



Municipality of Huron East Council Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers
72 Main Street South, Seaforth, ON
Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Members Present:

Mayor: Bernie MacLellan; Deputy Mayor: Alvin McLellan; Councillors: Raymond Chartrand, Brenda Dalton, Dianne Diehl, Robert Fisher, Larry McGrath, Justin Morrison, Jeff Newell, and Gloria Wilbee

Absent:

Councillor John Steffler

Staff Present:

CAO Brad McRoberts; Clerk Jessica Rudy; Economic Development Officer Taralyn Cronin; Director of Public Works Barry Mills; and Director of Community Services Lissa Berard

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Mayor MacLellan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

For Opening Remarks Mayor McLellan noted that the Vanastra RCAF 100th Anniversary is taking place on June 8, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Mayor MacLellan provided the land acknowledgement.

3. Confirmation of the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Diehl and Seconded by Councillor Newell:

That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated June 4, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Morrison declared a Conflict of Interest in regard to item 11.1 due to being a Brussels Lions Club member.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by Councillor Diehl and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand:

That Council of the Municipality of Huron East approve the following Council Meeting Minutes as circulated:

5.1 Regular Meeting – May 21, 2024

Carried

6. Consent Agenda

There were no requests to remove any items from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McLellan and Seconded by Councillor Dalton:

That Consent Agenda items 6.1 to 6.3 be received for information and approved.

6.1 Toronto Zoo re: Regulations Related to Exotic Wild Animals Species

6.2 April Council Expenses

6.3 Administration Committee Minutes – May 13, 2024

Carried

7. Public Meetings/Hearings and Delegations

8. Planning

9. Municipal Drains

10. Reports & Recommendations of Municipal Officers

10.1 CAO-24-17, Branding & Human Resource Information System

CAO Brad McRoberts provided an overview of the report, the benefits of rebranding and the efficiencies of implementing a Human Resource Information System (HRIS). It was confirmed that both initiatives would be funded through the remaining reserves of the modernization funding.

Moved by Councillor Newell and Seconded by Councillor Wilbee:

That the Municipality of Huron East support staff's recommendation to proceed with the municipal re-branding;

And That the Municipality of Huron East Council support staff's recommendation to proceed with the implementation of the acquisition of JBS Time Manager;

And That the funding for the municipal re-branding and time and attendance software be drawn from the Modernization Reserve.

Carried

10.2 CAO-24-18, Succession Plan Update

B. McRoberts provided an overview of the highlights, initiatives and successes of the various departments.

The report was received for information.

10.3 CLK-24-09, Council Remuneration and Green Fund Donations

Council discussed the option of freezing the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases, for Council, until the end of the term as a way of recognizing the increase in taxes and as a gesture to residents. It was noted that freezing the increase does not make an impact to the overall budget and may have a larger impact to the 2026 Term of Council when the wages would need to be increased by a greater amount.

Deputy Mayor McLellan moved that the CPI increase for Council honourariums and pay be frozen for the remainder of the term.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McLellan and Seconded by Councillor McGrath:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East direct staff to freeze the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases for Council honourariums and pay for the remainder of the term.

Defeated

Council discussed other cost saving measures such as decreasing the frequency of Council meetings, scheduling Committee and Council meetings on the same day, increasing yearly salary and decreasing meeting rates, and meeting rates based on hours spent in the meeting versus type of meeting.

In response to Council discussions, Clerk Jessica Rudy noted that every municipality approaches Council remuneration in a variety of different ways and that any changes would involve a change to the current policy. J. Rudy confirmed that the Huron East Remuneration Policy needs to be reviewed, per the Municipal Act, prior to the 2026 Term of Council.

Councillor Morrison moved that remuneration remain at its current state and directed staff to bring forward a report on various remuneration and cost saving options by the end of 2024.

Moved by Councillor Morrison and Seconded by Councillor Diehl:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East take no action on Council Remuneration until 2025;

And That staff be directed to bring forward a report regarding remuneration options by the end of 2024.

Carried

10.4 CLK-24-10, Flag Policy

J. Rudy provided an overview of the policy noting that it guides when the municipality lowers its flags but does not include a community/alternate flag component.

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East adopt the Flag Policy.

Carried

10.5 PW-24-10, Kelly Pit Lease Agreement

Moved by Councillor Diehl and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East renew the Kelly Pit lease agreement.

Carried

10.6 PW-24-11, Roadside Grass Cutting Policy

Moved by Councillor Fisher and Seconded by Councillor Diehl:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East support the Roadside Grass Cutting Policy.

Carried

11. Correspondence**11.1 The Brussels Leo Club re: Drinking Fountain Proposal**

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East support the installation of a Lions drinking foundation at the Brussels Library.

Carried [Conflict J. Morrison]

12. Unfinished Business**13. Council Reports****13.1 Council Member Reports****13.1.1 County Council Report**

Deputy Mayor McLellan reported that County Council received a report on housing and homelessness which stated that during the month of March there were 103 individuals on the list of homeless, 90 of which considered chronic homeless and a future report will be received on the Out of the Cold program; the roads department released a new online program for reporting of pot holes on County roads; the County is in the process of transitioning their stop signs to four foot signs for all 922 stop signs in the County;

and SLED grants were issued to sixteen (16) projects, three (3) of which were in Huron East including the Municipality for industry focused promotional videos, Seaforth BIA for beautification of the Main Street and the Van Egmond House for the picnic shelter.

13.1.2 Other Boards/Committees or Meetings/Seminars

13.2 Requests by Members

In response to Councillor Morrison's request for the status of the Brussels, Morris & Grey Community Centre (BMGCC) roof, B. McRoberts explained the complexity of the structure and the climatic conditions required with the preparation work which caused a delay and confirmed that the contractor is now in a position to start installing the steel on the roof, which should be a more expedient process.

Deputy Mayor McLellan noted that there is a possible return on wind turbine projects through IESO and requested that the motion from Huron East stating that Huron East is an unwilling host be brought back to Council for reaffirmation.

In response to Deputy Mayor McLellan's request for an update on the Brussels EMS/Fire hall and parking lot status, B. McRoberts noted that the building contractor should be complete by end of June, after which the parking lot expansion will be completed internally and coordinated to align with other paving projects in that area.

13.3 Notice of Motion

13.4 Announcements

14. Other Business

15. By-laws

Moved by Councillor Diehl and Seconded by Councillor Wilbee:

That Be it Hereby Resolved By-law 047-2024, A By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement for the Purpose of Leasing Land for Gravel Extraction be given first, second, third and final readings and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation be affixed thereto.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan:

That Be it Hereby Resolved By-law 048-2024, A By-law to Delegate Authority for Executing Purchase and Sales Agreements for Huron East be given first, second, third and final readings and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation be affixed thereto.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Diehl and Seconded by Councillor Dalton:

That Be it Hereby Resolved By-law 049-2024, A By-law to Delegate Authority for Executing Listing Agreements and Purchase and Sales Agreements for the Brussels Subdivision be given first, second, third and final readings and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation be affixed thereto.

Carried

16. Closed Session and Reporting Out

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Morrison:

That a closed meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 7:25 p.m., in Town Hall Council Chambers, in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 for the purpose of considering the following matters:

- 16.1** Adoption of May 13, 2024 Closed Session of the Administration Committee Meetings Minutes
- 16.2** Adoption of May 21, 2024 Closed Session of Council Meeting Minutes
- 16.3** 239(2)(b)(d) - personal matters about identifiable individuals and labour relations – employee matters

And that CAO Brad McRoberts remain in closed session.

Carried

17. Motion to Reconvene into Open Session and Reporting Out

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Diehl:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East reconvene into open session at 8:24 p.m.

Carried

Mayor MacLellan reported that Council went into closed session to discuss personal matters about identifiable individuals and labour relations in relation to employee matters.

18. Confirmatory By-Law

Moved by Deputy Mayor McLellan and Seconded by Councillor Newell:

That Be It Hereby Resolved that By-law 050-2024, a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council, be given first, second, third and final reading and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation be affixed thereto.

Carried

19. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Diehl and Seconded by Councillor Fisher:

The time now being 8:25 p.m. That the regular meeting adjourn until June 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Carried

Bernie MacLellan, Mayor

Jessica Rudy, Clerk