



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN
COUNCIL MINUTES

MEETING NO. TWENTIETH
December 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building
318 Canborough Street, Smithville, Ontario

Council: Mayor Cheryl Ganann, Chair
Councillor Shelley Bradaric
Councillor Mike Rehner
Councillor William Reilly
Councillor Jason Trombetta
Councillor Joann Chechalk
Councillor Greg Maychak

Staff: Justin Paylove, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Truper McBride, CAO
Kevin Geoghegan, IT Help Desk Analyst

Attendees: Regional Councillor Albert Witteveen*
Michael Buch*
Jeff Filliter and Partner (wife)*

*IN ATTENDANCE PART-TIME

1. SINGING OF "O CANADA" SMITHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Prior to commencing with the Council meeting, Mayor Ganann provided the following announcements:

1. The public may submit comments for matters that are on the agenda to jpaylove@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.
2. This meeting is being livestreamed as well as recorded and will be available on the Township's website.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

The Chair read the following land acknowledgement 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, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit 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 Shelley Bradaric

Councillor Shelley Bradaric read the opening petition.

4. CHANGE IN ORDER OF ITEMS ON AGENDA

There were no changes in the order of items on the agenda.

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

NOTE: Items for which conflicts were recently declared at Committee Meeting(s)

There were no pecuniary/conflict of interest disclosed.

6. REQUEST TO ADDRESS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

NOTE: Requests to address items on the agenda are restricted to specific items as follows per Section 6.7 of the Procedural By-law:

6.7 Public Comment at Council

There shall be no comments from the public permitted at Council unless:

- (a) a specific appointment has been scheduled; or,
- (b) an item is included under the “Other Business” or “Communications” or “Appointments” section of the agenda and relates to a matter which would normally be dealt with at Committee.

The Chair inquired if there were any members of the public present who wished to address a specific item on the agenda as permitted by Section 6.7 of the Procedural By-law.

Mayor Ganann

Re: Recognition of a citizen, Michael Buch, for his act of service to distinguish a leaf fire in our community.

7. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

There were no appointments or presentations.

8. REGIONAL COUNCILLOR’S REMARKS

Regional Councillor Witteveen read from a prepared statement, which is attached to the minutes as Schedule “A”.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 Council Minutes

Re: November 25, 2024

Confidential Minutes Under Separate Cover

Moved By Councillor William Reilly

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

1. That the minutes relating to the November 25, 2024 Council Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted; and,
2. That the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the November 25, 2024 Council Meeting be accepted; and that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with exemptions provided in Section 239 of the Municipal Act.

Carried

9.2 All Committees Meeting (Including Public Meetings)

Re: Minutes - December 9, 2024

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

Seconded By Councillor Jason Trombetta

That, the minutes of the December 9, 2024 All Committees (Including Public Meetings) meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Carried

9.3 Public Meeting Under the Planning Act

Re: Minutes - December 9, 2024

Moved By Councillor Joann Chechalk
Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

That the minutes relating to the December 9, 2024 All Committees (including Public Meeting) Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted.

Carried

10. COMMUNICATIONS

- 10.1 Ernie Sibbett, Chair (Crime Stopper of Niagara)
Re: January 2025 Crime Stoppers Month

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta
Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

That, the correspondence received from Ernie Sibbett, Chair (Crime Stoppers of Niagara), regarding "January 2025 Crime Stoppers Month", dated December 6, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

- 10.2 West Lincoln Age Friendly Advisory Committee Minutes - November 1, 2024

Moved By Councillor Greg Maychak
Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

That, the West Lincoln Age Friendly Advisory Committee Minutes dated November 1, 2024; be received.

Carried

11. MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Ganann read from a prepared statement, which is attached as Schedule "B".

12. REPORT OF COMMITTEE

There were no reports of committee.

13. RECONSIDERATION

("Definition") This section is for a Member of Council to introduce a motion to reconsider action taken at this Council Meeting or the previous regular Council

meeting. A motion to reconsider must be made by a Council Member who voted in the majority on the matter to be reconsidered. The Chair may rule that a motion to reconsider will be dealt with at the next following Council Meeting if for some reason it cannot be dealt with at this meeting.

There were no motions introduced by any Members of Council to reconsider action taken at this Council meeting or the previous regular Council meeting.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION TO RESCIND

(“Definition”) This section is for Council Members to serve notice of intent to introduce a motion to rescind action taken previously by Council. Notice served at this meeting will be for a motion to rescind at the next regular meeting.

There were no notices of intent served by any Member of Council to introduce a motion to rescind action taken previously by Council.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Director of Finance Emeritus (Donna DeFilippis)
Re: Memorandum - 2025 Interim Tax By-law

15.2 Members of Council
Re: Council Remarks

Councillor Maychak
Re: Community Food Drive and holiday well wishes

Councillor Bradaric
Re: Consider the needs and well being of our community during this season and holiday well wishes

Councillor Trombetta
Re: NPEI meeting and holiday well wishes

Councillor Rehner
Re: NPEI meeting, council progress and holiday well wishes

Councillor Chechalk
Re: Holiday well wishes

Councillor Reilly
Re: Holiday well wishes and Council conduct

Truper McBride, CAO
Re: Holiday well wishes

16. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

NOTE: Only for items that require immediate attention/direction from Council and must first approve a motion to introduce a new item of business.

There were no motions brought forward to introduce new items of business.

17. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

That, the next portion of this meeting be closed to the public to consider the following pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act 2001:

17.1 Director of Legislative Services/Clerk (Justin Paylove)

Re: Citizen Appointments on Boards and Committees

1. Age Friendly Advisory Committee
2. Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee

Applicable closed session exemption(s):

- personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Carried

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor Mike Rehner

That Staff be directed to proceed as directed in closed session in relation to Confidential Item 17.1.

Carried

18. BY-LAWS

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

1. That leave be granted to introduce By-Laws 2024-82, 2024-83, 2024-84, 2024-85, 2024-86, 2024-87, 2024-88, and 2024-89 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

18.1 BY-LAW 2024-82

A By-law to Consolidate Fees and Charges and to establish User Fees and Charges for services, activities or the use of property within the Township of West Lincoln

18.2 BY-LAW 2024-83

Being a By-law to Provide for an Interim Tax Levy and to provide for the payment of Taxes and to provide for penalty and interest of Fifteen Percent.

18.3 BY-LAW 2024-84

A By-law to Delegate Powers and Duties to Officers, Employees and Agents of the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln.

Moved By Councillor Mike Rehner

Seconded By Councillor Jason Trombetta

That, By-law 2024-84 be referred back to staff for the All Committees Meeting on January 13, 2025, to provide more information regarding incurring cost in Schedule A.

Carried

18.4 BY-LAW 2024-85

Being a By-law to establish Parts 3, 4, 5 and 6 on Reference Plan No. 30R-16266 on Concession 3 Road as a Public Highway, in the Former Township of Caistor, now Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara.

18.5 BY-LAW 2024-86

A By-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 2017-70, as amended, of the Township of West Lincoln

NFG Properties – Ethan Laman

Moved By Councillor Mike Rehner

Seconded By Councillor Greg Maychak

1. That leave be granted to introduce By-Law 2024-86 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

18.6 BY-LAW 2024-87

A By-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 2017-70, as amended, of the Township of West Lincoln

Tebrake, Jeremy Brown

18.7 BY-LAW 2024-88

A By-law to authorize an agreement between the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln and the Regional Municipality of Niagara

18.8 BY-LAW 2024-89

Being a By-Law to adopt, confirm and ratify matters dealt with by Council resolution.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor to declare this meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:48 p.m.

JUSTIN PAYLOVE, DIRECTOR OF
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/CLERK

MAYOR CHERYL GANANN

Council Meeting Regional Councillor's Remarks- Dec. 16/24

The International Plowing Match committee presented to the Planning and Economic development committee requesting sponsorship and support for in kind services. They explained the economic impact of the event over the 5-day period.

An update on traffic safety included the newly installed 4-way stop at Park Rd. and Mud St. This will make this intersection predictable for motorist to navigate.

We are working on making improvements to the intersection of Regional Rd. 20 and South Grimsby Rd. 18. We did have another motor vehicle collision at this intersection. In conversation with the Director of Transportation a plan of action is being created, options are a full signal or a method to reduce speed through this area.

Thanks,

Councillor Witteveen

Council Meeting Mayor's Remarks- Dec.16/24

Good Evening,

Since the beginning of December, I have had the pleasure of raising the Positive Living Niagara flag, have attended the Chamber of Commerce Holly Jolly Business event at beautiful Breathe Massage located at the plaza in Smithville, the Creekside Market Mingle Jingle and have assisted West Lincoln Community Care with their Christmas Store designed for their clients to be able to choose gifts for themselves and each of their family members. Friday morning, as members of council are aware, our Council Chambers was visited by PA Plinsonneault, from the Ministry of Rural Affairs, our own MPP Sam Oosterhoff and a couple of their staff members who announced an increase to our Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund allocation that will be a welcome addition to our 2025 Budget.

The Niagara Regional Budget was reluctantly passed last Thursday evening. Budget meetings began in July and have proceeded almost weekly since that time. What began as an increase proposed to be close to 13% was after months of discussion whittled down to a still very ugly 9.6%. At the Region, it is not a matter of voting on an increase in one major vote, but rather each section is broken out and is voted on separately. Councillor Witteveen and I supported every possible amendment that was put forward supporting a decreased amount in each area. We voted in favour of the things such as increased EMS services and an increased Police presence in the Region including our own NRPS Division 8 as we recognized those items as being important to West Lincoln residents. We also supported the Capital Budget as it includes projects in West Lincoln including the Caistorville Rd. upgrade from the Boundary to Concession 1, an intersection improvement at RR. 24 and RR.63 which many of our residents use and also some funds being added to and allocated to our Water/Wastewater needs.

It is also important to note that Niagara Region is a service delivery entity but of the total \$483m allocated for the delivery of services only \$26m is allocated to non-mandatory services. Of that non-mandatory portion, such things as the Region's portion of WLMH that comes due this year and money into reserves for the new South Niagara Hospital Build are included.

We are now past the halfway mark of our Council mandate to represent the residents of West Lincoln for the 2022-2026 Term. Although we have had a very busy 2 years, the next 2 should prove to be even more busy as we begin to see some infrastructure and housing starts begin to take place in our community. We still have close to 2 full years of important work to do in and for our community and I know that we are all up for the job!

I would like to take this time to thank the members of Council for their work during 2024, both in our local municipality and also representing West Lincoln on the various local and regional committees on which each of you currently sit. By your presence you provide either a West Lincoln voice during issues being discussed at a regional level or a Council perspective on local issues. I am pleased to inform Council and the public that Councillor Maychak has agreed to be the Council Liaison to the West Lincoln Age-Friendly Advisory Committee and has already attended his first meeting.

As our 2022-24 Committee Chairs have stated as they each completed their last meetings, a rotation of Chairs and Vice-Chairs and our new committee structure will begin in January. I most sincerely thank the past committee Chairs for the leadership that they each demonstrated during their respective committee meetings.

Before closing my remarks, I would like to point out once again the numerous examples found, mainly on social media, but also in our 2 local newspapers, of the extreme generosity of our community. Local churches, organizations, businesses, both large and small and individuals, have all stepped up to help those who are most in need not only during this Christmas Season, but throughout the year. I feel privileged to live in and also to represent, such a warm, caring and generous community!

I also want to remind Council that our Community New Year's Levee is also fast approaching. It will take place January 4th from 2-4. There will be free public skating, hot chocolate and coffee, and also Olliebollen, Greek pastries and Tim Bits. As you run into residents over the next couple of weeks, please be sure to invite them out to take part in this free event. It will be a great way to meet and greet informally and to wish each other well for the upcoming year ahead.

Finally, I would like to take this public opportunity to wish my colleagues on Council, all members of staff and the residents of West Lincoln, all of the Blessings of the Season and a very happy and healthy New Year!

Merry Christmas!