



Municipality of West Elgin

Agenda

Council Meeting

Date: May 13 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Electronic Participation Meeting via Zoom

Due to COVID-19 and physical distancing requirements this meeting is being held in an alternate location to allow the public to attend. Please contact the Clerk's Department if you require an alternate format or accessible communication support or wish to receive the link to the meeting, at 519-785-0560 or by email at clerk@westelgin.net.

1. Call to Order

2. Adoption of Agenda

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby adopts the Agenda as presented.

3. Closed Session

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin Council hereby proceeds into Closed Session at _____ a.m. under Section 239 (2) (b, d & f) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* consideration will be given to personal matters about identifiable individual(s), including a municipal or local board employee(s), labour relations or employee negotiations and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

4. Report from Closed Session

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

6. Timed Delegations

- 6.1. 11:00 a.m. M. Ruddock and B. Smith, TVDSB Trustees - West Elgin Schools Discussion Follow Up**

6.2. 11:30 West Elgin Community Health Centre - Community Garden Project

7. Adoption of Minutes

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Council meeting on April 22, 2021 be adopted as circulated and printed.

8. Business Arising from Minutes

8.1. Support of Township of Archipelago Phragmites Resolution

Recommendation:

Whereas *Phragmites australis* (*Phragmites*) is an invasive perennial grass that continues to cause severe damage to wetlands and beaches in areas around the Great Lakes; and

Whereas *Phragmites australis* grows and spreads rapidly, allowing the plant to invade new areas and grow into large monoculture stands in a short amount of time, and is an allelopathic plant that secretes toxins from its roots into the soil which impede the growth of neighbouring plant species; and

Whereas *Phragmites australis* results in loss of biodiversity and species richness, loss of habitat, changes in hydrology due to its high metabolic rate, changes in nutrient cycling as it is slow to decompose, and increased fire hazard due to the combustibility of its dead stalks, and can have an adverse impact on agriculture, particularly in drainage ditches; and

Whereas invasive *Phragmites* has been identified as Canada's worst invasive plant species by Agriculture and AgriFood Canada;

Whereas the Ontario government has made it illegal to import, deposit, release, breed/grow, buy, sell, lease or trade invasive *Phragmites* under the Invasive Species Act; and

Whereas volunteers, non-governmental organizations and various municipalities have invested hundreds of dollars in investments and labour annually for more than eight years in executing management plans to control invasive *Phragmites* on roads, shorelines and in wetlands; and

Whereas roads and highways where *Phragmites* that are left untreated become spread vectors that continually risk new and treated wetlands and shoreline areas; and

Whereas according to "Invasive *Phragmites* Best Management Practices" by the Ontario *Phragmites* Working Group, best roadside management practices for *Phragmites australis* include detection, herbicide application, cutting, and re-treatment of re-growth as necessary; and

Whereas these best management practices are most effective when used in a multi-pronged approach as opposed to when used as stand-alone control measures; and

Whereas mother nature does not recognize political boundaries. Therefore, it is imperative that Municipalities, Districts, the Province and the Federal government work together in collaboration to eradicate Canada's worst invasive plant species *Phragmites australis*;

Whereas the Municipality of West Elgin has been implementing measures for eradication of Phragmites over the past 3 years, including mapping of cells along Municipal and County Roadways, applying herbicide, cutting and monitoring re-growth; and ensuring clean equipment protocols for appropriate contract tenders; and

Whereas the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has carried out some Phragmites eradication along Provincial highways, however this process has not been successful because the process has not included a program to deal with surviving plants, and also has not dealt with growth beyond the road allowance, therefore enabling fast re-growth; and

Whereas in the past there has been no approved herbicide for use in wet sites; however, in 2020 a product (Habitat Aqua) has been approved for use in areas of lying water and along waterways in Ontario;

Now Therefore be it Resolved that the Municipality of West Elgin request the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to map, treat, monitor, and eradicate re-growth of invasive Phragmites annually on all Provincial highways, including areas beyond the road allowances, where Phragmites cells extend; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) communicates that strategy on mapping (detecting sites) and controlling invasive Phragmites on provincial highways, the specific highway management plans and results by each MTO region and each highway in the region and work in coordination with the Municipality of West Elgin; and

Be it Further Resolved that the Province of Ontario designate Phragmites australis as a noxious weed under the Noxious Weed Act; and in collaboration with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Ontario Phragmites Working Group, and Ontario Municipalities, carry out a public education campaign regarding best practices in eradicating Phragmites; and if possible, develop a system of grants to support the uptake of these best practices by citizens; and

Be it Further Resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of West Elgin directs staff to send this resolution to all Municipalities in Ontario; Honourable Omar Alghabra, Minister of Transportation(Canada); Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Ontario Minister of Transport; James Corcoran, General Services Coordinator, vegetation, MTO West Region; Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs; Jeff Yurek, MPP; and Karen Vecchio MP.

9. Staff Reports

9.1. Building

9.1.1. Jackie Morgan-Beunen, CBO - Building Activity Report April 2021

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jackie Morgan-Beunen, CBO re: Building Permit Report for April 2021 for information purposes.

9.2. Fire

9.2.1. J. McArthur, Fire Chief - Monthly Report – April 2021

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief re: April Monthly Fire Report for information purposes.

9.3. Operations & Community Services

9.3.1. L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - April 2021 – Monthly Report

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services for information purposes.

9.3.2. L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - Lawn Bowling Club Veranda

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services; and

That West Elgin Council awards the contract for veranda replacement on the West Lorne lawn bowling club to Weekes Construction at a cost of \$17,860.00 plus applicable taxes.

9.3.3. L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - PGTP Pavilion Ceiling Replacement

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services; and

That West Elgin Council awards the PGTP pavilion ceiling replacement to Weekes Construction of West Lorne for the quoted amount of \$12,200.00 plus applicable tax.

9.3.4. L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - Municipal Office Roof Replacement

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services; and

That West Elgin Council awards the municipal office roof replacement to Machado's General Contracting in the amount of \$46,773.74

9.4. Planning

9.4.1. Committee of Adjustment - 1:00 p.m.

9.5. Finance/Administration

9.5.1. M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer - 2021 Water and Wastewater Rates

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Magda Badura, CAO/Treasurer regarding 2021 Water and Wastewater Rates for information purposes.

10. Committee and Board Report

10.1. Tri-County Water Board Minutes of Jan 26, 2021

10.2. West Elgin Recreation Committee - April 21, 2021

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Recreation Committee recommends to West Elgin Council that the membership to the West Elgin Recreation Committee increase to six (6) members of the public.

10.2.1. Minutes of March 17, 2021

10.3. Councillor Reports from Committees

11. Accounts

Recommendation:

That the Mayor and Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign Payment Voucher #5 amounting to \$ 929,025.75 in settlement of General, Road, Water and Arena Accounts including EFT#3838-3900, online Payments# 668-684, cheque# 25695-25708 and Payroll PP08/09.

12. Council Inquires/Announcement

12.1. Notice of Motion

12.2. Statements/Inquires by Councillors

12.3. Matters of Urgency

12.3.1. Police Services Board

Recommendation:

Whereas Mayor Sally Martyn, Chair, Elgin Group Police Services Board and Julie Gonyou, Secretary-Administrator, Elgin Group Police Services Board provided West Elgin Council with a review of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Board Composition as associated with the Community Safety and Policing Act (2022) on April 8, 2021; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin supports maintaining the current composition of the Elgin Group Police Services Board; and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chair and Secretary-Administrator of the Elgin Group Police Services Board.

13. Correspondence

13.1. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Municipal Code of Conduct Consultation

13.2. County of Elgin - Thames Sydenham Source Water Protection Committee

13.3. Karen Vecchio, Elgin-Middlesex-Lambton MP - Letter to Council re Bill 988

13.4. Township of Springwater - Clean Fuel Standard

13.5. Fort Erie - Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation

13.6. Leamington - Advocacy for Reform of Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

13.7. Chatham Kent - Time to Change MFIPPA

13.8. OPP - Billing Statement

14. By-Laws

14.1. By-Law 2021-30 - Agreement with City of St Thomas for Hazardous Waste Depot

Recommendation:

That By-law 2021-30 being a By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement between The Corporation of the City of St Thomas and The Corporation of the Municipality of West Elgin for Use of the Community Recycling Centre – Hazardous Waste, be read a first, second, third and final time.

14.2. By-Law 2021-31 - Maintenance Agreement with Port Glasgow Yacht Club

Recommendation:

That By-law 2021-31 being a By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement between The Corporation of the Municipality of West Elgin and the Port Glasgow Yacht Club governing terms and conditions of work performed on Municipal Property, be read a first, second and third and final time.

14.3. By-Law 2021-32 - 2021 Water and Wastewater Rates

Recommendation:

That By-law 2021-32 being a By-Law to Establish Rates for Municipal Water and Wastewater Services for 2021 and to repeal By-Law 2020-42, be read a first, second and third and final time.

14.4. By-Law 2021-33 - Tax Ratios

Recommendation:

That By-law 2021-33 being a By-Law to set the 2021 Transition Ratios and to Levy Taxes for the Year 2021, be read a first, second and third and final time.

15. Confirming By-Law

Recommendation:

That By-law 2021-34 being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on May 13, 2021, be read a first, second and third and final time.

16. Adjournment

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin hereby adjourn at _____ to meet again at 9:30 a.m. on May 27, 2021 or at the call of the Chair.