



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN COUNCIL MINUTES

MEETING NO. EIGHT

June 26, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Township Administration Building

318 Canborough Street, Smithville, Ontario

Council: Mayor Cheryl Ganann
Councillor Shelley Bradaric
Councillor Mike Rehner
Councillor William Reilly
Councillor Jason Trombetta
Councillor Terry Bell – joined at 6:49 p.m. virtually
Councillor Joann Chechalk

Staff: Bev Hendry, CAO
Jessica Dyson, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Donna DeFilippis, Treasurer/Director of Finance
Mike DiPaola, Director of Public Works and Recreation
Brian Treble, Director of Planning and Building
Tim Hofsink, Deputy Fire Chief
Kevin Geoghegan, IT Help Desk Analyst

Others: Regional Councillor Witteveen*
Steven Soos*
John Ganann*

***IN ATTENDANCE PART-TIME**

1. SINGING OF "O CANADA" - Smithville Christian High School

Prior to commencing with the Council agenda, Mayor Ganann read the following announcements:

1. Councillor Terry Bell will be in attendance virtually via Zoom for tonight's Council meeting.

2. Comments from the public for a matter that is on the agenda may be provided in person by attending the meeting and advising the Chair during the "Request to Address an Item on the Agenda" Section of the agenda.
3. For those individuals that are unable to attend the meeting in person, you may submit comments for matters that are on the agenda by either (1) emailing jdyson@westlincoln.ca before 4:30 pm. on the day of the meeting. Comments submitted will be considered as public information and read into public record OR (2) by contacting the Clerk's Department to request a Zoom Link to attend the meeting virtually.
4. This meeting will be livestreamed. The link to watch the meeting live can be found on the Township's website by selecting the "Township Office" tab at the top of the website, then clicking the Council or Standing Committee meetings tab and scroll down the meeting list to find the link.
5. This meeting will be recorded and will be available to view by clicking the meeting video link found on the Township's website within 48 hours after the meeting unless otherwise noted.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Mayor Ganann read the following statement:

The Township of West Lincoln, being part of Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk (Hat-i-wen- DA-ronk), the Haudenosaunee (Hoe-den-no-SHOW-nee), and the Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-ih- NAH-bey), including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Township of West Lincoln, as part of the Regional Municipality of Niagara, stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

3. OPENING PETITION - Councillor Jason Trombetta

4. CHANGE IN ORDER OF ITEMS ON AGENDA

There were no requests from Members of Council to change the order of items that were on the agenda.

5. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no disclosure of pecuniary interest and/or conflict of interest.

6. REQUEST TO ADDRESS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no requests to address items that were on the agenda.

7. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Suzanne Gibson, Suzanne Gibson & Associates

Re: PowerPoint Presentation - 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan

POWERPOINT ATTACHED

NOTE: Refer to Other Business (Item 1) being Report No. RFD-CAO-02-2023 - 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan

7.2 Steven Soos

Re: Request to Endorse Resolution to Declare a State of Emergency on Mental Health, Homelessness and Addiction

Steven Soos gave a presentation to Council in regards to pressing issues in the Niagara Region, including but not limited to:

- Mental Health, Homelessness and Addiction
- Indigenous Peoples Day
- Healthcare Funding
- Housing Affordability
- Domestic Abuse Shelters

Councillor Reilly noted that he agreed with what Steven Soos brought forward, however stated that he would like to see a more specific resolution brought before Council so that they can direct staff to take specific measures. Councillor Reilly stated that these issues are too important to passively support, which is why he would like to request more specific, actionable resolutions.

Councillor Trombetta stated that he appreciated Steven Soos' passion and comments towards these serious issues, and pointed out that a State of Emergency on mental health, homelessness, housing affordability, and/or drug addiction is already in place at the Region and is supported by the Township.

Councillor Chechalk stated her appreciation of Steven Soos' efforts and work in regards to the motion, and noted that it would be best to have shorter and concise motions instead of numerous points in one.

Councillor Bell echoed the remarks made by Councillor Trombetta and Councillor Chechalk, and noted that the motion as it stands needs to be narrowed down and focused.

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric
Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

WHEREAS, the Niagara Region, City of St. Catharines, City of Thorold, City of Niagara Falls, City of Welland, Town of Grimsby and City of Hamilton have declared states of emergencies on mental health, homelessness, housing affordability and/or addiction; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Lincoln endorses Niagara Region's declaration of a federal humanitarian crisis on homelessness in Niagara; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of West Lincoln endorse the Town of Grimsby's motion declaring a housing affordability emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of West Lincoln endorse the City of St. Catharines' motion of condemning the discrimination of the mentally ill, homeless and addiction; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of West Lincoln supports the West Lincoln Public Libraries to highlight and showcase more literature on Indigenous wellness; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of West Lincoln supports Steven Soos' initiative for an Indigenous mobile mental health crisis unit pilot project for the Niagara Region; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Township of West Lincoln declare a state of emergency and crisis on mental health, homelessness, addiction and housing affordability; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, travel to other cities for services continues to be a challenge for several West Lincoln residents and as such the Township of West Lincoln request more funding for the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital, in order for the hospital to be fully staffed/functional hospital with built-in mental health and addiction services; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Township of West Lincoln advocate for the establishment of an emergency domestic abuse shelter servicing Niagara West and research interested organizations willing to deliver this service locally; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Township of West Lincoln request that Sam Oosterhoff, MPP for Niagara West approach the

Provincial Minister's Michael Kerzner (Solicitor General), Michael Tobollo (Associate Minister- Mental Health and Addiction), Sylvia Jones (Health) and Steve Clark (Municipal Affairs and Housing) to discuss assistance for the priorities identified in this motion; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Township of West Lincoln request MP Dean Allison to approach the Federal Ministers Carolynn Bennett (Mental health and addictions), Ahmed Hussen (Diversity and Housing), Chrystia Freeland (Finance), and Mona Fortier (Treasury Board) to request Federal support for Niagara Region's emergency on mental health, homelessness and addiction; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, all Niagara area municipalities, all Niagara area MPPs, MP's, Steven Soos, Niagara Health System, Hamilton Centre, MPP Sara Jama, Hamilton Centre MP, Matthew Green, City of Hamilton, AMO, FCM, Niagara Regional Police Chief, Provincial and Federal Ministers of Housing, Provincial and Federal Ministers of Health, West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, West Lincoln Community Care, Cathy Turner, Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln, YWCA Niagara, Hamilton Health Sciences, Greg Fergus, MP (Parliamentary Secretary Canada), Mona Fortier (President Canada Treasury Board), Stephanie Kusie, Critic for the Federal Treasury Board, Federal Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland, Federal Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, Carolynn Bennett, Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health and Addictions, Elisabeth Briere, Parliamentary Secretary for Mental Health and Addictions, Todd Doherty, Critic for Mental Health, and Laila Goodridge, Critic for Addiction be copied on the resolution.

Referred (see resolution below)

Moved By Councillor Joann Chechalk

Seconded By Councillor Terry Bell

That the correspondence and resolution presented by Steven Soos, dated June 26, 2023, be referred back to staff in order to bring forward a more specific resolution and bring this revised resolution back to Committee or Council at a future date.

Carried

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

Seconded By Councillor Jason Trombetta

That, the Township of West Lincoln endorse the following Private Member's Bill:

(i) Bill C-207 (sponsored by MP Rachel Blaney) - An Act to amend the Canadian Bill of Rights (right to housing).

(ii) Bill C-329 (sponsored by MP Heather McPherson) - An Act to establish a national framework respecting attention hyperactivity disorder.

(iii) Bill 53 (sponsored by MPP Bhutla Karpoche) - Right to Timely Mental Health and Addiction Care for Children and Youth Act, 2022.

Referred (see resolution below)

Moved By Councillor Joann Chechalk

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

That the resolution presented by Steven Soos regarding the endorsement of the Private Member's Bill, dated June 26, 2023, be referred back to staff in order to bring forward a more specific resolution and bring this revised resolution back to Committee or Council at a future date.

Carried

8. REGIONAL COUNCILLOR'S REMARKS

Regional Councillor Witteveen read from a prepared statement which is attached as Schedule "A" to the minutes. Regional Councillor Witteveen provided an update on various matters, meeting highlights, and events that were addressed by Niagara Region over the past month.

Councillor Reilly inquired into the recent traffic calming measures made by the Region in West Lincoln, specifically the speed cameras located on Townline Road. Councillor Reilly noted he saw some concern regarding these cameras, and wanted reassurance that people will not receive hefty fines for going 1 km/h over the speed limit. Regional Councillor Witteveen explained the project, and noted that there is a 10 km/h overage threshold for individuals to get tickets. Regional Councillor Witteveen stated that the measure was not to give people lots of expensive fines for going slightly over the limit, but to punish dangerous drivers greatly exceeding the speed limit on West Lincoln roads.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 Council Minutes - Regular
Re: May 23, 2023

Councillor Chechalk brought forward a spelling error on page 10, the third sentence, under Councillor Chachalk's Council remarks of the May 23, 2023 Council Minutes, noting that the word "mad" should say "make".

Moved By Councillor Mike Rehner

Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

That, the minutes of the May 23, 2023 regular Council meeting be accepted.

Carried

10. COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 Karen Usick, Hepatitis C Care Clinic, Community Coordinator, Niagara Health System/Addiction Services

Re: Support to Declare July 28th World Hepatitis Day in the Township of West Lincoln

Councillor Terry Bell joined the meeting at 9:02 pm.

Moved By Councillor William Reilly

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

WHEREAS, approximately 204,000 Canadians are living with hepatitis C and over 250,000 people are living with hepatitis B;

WHEREAS, people living with hepatitis B and C have an increased risk of developing cirrhosis, liver failure and related illnesses;

WHEREAS, Ontario has over 110,000 people living with hepatitis B or C, both of which are slow and progressive diseases; and

WHEREAS, there are vaccines available for Hepatitis A and B; effective Hepatitis C treatment therapies can cure over 95% of cases; and

WHEREAS, World Hepatitis Day provides an opportunity to reach out to millions of Canadians and encourage hepatitis testing, provide treatment and care for those affected while paving the way towards elimination of hepatitis as a public health concern in Canada by 2030;

THEREFORE, the Council of the Township of West Lincoln hereby declares July 28th, 2023 World Hepatitis Day in West Lincoln and that Mayor Ganann be and is hereby authorized to forward correspondence to the Niagara Health System, Addiction Services advising of our support.

Carried

10.2 Tom Jacobs, Rocket Fireworks Inc.

Re: Request for Fireworks Display at 2433 Port Davidson Road - August 19, 2023

Councillor Trombetta inquired in regards to the potential of a possible fire ban, as the Township had recently just lifted one. Councillor Trombetta inquired into what would happen if Council approved of this display, but a fire ban or weather advisory was put in place the day of the event.

Councillor Trombetta stated that it would make sense for the Fire Chief to make this call closer to the date, and noted he didn't want the Township locked into an approval that could prove unsafe.

CAO, Bev Hendry, and the Director of Legislative Services/ Clerk, Jessica Dyson, noted Councillor Trombetta's inquiry and stated that it can be arranged that while approval is given at the moment, the rules and regulation at the time of the event would supersede the approval. It was noted that Acting Fire Chief, Tim Hofsink, would give final approval based on the conditions of the day of the event in August and that the applicants would be advised.

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

That, the request received from Tom Jacobs, for Rocket Fireworks to host a fireworks display on August 19, 2023 at 2433 Port Davidson Road, Smithville, be approved pending final approval of the Acting Fire Chief or designate on the day of event.

Carried

11. MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Ganann read a prepared statement which was attached as Schedule "B" to the minutes.

12. REPORT OF COMMITTEE

12.1 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee

Re: June 12, 2023

Confidential Minutes Under Separate Cover

Moved By Councillor William Reilly

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

1. That, the minutes of the open session portion of the June 12, 2023 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved; with the exception of Item#(s) _____; and,
2. That, the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the June 12, 2023 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee meeting be accepted; and that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act.

Carried

- 12.2 Administration/Finance/Fire Committee
Re: Minutes - June 19, 2023
Confidential Minutes Under Separate Cover

Councillor Terry Bell left the meeting at 9:21 pm.

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

1. That, the minutes of the open session portion of the June 19, 2023 Administration/Finance/Fire Committee meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved; with the exception of Item#(s) _____; and,
2. That, the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the June 19, 2023 Administration/Finance/Fire Committee meeting be accepted; and that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act.

Carried

- 12.3 Public Works/Recreation/Arena Committee
Re: Minutes - June 19, 2023

Moved By Councillor Mike Rehner

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

That, the minutes of the open session portion of the June 19, 2023 Public Works & Recreation Committee meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved; with the exception of Item#(s) _____.

Carried

13. RECONSIDERATION

There were no items put forward for reconsideration.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION TO RESCIND

There were no motions to rescind put forward by any Member of Council.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Communications Specialist (Beth Audet) & CAO (Bev Hendry)
Re: Recommendation Report No. CAO-02-2023 - 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan

Suzanne Gibson, Suzanne Gibson & Associates, provided an overview of the progress made on the 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan through a PowerPoint Presentation.

Mayor Ganann advised Council that a choice had to be made regarding two different vision and mission statements.

After Council deliberated over which vision and mission statement would best suit the 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan, Council decided on the two following statements:

- Vision Statement: "Celebrating its rural and agricultural roots, The Township of West Lincoln will be a safe, engaged and vibrant municipality that fosters connections, opportunities and a strong sense of community"
- Mission Statement: "The Township of West Lincoln provides responsive municipal services that enhance the quality of life in our community" as outlined in the report be approved"

Moved By Councillor William Reilly

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

1. That, Recommendation Report CAO-02-2023 regarding the 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan, dated June 26, 2023, be received and approved; and,
2. That, the vision option chosen by Council being "Celebrating its rural and agricultural roots, The Township of West Lincoln will be a safe, engaged and vibrant municipality that fosters connections, opportunities and a strong sense of community" be approved; and,
3. That, Mission Option 1, being "The Township of West Lincoln provides responsive municipal services that enhance the quality of life in our community" as outlined in the report be approved; and,

4. That, the Corporate Strategic Plan attached as Schedule A to this report be adopted and hereby implemented.

Carried

- 15.2 Manager of Finance/Deputy Treasurer (Katelyn Hall) & Director of Finance/Treasurer (Donna DeFilippis)
Re: Recommendation Report No. T-16-2023 - Draft Audited Financial Statements and Audit Findings for Year-End 2022

Councillor Terry Bell joined the meeting at 9:24 pm.

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

1. That, Recommendation Report T-16-2023 regarding the “Draft Financial Statements and Audit Findings for Year-End 2022”, dated June 26, 2023, be received; and,
2. That, the 2022 Draft Audited Financial Statements, attached as Appendix A to this report, be approved; and,
3. That, the 2022 Audit Findings Report, attached as Appendix B to this report, be received.

Carried

- 15.3 TABLED ITEM (March 28, 2023 Council Meeting)
Director of Planning & Building (Brian Treble)
Re: Recommendation Report No. PD-36-2022 - Smithville Landowners Group request for support of Minister’s Zoning Order (MZO)

- 15.4 Members of Council
Re: Council Remarks

- 1) Councillor Reilly
Re: Community Events and well wishes

Councillor Reilly made note of the Smithville public school fun fair, and also wished everyone a happy and safe summer.

- 2) Councillor Trombetta
Re: Graduating Students and well wishes

Councillor Trombetta acknowledged all of the students graduating this year, and that they have come a long way with respect to how they present these graduations. Councillor Trombetta wished everyone a happy and safe summer.

3) Councillor Bradaric

Re: Continuing the advocacy for childcare service in the community

Councillor Bradaric stated that she will continue to lobby for childcare services in the community, and that the Niagara Region is continuing funding for this type of service. Councillor Bradaric also noted that the data that is being gathered may not be accurate as they may not have any registered daycares in the community.

16. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no new items of business brought forward by any Member of Council in attendance.

17. BY-LAWS

Moved By Councillor Joann Chechalk

Seconded By Councillor Mike Rehner

1. That, leave be granted to introduce By-law #s 2023-39, 2023-40, 2023-41, 2023-42, 2023-43, 2023-44, 2023-45, 2023-46, 2023-47, 2023-48, 2023-49, and 2023-50, and that the same shall be considered to have been read a first, second, and third time with one reading, and are hereby adopted; and,
2. That, the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to sign and affix the Corporate Seal thereto, any rule of this Council to the contrary notwithstanding.

Carried

17.1 BY-LAW 2023-39

A By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the corporation of the Township of West Lincoln at its regular meeting held on the 23rd day of May, 2023.

17.2 BY-LAW 2023-40

A By-law to appoint a Clerk (Jessica Dyson) for the Township of West Lincoln.

17.3 BY-LAW 2023-41

A By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign an employment contract on behalf of the corporation of the Township of West Lincoln with Jessica Dyson.

17.4 BY-LAW 2023-42

A By-law to appoint a Deputy Clerk (Joanne Scime) for the Township of West Lincoln.

17.5 BY-LAW 2023-43

A By-law to amend By-law 2023-03 which confirmed various appointments and/or recommendations for appointments to Boards, Committees, & Municipal Positions.

17.6 BY-LAW 2023-44

A By-law to amend Schedule "A" of By-law 2023-05 which provided for appointments to the Township of West Lincoln Public Library Board.

17.7 BY-LAW 2023-45

A By-law to authorize a collective agreement between the corporation of the Township of West Lincoln and the Canadian Union of Public Employees C.L.C and its local 1287 (West Lincoln Township unit).

17.8 BY-LAW 2023-46

A By-law to authorize a pre-servicing agreement with P. Budd Developments Inc. on lands described as Plan M94 Lot 1 Plan 30M300, PT Lots 12 and 13 and RP30R15516, Parts 1 and 2 (Station Meadows West Subdivision); West Lincoln.

17.9 BY-LAW 2023-47

A By-law to approve amendment No. 65 (to amend Section 18 (implementation) of the Township of West Lincoln Official Plan to address provincial changes including Bill 109 and Bill 23) to the Official Plan for the Township of West Lincoln.

17.10 BY-LAW 2023-48

A By-law to amend By-law 2021-84, as amended, which allows the Township to enforce and seek compliance with designated By-laws or portions thereof through an Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) in the Township of West Lincoln.

17.11 BY-LAW 2023-49

A By-law to amend By-law 2022-18, which appoints a hearing officer, Janet Rutherford of Rutherford Prosecutions, to conduct the appeal process for Administrative Penalties for Parking and Non-Parking Administrative Monetary Penalties for the corporation of the Township of West Lincoln.

17.12 BY-LAW 2023-50

A By-law to authorize an agreement between the corporation of the Township of West Lincoln and Associated Engineering (ONT.) limited for Barbara St., Brooks Circle watermain replacement.

18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

There are no confidential matters.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor to declare this meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:31 p.m.

JESSICA DYSON,
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES/CLERK

MAYOR CHERYL GANANN