



**Minutes**

**Owen Sound City Council**

**February 27, 2023**

**City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers**

**5:30 p.m. - Open Session - Council Chambers**

**No Closed Session**

**MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ian Boddy  
Deputy Mayor Scott Greig  
Councillor Travis Dodd  
Councillor Jon Farmer  
Councillor Brock Hamley  
Councillor Suneet Kukreja  
Councillor Carol Merton  
Councillor Melanie Middlebro'

**MEMBERS**

**ABSENT/REGRETS:** Councillor Marion Koepke

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Tim Simmonds, City Manager  
Kate Allan, Director of Corporate Services  
Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services  
Lara Widdifield, Director of Public Works and Engineering  
Briana Bloomfield, City Clerk  
Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Boddy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

2.a Councillor Merton Re: Owen Sound's First Youth Climate Action Conference

2.b Councillor Farmer: Housing Resources and Safe Streets

2.c Mayor Boddy Re: Mayor's Update

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES**

4.a Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on February 6, 2023

4.b Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on February 7, 2023

4.c Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on February 13, 2023

R-230227-001

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

**"THAT the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as printed:**

- a. Special Council meeting held on February 6, 2023;**
- b. Special Council meeting held on February 7, 2023; and**
- c. Regular Council meeting held on February 13, 2023."**

Carried.

## **5. MOTION TO MOVE COUNCIL INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

R-230227-002

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

**"THAT City Council now move into Committee of the Whole to consider public meetings, deputations and presentations, public question period, matters arising from correspondence, reports of City staff, consent agenda, committee minutes, matters postponed, motions for which notice was previously given and additional business."**

Carried.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

## **6. PUBLIC MEETINGS**

### **6.a 2023 Budget**

Mayor Boddy declared the Public Meeting open at 5:33 p.m.

The City Clerk explained that notice of the Public Meeting was published in The Sun Times newspaper and posted on the City's website on February 14, 2023. The City Clerk advised that one written comment was circulated to Council, but not attached to the agenda, as requested by the author. No other comments were received, and no individuals registered to attend the meeting electronically. The City Clerk encouraged those present for the public meeting to sign the sign-in sheet located on the table outside of Council Chambers.

The City Clerk advised that personal information is collected under the authority of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, and that the information collected will be used to complete the budget process and will form part of the public record. Questions about this collection should be addressed to the City Clerk.

The Director of Corporate Services provided a presentation on the final draft of the 2023 operating budget. Ms. Allan highlighted the process to date, the tax increase which is estimated to be 0.86%, a comparison to neighbouring municipalities, and the services offered by Owen Sound in relation to neighbouring municipalities. Ms. Allan provided an overview of next steps, including that a by-law will be brought forward to the next Council meeting on March 13, 2023 to approve the budget as presented.

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Boddy declared the Public Meeting closed at 5:47 p.m.

## **7. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **7.a Presentation from the City Manager Re: Monthly Update**

The City Manager provided an overview of key highlights since his last update.

Mr. Simmonds noted that:

- The City's transit operator, Voyago, has confirmed the new fleet will be delivered and operational in March;
- A multi-departmental team has been reviewing product demos for the future implementation of Cloud Permits;
- The 2023 budget is the lowest increase in 12 years;
- Building permits for 24 new residential units have been issued to date;
- January 2023 began with more than \$4 million in building permits being issued;
- Green House Gas emissions inventory has been completed for corporate and community emissions, and targets for reductions have been set;
- An environmental considerations section in the Staff Report Templates will be added beginning in March;
- The TOM Thomson Art Gallery will host four unique fundraising events this year, featuring renowned local chef Zach Keeshig;
- The Art Gallery is partnering with GB Arts and Coffin Ridge Winery to develop weekend tourism packages;
- Mayor Boddy and Deputy Mayor Greig had a delegation with Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health at the ROMA Conference respecting physician recruitment; and
- The City has provided its support for AMO and AMCTO advocacy for provincial budget investments.

Mr. Simmonds noted the reports that will be presented to the Corporate Services Committee, Operations Committee, Community Services Committee, and Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee in the coming months.

Lastly, Mr. Simmonds congratulated the City of Owen Sound team who walked in the Coldest Night of the Year event on Saturday, February 25, 2023 and raised \$4,400 for Safe 'N Sound.

## **8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions from members of the public.

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF COUNCIL IS REQUIRED**

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

## **10. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF**

10.a Report CR-23-021 from the Director of Corporate Services Re: 2023 Budget

The Director of Corporate Services reviewed the report recommendation.

Council thanked staff for their hard work in preparing the budget and noted that immense progress has been made in finding reductions in the overall budget.

R-230227-003

Moved by Councillor Hamley

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CR-23-021 respecting the 2023 Budget, City Council directs staff to bring forward a by-law to set the 2023 Municipal Levy at \$33,138,031."**

Carried.

- 10.b Report CS-23-027 from the Facilities Booking Coordinator Re: 2023 Family Fun Fit Triathlon – Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre and Victoria Park – August 26, 2023

The Director of Community Services provided an overview of the report.

R-230227-004

Moved by Councillor Dodd

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-23-027 respecting 2023 Family Fun Fit Triathlon, City Council:**

- 1. Approves the use of Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre (JMRRRC), Victoria Park and surrounding parking areas as outlined on Schedule 'B' for the 2023 Family Fun Fit Triathlon event on Saturday, August 26, 2023, beginning at 7:00 a.m., subject to the conditions outlined in Schedule 'A';**
- 2. Approves the south parking lot closure including the closure of the eastbound left turn lane from 10<sup>th</sup> Street East as well as the 10<sup>th</sup> Street facility entrance from 7:00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Saturday, August 26, 2023 as outlined in the report, to accommodate the Family Fun Fit Triathlon subject to any recommendation from Public Works or Owen Sound Police Service being incorporated into the closure;**
- 3. Approves, in principle, the race route subject to final consultation with Police, Fire and EMS; and**
- 4. Directs staff to bring forward a by-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement with Family Fun Fit for the event."**

Carried.

- 10.c Verbal Report from the Deputy Mayor Re: Grey County Council

Deputy Mayor Greig advised that on February 23, 2023, County Council received and approved a funding commitment for Lutheran Social Services for a 40-unit new build fronting 3rd Avenue East across from the Transit Terminal. The \$3 million commitment funded from the Affordable Housing Fund are not new funds, but rather this approval is to align with the administrative requirement of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Rapid Housing Initiative. This housing is of high need in our community and will serve individuals currently on the Grey County community housing waitlist. The project will start prior to August 2023 with plans to be completed within 18 months.

Deputy Mayor Greig noted that County Council received a staff report from the Director of Planning, Scott Taylor, regarding natural heritage review options within Grey County. This review function assessing significant wetlands, woodlands, valleylands, wildlife habitat, areas of natural and scientific interest, fish habitat, and endangered species habitat was previously completed by Grey Sauble Conservation Authority. With the passing of Bill 23, conservation authorities are now prohibited from conducting this service. County staff recommended that County Council direct staff to proceed with recruiting a staff position for this role. In preparing the report, County staff surveyed municipal partners and responded to the preference being County staff for both County and municipal planning application reviews. The County Fees By-law will need to be updated so that some costs of the role can be recovered from the developer.

R-230227-005

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

**"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided February 27, 2023 from Deputy Mayor Greig respecting Grey County Council, City Council receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."**

Carried.

## **11. CONSENT AGENDA**

11.a Report CM-23-005 from the Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Operational Effectiveness Re: Pre-Budget Submissions for the 2023 Provincial Budget

11.b Final approvals issued for the following Business Licences:

- Wizard's Castle VR, an arcade and family entertainment centre located at 239 8th Street East
- Hawker and Peddler Licence issued to David Steffen for The Collectible Show on April 29, 2023 at 865 2nd Avenue West

11.c Correspondence received which is presented for the information of Council

R-230227-006

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

**"THAT City Council receives Items 11.a to 11.c on the Consent Agenda dated February 27, 2023, and further**

**THAT the recommendation contained in Item 11.a be approved."**

Carried.

## **12. COMMITTEE MINUTES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL**

12.a Minutes of the Community Development, Tourism and Culture Advisory Committee meeting held on February 10, 2023

R-230227-007

Moved by Councillor Hamley

**"THAT the minutes of the Community Development, Tourism and Culture Advisory Committee meeting held on February 10, 2023 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."**

Carried.

12.b Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on February 15, 2023

R-230227-008

Moved by Councillor Dodd

**"THAT the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on February 15, 2023 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."**

Carried.

- 12.c Minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on February 9, 2023

R-230227-009

Moved by Councillor Hamley

**"THAT the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on February 9, 2023 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."**

Carried.

- 12.d Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on February 16, 2023

R-230227-010

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

**"THAT the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on February 16, 2023 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."**

Carried.

### **13. MATTERS POSTPONED**

There were no postponed matters.

### **14. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

### **15. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

- 15.a Owen Sound's First Youth Climate Action Conference

Councillor Merton advised that Owen Sound's First Youth Climate Action Conference will be held on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at the Harmony Centre from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. There will be approximately 50 students from different schools who will be working on a variety of climate action initiatives and projects. The results of their projects and ongoing work will be showcased at the Earth Day Event on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at the Owen Sound Farmers' Market.

- 15.b Housing Resources and Safe Streets

Councillor Farmer noted that the Institute of South Georgian Bay has released a community toolkit for community leaders, and it has been shared with Council and is available online for the general public.

Councillor Farmer expressed concern related to pedestrians being struck by vehicles on 10th Street over the past couple of weeks and highlighted the importance of safe streets to promote active transportation.

- 15.c Mayor's Update

Mayor Boddy advised that he attended the Canadian Nuclear Association Conference last week in Ottawa with the Manager of Community and Business Development, Paul McGrath, and Grey County Economic Development staff, Savanna Myers and Steve Furness. The Conference focused on strengthening Canada's role as a global leader in nuclear technology and innovation. Canada's nuclear industry provides clean, affordable, reliable electricity. The Conference highlighted the significant opportunities available for the Canadian nuclear industry, both domestic and international, but also focused in on the barriers that could prevent Canada from realizing the full, economic and climate benefits of nuclear power.

Mayor Boddy noted that he attended the 50th Annual Canadian International Auto Show this past weekend in Toronto with the Tourism Marketing Coordinator,

Melissa Crannie, in support of Cobble Beach's Concours d'Elegance. Cobble Beach presented 75 Years of Porsche, a collection of 16 rare Porsche vehicles. The annual attendance was more than 330,000. Mayor Boddy thanked Cobble Beach for giving Owen Sound, Georgian Bluffs, and Grey County the opportunity to showcase the region as a great place to live, work, and play.

**16. MOTION THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RISE AND REPORT**

R-230227-011

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

**"THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report."**

Carried.

**FORMAL SESSION**

**17. MOTION TO ADOPT PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

R-230227-012

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

**"THAT the action taken in Committee of the Whole in considering public meetings, deputations and presentations, public question period, matters arising from correspondence, reports of City staff, consent agenda, committee minutes, matters postponed, motions for which notice was previously given and additional business be confirmed by this Council."**

Carried.

**18. NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no notices of motion.

**19. MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

**20. REPORTING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

**21. BY-LAWS**

21.a By-law No. 2023-021

"A By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound held on the 27th day of February, 2023"

R-230227-013

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

**"THAT By-law Number 2023-021 be passed and enacted."**

Carried.

**22. ADJOURNMENT**

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Mayor Boddy adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

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Mayor Ian C. Boddy

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Briana M. Bloomfield, City Clerk