



**Municipality of Huron East Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Council Chambers**  
**72 Main Street South, Seaforth, ON**  
**Tuesday, July 9, 2024**

**Members Present:**

Mayor: Bernie MacLellan; Deputy Mayor: Alvin McLellan; Councillors: Raymond Chartrand, Dianne Diehl (Virtually), Robert Fisher, Larry McGrath, Justin Morrison, Jeff Newell, John Steffler, and Gloria Wilbee

**Absent:**

Councillor Brenda Dalton

**Staff Present:**

Clerk Jessica Rudy; Director of Finance/Treasurer Stacy Grenier; Director of Community Services Lissa Berard; Director of Public Works Barry Mills; Economic Development Officer Taralyn Cronin; Interim Fire Chief Marty Bedard; Drainage Superintendent Ken McCallum and Executive Assistant/Communications Coordinator Aaly Broda

**Others Present:**

Huron County Planner Shae Stoll

**1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

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

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

Mayor MacLellan provided the land acknowledgement.

**3. Confirmation of the Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Steffler and Seconded by Councillor Wilbee:

That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated July 9, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

**4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

Deputy Mayor McLellan declared a Conflict of Interest to Item 6.15, Accounts Payable, of the Consent Agenda due to being paid for a Public Works truck repair.

Councillor Steffler declared a Conflict of Interest to Item 11.1, Tanner Steffler Foundation re: Request for Noise Exemption, due to be the President of the Tanner Steffler Foundation.

Councillor Steffler declared a Conflict of Interest to Item 11.2, Seaforth Homecoming Committee re: Noise By-law and Street Closure Request, due to being a member of the Seaforth Homecoming Committee.

## **5. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Councillor Morrison:

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

**5.1** Regular Meeting – June 18, 2024

**5.2** Committee of Adjustment Public Hearing – June 18, 2024

**5.3** Special Meeting – June 24, 2024

Carried

## **6. Consent Agenda**

Councillor Fisher requested to remove and support Item 6.3, Municipality of Tweed re: Request to Reabsorb the Cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the Province from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Councillor Fisher and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East supports the motion from the Municipality of Tweed regarding the Request to Reabsorb the Cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the Province.

Carried

Deputy Mayor McLellan requested to remove and support Item 6.5, Township of Cobalt re: Financial Assistance to Municipalities to Complete the Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Deputy Mayor McLellan and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East supports the motion from the Township of Cobalt regarding Financial Assistance to Municipalities to Complete the Asset Retirement Obligations.

Carried

In response to Deputy Mayor McLellan's questions pertaining to Item 6.9 of the Consent Agenda, Interim Fire Chief Marty Bedard stated that Long-Term Service Awards are presented at Fire Hall Christmas Banquets. Noting that moving forward, these awards could be presented by Council alongside other Staff Service Awards at the end of every calendar year.

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Newell:

That Consent Agenda items 6.1 to 6.2, item 6.4, and items 6.6 to 6.14 be received for information and approved.

- 6.1 Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes – June 17, 2024
- 6.2 Ministry of Natural Resources re: Streamlining of Approvals under the Aggregate Resources Act and Supporting Policy
- 6.4 Bluewater Recycling Association re: Board of Directors Meeting Highlights
- 6.6 Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan re: Regulations for Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries
- 6.7 City of Brantford re: Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy
- 6.8 Seaforth Business Improvement Area (BIA) re: Director of Seaforth BIA
- 6.9 FD-24-02, Fire Department Activity Report
- 6.10 Economic Development Committee Minutes – June 26, 2024
- 6.11 Association of Municipality of Ontario (AMO) re: Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments
- 6.12 June Council Expenses
- 6.13 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Planning Act and Development Charges Act Regulations related to the Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024
- 6.14 Enbridge Gas Inc. re: Ontario Energy Board Notice of Application

Carried

Moved by Councillor Fisher and Seconded by Councillor Morrison:

That Item 6.15, Accounts Payable report be received for information and approved.

Carried [Conflict: A. McLellan]

## **7. Public Meetings/Hearings and Delegations**

### **7.1 Presentation: Andrew Williams, Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA)**

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**re: HPHA Amalgamation**

Andrew Williams, Executive Director, Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance provided an overview of the amalgamation process.

In response to Council, Andrew noted that the amalgamation process does not impede on or remove individual facility's autonomy and there were no major changes to operations. Further discussion regarding the formation of HPHA and the consultation processes that took place. It was noted that staffing and wait time are still an issue with limited physician availability and recruitment efforts are in progress.

Mayor MacLellan thanked Andrew Williams for his attendance and discussion with Council.

**8. Planning****8.1 Planner's Report re: Consent Application C39-2024**

Huron County Planner Shae Stoll provided an overview of the application and property details and recommended the application for approval. A copy of the presentation is [appended](#) to the original minutes.

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Fisher:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East acknowledge the report of Huron County Planner Shae Stoll, dated July 9, 2024 and has no objection to consent application C39-2024, provided the conditions, as outlined in the planning report, are met.

Carried

**9. Municipal Drains****9.1 DRAINS-24-05, Keffer Municipal Drain Abandonment Request**

Drainage Superintendent Ken McCallum provided a brief overview of the report and a history of the abandonment request, noting that the request fulfils the requirements of the Drainage Act and an agreement of responsibility has been agreed upon.

Moved by Councillor Steffler and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East accept the abandonment request under Section 84(1) of the Drainage Act for the Keffer Municipal Drain as governed by By-law 37-1970;

And That notice be sent to all landowners affected stating the intention to abandon the drainage works.

Carried

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**10. Reports & Recommendations of Municipal Officers****10.1 PW-24-12, Winter Maintenance Tender Results: HE-05-2024 Grader and HE-06-2024 Truck with Plow**

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Councillor Fisher:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East accept the tender of Van Driel Excavating Inc. to supply a fully equipped grader and personnel to plow snow and scarify roads in Huron East for a 3-year term; and

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East accept the tender of Van Driel Excavating Inc. to supply a fully equipped tandem or tri-axle truck and personnel, to plow snow and sand roads in Huron East for a 3-year term.

Carried

**10.2 EDO-24-08, 2024 Community Improvement Program and Grant Recipients**

Economic Development Officer Taralyn Cronin provided an overview of the Community Improvement Program and the applications received, providing a recommendation for grant recipients.

T. Cronin noted that the \$20,000 invested by Huron East resulted in approximately \$111,000 worth of improvements into our community. That the Economic Development Committee is requesting an increased budget for the Community Improvement Program in 2025.

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Councillor Morrison:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East approve the applications and grant requests to the Community Improvement Program as provided in Report EDO-24-08.

And Further That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East consider increasing the Community Improvement Program Budget to \$50,000 during the 2025 Budget process

Carried

**10.3 EDO-24-09, Request for Proposal – Huron East Community Brand**

T. Cronin provided a brief overview of the Community Brand Request for Proposal (RFP) and the awarded company, Cinnamon Toast New Media Inc.

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Steffler:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East award the Huron East Community Branding Request for Proposal (RFP) to Cinnamon Toast.

And Further That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East support staff's recommendation to increase the project budget by \$9,000 to a total of \$29,000 with funding drawn from the Modernization Reserve and Marketing and Promotions

Carried

**10.4 FIN-24-08, Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Agreement**

Director of Finance/Treasurer Stacy Grenier provided an overview on the Canada Community-Building Fund.

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East consider the By-law to authorize the Municipal Funding Agreement (MFA) for the administration of the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF).

Carried

**11. Correspondence**

**11.1 Tanner Steffler Foundation re: Request for Noise Exemption**

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East approve the Tanner Steffler Foundation request for a noise exemption from July 27, 2024 to 1:00 a.m. on July 28, 2024 for the Six String Music Fest at the Seaforth Agriplex.

Carried [Conflict: J. Steffler]

**11.2 Seaforth Homecoming Committee re: Noise By-law and Street Closure Request**

Moved by Councillor Morrison and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East approve the Seaforth Homecoming Committee request for a noise exemption from 11:00 p.m. on July 31, 2025 until 1:00 a.m. on August 4, 2025 for Seaforth Homecoming events;

And That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East approve the request to close Gouinlock Street between Main Street South and Victoria Street, Seaforth, from 3:00 p.m. on August 1, 2025 until 5:00 p.m. on August 2, 2025 for Seaforth Homecoming Events.

Carried [Conflict: J. Steffler]

**11.3 Ethel Minor Ball Committee re: Request for Significant Event Designations**

Moved by Councillor Morrison and Seconded by Deputy Mayor McLellan:

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East declare the Men's Slo-Pitch Tournament on August 23, 2024 until August 25, 2024, at the Ethel Ball Diamond, a significant event; and

That the Council of the Municipality of Huron East declare the Co-Ed 3 Pitch Mushball

Tournament on September 6, 2024 to September 7, 2024, at the Ethel Ball Diamond, a significant event.

Carried

#### **11.4 Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) re: Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day**

Moved by Councillor Fisher and Seconded by Councillor Morrison:

Whereas years of research confirms the benefits of high-quality early learning and child care for young children's intellectual, emotional, social and physical development and later life outcomes; and

Whereas child care promotes the well-being of children and responds to the needs of families and the broader community by supporting quality of life so that citizens can fully participate in and contribute to the economic and social life of their community; and

Whereas trained and knowledgeable Registered Early Childhood Educators are the key to quality in early years and child care programs – in licensed child care, Early ON programs, child life programs, and full-day kindergarten;

Whereas Registered Early Childhood Educators and child care workers will be vital to the success of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system;

Therefore Be it Resolved that October 24, 2024 be designated the 24<sup>th</sup> annual "Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day" in recognition of the education, dedication and commitment of child care workers to children, their families and quality of life of the community.

Carried

## **12. Unfinished Business**

## **13. Council Reports**

### **13.1 Council Member Reports**

#### **13.1.1 County Council Report**

Deputy Mayor McLellan reported that Huron Perth Children's Aid presented to County Council, highlighting that they are actively seeking more families that may need assistance, and are currently working with 11 families in Huron East; the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Committee reported that Bridge Housing will be implemented to accommodate the homeless population from November 2024-December 2025, the homeless population will also receive a rent subsidy possibly resulting in a revenue of \$96,000 over the term, the revenue may be used to set up a fund to assist residents in transitional into permanent housing; the County Roads Department spoke about the development of the roundabout at Airport Line and Highway 83; Conservation and Demand Management reported that the County

surpassed its 2.5% energy usage reduction goal by 5.4%, an energy usage reduction goal of 2.5% by 2028 will be set by the County; County staff will bring a report to Council regarding the planning rules surrounding severed housing.

#### 13.1.2 Other Boards/Committees or Meetings/Seminars

### 13.2 Requests by Members

Councillor McGrath requested an update on the statistics of the RecDesk software.

In response to Councillor McGrath's request for an update on the Council device sales, Clerk Jessica Rudy explained that a number of devices are now being used in various departments and remaining devices will be listed on GovDeals.

### 13.3 Notice of Motion

### 13.4 Announcements

Deputy Mayor McLellan announced that Walton Equipment Rentals and Manufacturing was featured in a CTV Kitchener News segment; Made Right Here. The segment featured agricultural nutrient spreader equipment being manufactured in Huron East and shipped internationally.

Councillor Diehl spotlighted Alyssa Albers, a young local resident, who earned a spot on Canada's team for the Dance World Cup this July in Prague. Canada's team brought home a silver medal while Alyssa's solo performance earned her the gold.

Councillor Chartrand highlighted Seaforth Lions Club 100 Year Celebration, noting the success of the event. Dedications of the pavilion and the ball park were awarded to long standing members of the Lions Club.

## 14. Other Business

## 15. By-laws

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacLellan and Seconded by Councillor Morrison:

That Be it Hereby Resolved By-law 055-2024, A By-law to Authorize a Lease Agreement with the Corporation of the County of Huron 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 Councillor Steffler:

That Be it Hereby Resolved By-law 056-2024, A By-law to Authorize a Municipal Funding Agreement with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario given first, second, third and final readings and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation be affixed thereto.



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Carried

**16. Closed Session**

**17. Confirmatory By-Law**

Moved by Councillor Wilbee and Seconded by Councillor Fisher:

That Be It Hereby Resolved that By-law 057-2024, 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

**18. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Newell and Seconded by Councillor Wilbee:

The time now being 7:06 p.m. That the regular meeting adjourn until August 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Carried

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Bernie MacLellan, Mayor

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Jessica Rudy, Clerk