

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held an electronic meeting on the 17th day of March, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor Dave Besley, Councillor Margaret Mercer and Councillor James McLean were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk were also present. Mayor White presided and called the meeting to order.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Announcements

Councillor Mercer advised of two remaining programs running virtually at the Shelburne Library for March Break on Friday, March 18th and Saturday, March 19th. Staff will post those under Coming Events on the website, as well as the Facebook page.

Additions

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk – adding email received from David Thwaites regarding the budget. This had been sent to all of Council as well.

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Besley that Council approve the Agenda as amended. Carried.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Mayor White advised that disclosure of pecuniary interest can be declared at this time or anytime throughout the meeting by giving the general nature thereof and that declarations must be submitted to the Clerk in writing.

Mayor White – Declaring on Item 17.3.5 – Public Meeting – Budget for the reason that: As there has been a Notice of Libel filed by Councillor Mercer and potential subsequent legal action and some items in the budget have already been impacted or could be impacted by said action, until I can determine if a conflict exists with the advice of a legal representative I will declare a conflict.

Councillor Mercer – Declaring on Item 17.3.1 – Amendment to Township Social Media Policy for the reason that: Libel Action I am involved in.

Councillor Mercer – Declaring on Item 17.3.2 – Amendment to Procedural By-law Petitions and Communications for the reason that: Libel Action I am involved in.

Councillor Mercer declared during the meeting on Item 17.3.5 – Budget for the reason that: Litigation I am involved with.

Minutes

Moved by Besley, Seconded by McLean that Council approve the minutes of the March 3, 2022 meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

1. Email from Dina Barazza
2. Email from Vladimir Dresar
3. Email from Edmund A Graham
4. Email from Kathryn Hunt

The submissions in the Agenda package from the above persons were answered by Council and direction given to Staff to respond to all.

One question was asked from a member in attendance regarding the Asset Management Plan and where the Township stands with that.

Public Works

Nothing for this item. Craig Micks Public Works Superintendent not in attendance for the meeting.

Planning

Dufferin County Draft Land Needs Analysis Report

Chris Jones, Planning Consultant was in attendance and presented a slide deck on the Draft Land Needs Analysis Report and the following motion was passed:

Moved by Besley, Seconded by McLean that Council for the Township of Melancthon receive the Land Needs Analysis Report dated January 21, 2022 prepared for the County MCR and notes the following:

That forecasted dwelling growth of 60 dwellings would not accommodate a projected population growth of 439 to the year 2051; and,

That the supply of vacant building lots and potential development in the settlements be re-assessed to confirm that the Township is able to accommodate its growth allocation. Carried.

Other

Nothing for this.

Unfinished Business - Tripp/Serbin Planning Invoices for Zoning By-law Amendment

This item to be removed from future Planning Agendas and to be dealt with at a later date.

Climate Change Initiatives

Nothing for this matter.

Police Services Board

Nothing for this matter.

County Council Update

Mayor White updated Council on the County Council meeting held on March 10, 2022.

Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

Recommendation from Heritage Advisory Committee – March 9, 2022

Moved by Mercer, Seconded by McLean that the Council of the Township of Melancthon accepts the recommendation of the Melancthon Township Heritage Committee and supports the Heritage Plaque Application initiative. Carried.

Correspondence

Board & Committee Minutes

1. NVCA Board Meeting Highlights – March 25, 2022
2. Shelburne & District Fire Board – February 1, 2022
3. Township of Melancthon Police Services Board – December 7, 2021

Moved by Mercer, Seconded by Besley that the Board and Committee Minutes correspondence Items 1-3 be received as information. Carried.

Items for Information Purposes

1. NVCA Inventory of Programs and Services
2. Notice of Public Meeting Concerning the Township of Southgate Official Plan –
<https://www.southgate.ca/en/municipal-services/southgate-official-plan.aspx#Township-of-Southgate-New-Official-Plan- Documents>
3. Dufferin County COVID-19 Debriefing of Municipal Partners Summary Report
4. Follow up Letter from the Multi-Municipal Wind Turbine Working Group
5. Letter from Ministry of Infrastructure – Getting Ontario Connected Act, 2022
6. Letter from Upper Grand District School Board Regarding Reducing School Board Carbon Footprints
7. Melancthon 2021 Groundwater Monitoring Report
8. Ministry of Health – Living with and Managing COVID-19
9. Statement from Dr. Mercer on Local Mask Requirements
10. Wind Concerns Ontario – New Setbacks Recommended for Wind Turbines

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Besley that Correspondence Items 1-10, for information purposes, be received as information and items 4 & 10 be further discussed.

Councillor McLean spoke to Items 4 & 10 from the Agenda package regarding engaging the community and supporting these items and Mayor White advised that there has been a number of community engagements regarding these matters.

Items for Council Action

1. NDCC Board of Management Resignation Letter from Emma Holmes

Moved by Besley, Seconded by McLean that we accept, with regret, the resignation from Emma Holmes from the NDCC Board of Management and thank her for her contributions on the Board. Carried.

Staff were directed to advertise for the vacancy on the Board of Management.

General Business

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law

By-law to Provide for Advance Voting

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Besley that leave be given to introduce a By-law to provide for Advance Voting for the 2022 Municipal Election and that it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 13-2022. Carried.

New/Other Business/Additions

Duivenvoorden Cost Recovery Agreement

Moved by Besley, Seconded by Mercer that the Mayor and Clerk be directed to sign the Cost Recovery Agreement between Duivenvoorden Haulage Limited and the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon. Carried.

Horning's Mills Community Hall Rental Agreement/Price List

Discussion ensued and it was mentioned that there is nothing in the rental agreement on where people are to park. Ruth Plowright, Chair of the Board was in attendance and advised she would add that and noted that there was an error in the pricing that would be fixed. Staff were then directed to send the Draft Horning's Mills Community Hall Rental Agreement to the Township's Legal and Insurance for comment.

Email from Veterans Affairs Canada Regarding Dieppe 80th – Councillor McLean

Discussion ensued on this item and Councillor McLean will look into this further and submit an application for funds for a day of commemoration.

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022-2025

Moved by Besley, Seconded by Mercer that Council for the Township of Melancthon approves the Township of Melancthon's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022-2025 as presented. Carried.

Notice of Motion – Councillor Mercer – That the Township create a volunteer recognition program that recognizes and rewards volunteer contributions

Moved by Mercer, Seconded by McLean that the Township create a volunteer recognition program that recognizes and rewards volunteer contributions. Councillor Mercer spoke to her motion and the reasons for putting it forth. She also spoke on National Volunteer Week taking place from April 24th to 30th and the various ways the Township could recognize its volunteers. Carried.

Councillor Mercer to work with Township Staff on this program.

Covid Policies and Procedures – Vaccination Work Policy, In-person Council meetings, any other Covid changes (Councillor McLean)

Councillor McLean spoke to this matter and discussion ensued about the vaccination work policy and returning to in-person meetings. There was further discussion on a hybrid type of meeting and Staff, and Mayor White, to work together and speak to County IT on how we would set up the Council Chambers for something like this and what all equipment would be required. Staff will bring back a report to Council on the vaccination policy.

Unfinished Business

Amendment to Township Social Media Policy

Councillor Mercer declared a conflict of interest at the beginning of the meeting and was placed in the waiting room.

A memo was reviewed with some options for amendments and Staff were directed to amend the Township's Social Media policy with the following information and bring it back to the next meeting for approval:

- Statements made on any personal Social Media Platform made by a Member of Council or a Member of Staff does not necessarily reflect the position of Council or the Township.

Amendment to Procedural By-law – Petitions and Communications

Councillor Mercer declared a conflict of interest at the beginning of the meeting and was therefore left in the waiting room.

Discussion ensued on the amendment and Staff were directed to send the Section to the Township Solicitor for review and comment.

Councillor Mercer was returned to the meeting.

Full Scale Review for NDCC Agreement, Comments from Council & Cost Benefit Analysis Report

The comments submitted by Council were reviewed. Discussion then ensued about an agreement for joint ownership (50/50). Further questions regarding the financial plan for the arena, exit clauses in the Agreement, recouping our investments and a privatization model. There was no action taken on the Agreement at this time, as Staff were directed to get a legal opinion from the Township's Solicitor about the additional risks the Township assumes by taking on half ownership of the Arena, land, etc.

The Cost Benefit Analysis Report was reviewed and no action taken on it.

Staff noted that a Joint Meeting of Melancthon Council, Mulmur Council and the NDCC Board was going to take place on April 13th, 2022 in person at the NDCC (Honeywood Arena). The purpose of the meeting is to hear a presentation from Dickinson and Hicks on the Feasibility Report and Arena Assessment that they prepared.

NDCC Final 2022 Budget

Deferred pending the results of the NDCC Agreement review.

CDRC Capital Costs – Number of Melancthon Users using the facility

Deferred as there is no new information.

Township Diversity Policy

Deferred as there is no new information from the County of Dufferin on its Policy

Retaining the services of a Planner/Planning Consultant

Staff advised Council that through discussions with the County of Dufferin Building Department, WSP has agreed to review the Township's Building Permits for approval until April 14th and after April 14th, the County Planner will be reviewing and approving the Building Permits. Staff advised that they are still working on retaining a Planner to deal with the land use planning applications.

Replacement Board/Committee Council Member for the following Boards/Committee: Southgate Recreation Advisory Committee, Upper Grand Watershed Committee, Shelburne and District Fire Department, Roads Sub-Committee, Road Safety Task Force

Deferred until April 7th, 2022 when new Councillor is sworn in.

Delegations/Public Meeting

The following Delegations and Public Meetings took place during the Council meeting.

5:20 p.m. - Brenda Serbin attended Council regarding the Temporary Zoning By-law Amendment on her property, costs and expenses relating to the application/LPAT appeal and communications and timeframes for Zoning Amendment. Mr. Tripp and Ms. Serbin submitted the documentation for the Delegation, in advance of the meeting, which was posted in the Agenda package and on the website and she presented and spoke to the documentation during the Delegation. Discussion ensued during the Delegation on the planning process and the billing. Ms. Serbin advised that she would follow-up with Councillor Mercer.

6:00 p.m. – Committee of Adjustment

Moved by Mercer, Seconded by Besley that we adjourn Council to go into Committee of Adjustment and reconvene as Council. Carried.

6:20 p.m. – Council reconvened.

6:30 p.m. - Township of Melancthon Draft Budget #5 Public Meeting

Mayor White and Councillor Mercer declared a conflict of interest on the draft budget (see Declaration of Pecuniary Interest at the beginning of the minutes for the reason) and they were put in the Zoom waiting room. Deputy Mayor Besley presided as Chair and called the meeting to order. Deputy Mayor Besley opened the floor to questions on the budget. Harvey Lyon asked questions pertaining to the new grader and staff to operate the grader, use of Development Charges for loan purposes, the Markdale Hospital contribution and the paving of the 4th Line NE.

The CAO advised the email was received from David Thwaites regarding the budget and his concerns regarding the wind turbines and the paving of the 4th Line NE.

As there were no other questions, from members of the Public, the public meeting was concluded.

Moved by Besley, Seconded by McLean that Council of the Township of Melancthon accept the budget proposal which does not include the paving of the 4th Line NE for 2022. Be it further resolved that this budget will result in a tax rate increase of 3.81% and a tax rate change of .495430% for the rate payers of this municipality in the year 2022. Carried.

Staff will bring the By-law to the next meeting for adoption.

Mayor White and Councillor Mercer were returned to the meeting.

7:00 p.m. – Council Vacancy – Meet the Candidates and Questions from Council & Public to the Candidates. Mayor White provided his opening statement and announced the names of the persons who have put their names forward for the vacant Councillor position – all were in attendance.

Moved by Besley, Seconded by Mercer that the following individuals, who have signified in writing that they are legally qualified to hold office and consented to accept the office if they are appointed to fill the vacancy, be considered for appointment to fill such vacancy: Brian Dawson, Bill Neilson, Ruth Plowright and Darcy Timmins. Carried.

Each candidate was afforded the opportunity to introduce themselves to Council and to those in attendance at the meeting. Each Council member was given the opportunity to ask each candidate up to two questions, in which they had two minutes to answer.

After each candidate was finished answering their questions, Council opened the floor to questions from those in attendance at the meeting.

Mayor White thanked the candidates and advised that a Special Council meeting had been called for Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. where Council would be selecting the new Councillor. The meeting will be held in Closed Session, for the most part, and when Council rises from Closed Session, the successful candidate will be announced, and a By-law passed. The candidate will then take the Declaration of Office at the meeting on April 7th starting at 9:00 a.m.

Closed Session

9:18 p.m. - Moved by Mercer, Seconded by McLean that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reason: personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees – Application for the NDCC Board of Management Vacancy. Carried.

Rise With Report from Closed Session

9:23 p.m. – Moved by Mercer, Seconded by McLean that Council rise from Closed Session without report. Carried.

Council deferred making a decision on the application until the April 7th, 2022 Council meeting.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Besley, Seconded by Mercer that By-law 13-2022 now be read a third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed and engrossed in the By-law Book. Carried.

Notice of Motion

None for this meeting.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Mercer that leave be given to introduce a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon at its meeting held on March 17, 2022 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 14-2022. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Besley that Council adjourn this meeting at 9:26 p.m. to meet again on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK