

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held an electronic meeting on the 2nd day of March, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean, Councillor Ralph Moore, Councillor Bill Neilson and Councillor Ruth Plowright were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk were also present. Mayor White presided and called the meeting to order.

Mayor White advised that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted to the Township's website under Council Agendas and Minutes.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Announcements

Mayor White – Art Exhibit at the Museum of Dufferin on March 3rd, 2023; advised of the Dufferin County Equity Audit Report which will be publicly released tomorrow on the public County Council agenda; reminded all of the Flato Developments Open House at the Horning's Mills Community Hall on March 6, 2023 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. and advised that at the next Council meeting on March 16, 2023 at 5:20 p.m. there will be the public meeting for the Duivenvoorden aggregate planning applications.

Councillor Plowright – thanked everyone for coming to the Pancake Supper. The Board served 72 people. She advised that the Early Learning Centre is going to be using the hall once per month on Fridays and advised that there is a St. Patrick's Day Bingo Night planned for March 17th and the event will start at 6:30 p.m. The Hall Board is working on getting a full time liquor license for the Hall.

Additions

Mayor White – Wellington County Aggregate Issue

Deputy Mayor McLean – Update on Emergency Planning at the Horning's Mills Community Hall

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson 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 declared an interest on the Henderson Drainage Works Levying By-law for the reason that: I live in the catchment area of the drain and will be assessed fees as a result of the drainage report.

Minutes

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Moore that Council approve the minutes of the February 16, 2023 Council meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

None.

Public Works

Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent was in attendance for the meeting.

Accounts

Craig presented the accounts in the amount of \$107,049.30. Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright that Council receive the Public Works Accounts as presented by the Public Works Superintendent. Carried.

Other

Deputy Mayor McLean advised that the Township is looking at opportunities to find ways to reduce costs on a grader, and at the next Roads Sub-Committee meeting, someone will be coming to speak to the Sub-Committee on this matter.

Planning

Applications to Permit

There were no questions or concerns regarding the one application on the spreadsheet.

SGL Planning & Design Inc. – County MCR and Settlement Expansion Adjacent to Shelburne (Mayor White) & SGL Planning & Design Inc. – County MCR and Settlement Expansion Adjacent to Dundalk (Mayor White)

Mayor White provided an update to Council on his discussions with the Developer regarding these two properties. They are seeking a letter in support of their proposals from Council. Mayor White advised that this is in the very early stages and the proposal is very high level. Mayor White advised that Council could provide support in principle, and provide their thoughts around appropriate development, in appropriate areas, in the Township (close to urban centres) with a mix of housing, etc. Mayor White advised that he could put those thoughts on paper and circulate to Council for comment.

Other

Nothing for this.

Strategic Plan

Nothing for this.

Climate Change Initiatives

Nothing for this.

Police Services Board

Nothing for this.

Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

The following verbal reports were given:

Councillor Neilson – Upper Grand Watershed Committee – February 23, 2023

Mayor White – Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority – February 24, 2023

Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board – January 30, 2023
2. Police Service Board – October 11, 2022
3. Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex Board – November 3, 2022

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright that the Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes Items 1-3 be received as information. Carried.

Items for Information Purposes

1. Eowyn Spencer, Grand River Conservation Authority – Notification of GRCA By-law 1-2023
2. Bluewater Geoscience -2022 Monitoring Report for the Landfill
3. Letter from Bill Thompson, Project Manager, South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region – Protection of Raw Sources of Municipal Drinking Water through the Drinking Water Source Protection Program
4. Town of Deep River – Motion to Support the resolution passed by the Town of Petrolia Council regarding Ontario School Board Elections
5. Spencer Fitzpatrick, Municipal Advisor, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – 2022 Municipal Elections Statistics
6. Dufferin County Museum- Exhibition Opening Event – Our Story Past & Present – Friday March 3rd, 2023
7. Township of Ashfield–Colborne-Wawanosh – Motion regarding the Future Accuracy of the Permanent Register of Electors

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that Correspondence Items 1-7, for information purposes, be received as information. Carried.

Items for Council Action

1. Dundalk Agricultural Society - Sponsorship of the 2023 Dundalk Fall Fair

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright that Council provide a grant in the amount of \$750.00 to the Dundalk Agricultural Society for the 2023 Dundalk Fall Fair. Carried.

General Business

Accounts

Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer presented the accounts in the amount of \$95,759.68. Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright that Council receive the General Accounts as presented by the Treasurer. Carried.

Notice of Intent to Pass By-law - By-law to provide for the levying of the costs resulting from the maintenance and repair of the Henderson Drainage Works, 1975

Mayor White declared an interest on this matter for the reason that: I live in the catchment area of the drain and will be assessed fees as a result of the drainage report. Mayor White was put in the waiting room and Deputy Mayor McLean presided over this matter.

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that leave be given to introduce a By-law to provide for the levying of the Henderson Drainage Works, 1975 and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 13-2023. Carried.

Mayor White was put back into the meeting.

New/Other Business/Additions

Notice of Motion by Deputy Mayor McLean to rescind the Covid-19 Vaccination Staff Policy

Moved by McLean, Seconded by White that Council for the Township of Melancthon hereby rescinds the Covid-19 Vaccination Staff Policy, approved by Council on November 4, 2021, effective immediately. Deputy Mayor McLean spoke to his Notice of Motion and the reasoning for putting it forth. The motion was then carried.

Additions to the Agenda

Deputy Mayor McLean – Update on Emergency Planning at the Horning’s Mills Community Hall

Deputy Mayor McLean provided an update to Council on the meeting that he and the CAO had with Steve Murphy, Director of Emergency Planning at the County regarding operationalizing the Hall when an emergency is declared or otherwise. There are a few steps to work through, but the first will be putting out a call for volunteers, and then in April bring all the volunteers together and have Steve speak on the process, needs, expectations, etc., with formal training to follow. Steve thought that the County may be able to pick up the expense of this and will be putting forth a recommendation to County Council.

Mayor White – Wellington County Aggregate Issue

Mayor White advised that Wellington County appealed the assessment of its gravel pits as a result of the 2016 assessment update. It has taken a long time to get to a resolution but they won their appeal and the assessed value of its pits will be increasing. The average assessed value of gravel pits in Wellington County was \$9,000.00 per acre and now the assessed value will increase to approximately \$15,000.00/acre. Therefore, moving forward, Melancthon will likely see an increase in assessment for its gravel pits, but will not likely see anything retroactive as Melancthon did not appeal the assessments in 2016.

Unfinished Business

Melancthon Recreation Task Force Report – Further Discussion on the formulation of a Recreation Committee

Discussion ensued on the formulation of the Recreation Committee. It was decided that there would be two members from Council and five members from the community at large. The mandate of the Committee will be to implement a Strategic Plan for Recreation and Sport in and for Melancthon Residents (as recommended by the Task

Force). The first order of business will be for the new Committee to create a Terms of Reference. Mayor White will work with the CAO regarding the notice and Staff will send out the notice calling for volunteers for the Committee.

Draft 2023 Operating and Capital Budget (see Delegation – Public Meeting)

This was discussed under Delegations/Public Meetings.

Employee Cost of Living Pay Band Increase – Motion to Approve

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Moore that the Staff Report of Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer, dated February 16, 2023 be received and that Council approve the employee pay band grid increase of 4.5% effective January 1, 2023. Carried.

Delegations

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

5:30 p.m. – Nancy Neale, Watson and Associates attended the meeting and provided a presentation to Council on Development Charges and their purpose, she spoke on DC reserve funds as per the Development Charges Act, as well as the funding for growth-related capital and she answered Council's questions regarding development charges.

6:00 p.m. – Althea Ali, Dufferin County Multicultural Foundation attended the meeting and introduced herself to the new Members of Council and provided information about the organization. Ms. Ali asked Council for financial support for 2023 and that Council proclaim June 27th as Multi-cultural Day and raise the Unity in Diversity Flag for the month of June.

6:30 p.m. – Public Meeting regarding the 2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budgets

A public meeting was called to consider the 2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budgets. Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer presented and reviewed the draft budget with Council. Council opened the floor to questions. Harvey Lyon raised several questions and concerns with the draft budget. Further discussion ensued and Staff were directed to put the 15 Sideroad from Main Street – 1 km east road project back in the budget and remove the monies that were going to be put in reserves for doing the project next year, and transfer an additional \$30k from the emergency reserve to fund this project. This draft budget represents a 4.37% increase once growth has been considered. Staff were directed to bring back the required By-law to pass the budget, to the next meeting.

Closed Session

7:25 p.m. - Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that Council move into a Closed Session meeting pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reason(s): (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees – Review Applications received for the one vacancy on the Heritage Advisory Committee. Carried.

Rise With or Without Report from Closed Session

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson that we rise from Closed Session at 7:44 p.m. with Report. Carried.

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore that Council increase the size of the Heritage Advisory Committee to seven members and direct the Heritage Advisory Committee to amend the Terms of Reference at its next meeting to reflect this change. Carried.

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson that Council appoint Dennis Scace, Kristine Pedicone and Doug Read to the Heritage Advisory Committee for the term of Council. Carried.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson that By-law 13-2023 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 Plowright 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 Council meeting held on March 2, 2023 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 14-2023. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean that Council adjourn this meeting at 7:47 p.m., to meet again on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK