, of any of the Federal Statutes of Canada, but not limited to the Criminal Code or Narcotic Control Act, who are currently on Council of a municipality or have let their name stand for election for Mayor, Reeve or Councillor as a municipal candidate.

Not Withstanding the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin support the Township of Pickle Lake and Township of Conmee as they lobby the Provincial Government to amend the Municipal Act and Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record cleared from the RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada be prohibited from becoming a candidate in municipal elections.

And That an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a serious criminal offence and must resign.

Carried

12.8 E. Porter - Request to allow backyard Chickens

Council directed staff to report back at a future meeting on options for back yard chickens, along with the costs of licensing and by-law enforcement. Staff also directed to communicate this to Mr. Porter.

13. By-Laws

13.1 By-Law 2021-25 - Fire Safety Grant Transfer Payment Agreement

Resolution No. 2021- 117

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That By-Law 2021-25, being a By-law to Authorize the Execution of the Transfer Payment Agreement for the Fire Safety Grant between Her Majesty the Queen Right in Ontario represented by the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Corporation of the Municipality of West Elgin, be read a first, second and third and final time.

Carried

14. Confirming By-Law

Resolution No. 2021- 118

Moved: Deputy Mayor Leatham

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That By-Law 2021-26 being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on April 8, 2021, be read a first, second and third and final time.

Carried

15. Adjournment

Resolution No. 2021- 119

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin hereby adjourn at 1:51 p.m. to meet again at 9:30 a.m. on April 22, 2021 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Duncan McPhail, Mayor

Jana Nethercott, Clerk