



Minutes

Owen Sound City Council

November 6, 2023

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East

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

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor Scott Greig
Councillor Travis Dodd
Councillor Jon Farmer
Councillor Brock Hamley
Councillor Marion Koepke
Councillor Suneet Kukreja
Councillor Carol Merton
Councillor Melanie Middlebro'

MEMBERS

ABSENT/REGRETS: Mayor Ian Boddy

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Deputy Mayor Greig acknowledged National Indigenous Veterans' Day on November 8th and Remembrance Day on November 11th.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 2.a Councillor Merton Re: The Institute of Southern Georgian Bay Forum - New Ways to Finance the Housing Affordability Gap
- 2.b Councillor Middlebro' Re: Gichi-Name Wiikwedong Reconciliation Garden Committee's Thank You Event
- 2.c Councillor Koepke Re: 2023 Honouring Our Local Veterans Ceremony
- 2.d Councillor Kukreja Re: Garba and Diwali - Festival of Lights
- 2.e Councillor Farmer Re: Trick-or-Treat Trail
- 2.f City Clerk Re: Committee Vacancies
- 2.g Councillor Dodd Re: Hockeyfest, Holiday Magic, Santa Claus Parade, Festival of Northern Lights Opening Celebration, and Kiwanis Christmas Tree Sale

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES

- 4.a Minutes of the Closed Session of the Special Council meeting held on September 25, 2023
- 4.b Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on October 23, 2023
R-231106-001
Moved by Councillor Middlebro'
Seconded by Councillor Dodd

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

- 1. Closed Session of the Special Council meeting held on September 25, 2023; and**
- 2. Regular Council meeting held on October 23, 2023."**

Carried.

5. MOTION TO MOVE COUNCIL INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

R-231106-002
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

There were no public meetings.

7. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no deputations or presentations.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

- 8.a Chris Johannsen asked the following question respecting short-term rentals:
Is Council pro-tourism or is Council against tourism and growth?

Deputy Mayor Greig noted that correspondence has been provided to Council for consideration and a staff report will be coming forward to Council at its meeting on November 20, 2023 where Council will further debate this topic.

In response to a question from Council, the City Clerk advised that correspondence can be sent directly to her via email at bbloomfield@owensound.ca and she will share all correspondence with Council for their consideration.

- 8.b Chelsea Miller asked the following question respecting short-term rentals:
Why destroy or limit something that can generate funds for growth and development within our community?

Deputy Mayor Greig advised that Council will discuss this further when the staff report comes forward at the next Council meeting on November 20, 2023.

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 Verbal Report from the Deputy Mayor Re: Grey County Council

Deputy Mayor Greig relinquished the position of Chair so that he could provide his Verbal Report. Councillor Kukreja assumed the position of Chair.

Deputy Mayor Greig advised that on October 26, 2023, County Council amended the Terms of Reference for the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee to increase the membership from seven (7) to nine (9) members in response to the request from the City of Owen Sound. The recruitment process for the two positions will begin soon and any appointments will be returned to County Council for endorsement.

County Council reviewed the draft 2024 budget that has a proposed levy increase of \$9,979,300 over 2023. The process began on October 24, 2023 with an increase of 14.7% in levy cost before growth being accounted for. County assessment growth in 2023 will be approximately \$1.65 million, lowering the levy increase to approximately 12%. County Council discussed various items, totaling approximately \$5 million, that could be removed from the draft 2024 budget to further reduce the levy increase.

In response to a question from Council, Deputy Mayor Greig noted that there was a large addition to the proposed levy due to the reconstruction of Rockwood Terrace in Durham as well as implementing enhanced response times for paramedics through Grey County.

R-231106-003

Moved by Deputy Mayor Greig

"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided November 6, 2023 from Deputy Mayor Greig respecting Grey County Council, City Council receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."

Carried.

Deputy Mayor Greig resumed the position of Chair.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- 11.a Report CR-23-095 from the City Clerk Re: Lottery Licence for Sydenham Sportsmen's Association
- 11.b Report CR-23-096 from the Deputy Treasurer Re: Amendment to the Master Services Agreement with Paymentus
- 11.c Minutes of Boards and Committees for Receipt Re: Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board meeting held on September 27, 2023
- 11.d Minutes of Boards and Committees for Receipt Re: Owen Sound Housing Company meeting held on September 19, 2023
- 11.e Minutes of Boards and Committees for Receipt Re: Owen Sound Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation meeting held on September 19, 2023
- 11.f Minutes of Boards and Committees for Receipt Re: Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library Board meeting held on September 28, 2023
- 11.g Community Flag Flying Request Re: Pflag Owen Sound - Trans Day of Remembrance
- 11.h Community Flag Flying Request Re: Zonta of Owen Sound - United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

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

- Shanny's Kitchen Inc., a restaurant located at 948 2nd Avenue East

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

R-231106-004

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

"THAT City Council receives Items 11.a to 11.j on the Consent Agenda dated November 6, 2023, and further

THAT the recommendations contained in Items 11.a and 11.b be approved."

Carried.

R-231106-005

Moved by Councillor Kukreja

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received on the November 6, 2023 Consent Agenda respecting "Catch and Release" Justice in Ontario, City Council requests that:

- 1. The Mayor send a letter in support of the resolution from the Town of Midland; and**
- 2. The letter be sent to the Federal and Provincial Governments, the Solicitor General, the M.P. and M.P.P. for Bruce-Grey Owen Sound, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Owen Sound Police Services Board."**

Carried.

R-231106-006

Moved by Councillor Farmer

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received on the November 6, 2023 Consent Agenda respecting a Call for an Amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006*, City Council requests that:

- 1. Staff send a letter to the Attorney General, in support of the resolution from the Township of McKellar; and**
- 2. The letter be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, M.P. and M.P.P. for Bruce-Grey Owen Sound, and all Ontario municipalities."**

Carried.

R-231106-007

Moved by Councillor Farmer

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received on the November 6, 2023 Consent Agenda respecting the Community Safety & Well-Being Planning Steering Committee, City Council directs staff to invite the Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Steering Committee to present at a future Council meeting on their various Action Tables and the Situation Table for Acutely Elevated Risk (STAR)."

Carried.

12. COMMITTEE MINUTES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL

12.a Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on October 18, 2023

R-231106-008
Moved by Councillor Dodd

"THAT the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on October 18, 2023 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved, save and except Item 8.a.1."

Carried.

R-231106-009
Moved by Councillor Dodd

"THAT Item 8.a.1 contained in the Community Services Committee minutes from the meeting held on October 18, 2023 be received and the recommendation contained therein be approved."

Carried.

12.b Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on October 19, 2023

R-231106-010
Moved by Councillor Koepke

"THAT the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on October 19, 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 The Institute of Southern Georgian Bay Forum - New Ways to Finance the Housing Affordability Gap

Councillor Merton advised that The Institute of Southern Georgian Bay is hosting a forum on November 17th at the Meaford Hall on 'New Ways to Finance the Housing Affordability Gap'. The forum will be open to the public in the morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and you must pre-register on their website at www.tisgb.com. The forum is by invitation only in the afternoon from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for a focused workshop. Councillor Merton noted that research being conducted in our region is identifying the need for purpose-built rentals for workers in health, hospitality, retail, recreation, arts, and entertainment who are key to providing services in our communities.

15.b Gichi-Name Wiikwedong Reconciliation Garden Committee's Thank You Event

Councillor Middlebro' noted that she attended the Gichi-Name Wiikwedong Reconciliation Garden Committee's Thank You event on October 25th at Cobble Beach to bring remarks on behalf of Council and the Mayor. This event recognized those who have been involved with the Gichi-Name Wiikwedong Reconciliation Garden from 2010 until today. The City was gifted with a handmade bowl that will be put on display somewhere in the City.

15.c 2023 Honouring Our Local Veterans Ceremony

Councillor Koepke advised that she attended the 2023 Honouring Our Local Veterans Ceremony on October 29th hosted by the Billy Bishop Museum with Mayor Boddy and Deputy Mayor Greig. Councillor Koepke highlighted the honourees which include Sergeant Terry Bates, Private Alvin Cameron, Leading Seaman William Cutting, Lieutenant Luella Denton, Private John Des Jardine, Lieutenant Colonel James Gale, Bosun John Garvey, Sergeant Leonard Smith, and Sergeant Wallace Sprung. Councillor Koepke congratulated the honourees and their families.

15.d Garba and Diwali - Festival of Lights

Councillor Kukreja noted that she attended an event on October 28th on behalf of Council hosted by an organization known as owensoundevents.org, where the celebration revolved around Garba, a traditional dance celebrated in the northwestern part of India.

Councillor Kukreja advised that on November 4th, she and Mayor Boddy attended a Diwali event hosted by the Grey Bruce Settlement and Language Services in partnership with Georgian College. The event highlighted the importance and significance of Diwali, which is a Festival of Lights.

15.e Trick-or-Treat Trail

Councillor Farmer acknowledged the businesses and City staff who organized and participated in the Trick-or-Treat Trail in the River District on October 28th, which was a well-attended event.

15.f Committee Vacancies

The City Clerk advised that the City is currently recruiting public members for vacancies on the Community Services Committee, Corporate Services Committee, Operations Committee, Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee, and Council Remuneration Review Task Force. Applications will be accepted until Friday, November 17, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. and the application form can be found on the City's website at www.owensound.ca/committeevacancies or a hard copy can be picked up at the Service Owen Sound counter in City Hall.

15.g Hockeyfest, Holiday Magic, Santa Claus Parade, Festival of Northern Lights Opening Celebration, and Kiwanis Christmas Tree Sale

Councillor Dodd highlighted the following upcoming events:

- Owen Sound Hockeyfest will take place on November 17th and 18th and tickets are still available for purchase for girl's hockey games scheduled at the Bayshore on November 18th.
- Holiday Magic in the River District on November 18th from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 78th Annual Kiwanis Santa Claus Parade on November 18th at 5:00 p.m.
- Festival of Northern Lights Opening Celebration on November 18th at 7:00 p.m.
- Kiwanis Christmas Tree sales will begin on Friday, November 17th.

16. MOTION THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RISE AND REPORT

R-231106-011

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-231106-012

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

Prior to moving into Closed Session, Deputy Mayor Greig advised that for those who are watching the meeting live on Rogers Cable TV or the Rogers TV website, the Rogers feed will not reconnect to the meeting upon Council returning to the open session to report out of the Closed Session and review the by-laws. If anyone would like to view the remainder of the open session, they can watch the livestream on the City's Council and Committees webpage at www.owensound.ca/meetings. The video recording of the meeting will also be posted on this webpage following the meeting.

R-231106-013

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

"THAT City Council now move into 'Closed Session' to consider:

- a. Minutes of the Closed Session Council meeting held on October 23, 2023; and**
- b. One matter regarding personal matters about identifiable individuals respecting appointments to the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee."**

Carried.

Council moved into the Closed Session at 7:04 p.m.

20. REPORTING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Deputy Mayor Greig advised that Council returned to the open session at 7:19 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Greig advised that in Closed Session City Council:

- Reviewed minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Council meeting held on October 23, 2023; and
- Discussed one matter regarding personal matters about identifiable individuals respecting appointments to the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee, and no direction was provided to Council.

21. BY-LAWS

21.a By-law No. 2023-116

"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 6th day of November, 2023"

21.b By-law No. 2023-117

"A By-law to amend Fees and Charges By-law No. 2023-080 to include an affordable transit fare"

21.c By-law No. 2023-118

"A By-law to adopt Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Policy PRT001"

21.d By-law No. 2023-119

"A By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a second amending agreement with the Paymentus Corporation respecting electronic bill payment services"

R-231106-013

Moved by Councillor Middlebro'

Seconded by Councillor Dodd

"THAT By-law Numbers 2023-116, 2023-117, 2023-118, and 2023-119 be passed and enacted."

Carried.

22. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Deputy Mayor Greig adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Mayor Ian C. Boddy

Briana M. Bloomfield, City Clerk