THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL
OPEN SESSION

CL 1-2021
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Council Chamber/Video Conference
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

Council Members Present in the Council Chamber:	Bradley (Regional Chair), Insinna
Council Members Present via Video Conference:	Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
Absent/Regrets:	Bellows
Staff Present in the Council Chamber:	M. Lewis, Client and Support Advisor, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Staff Present via Video Conference:	D. Barnhart, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair, R. Ferron, Deputy Chief/Associate Director, Emergency Medical Services, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, D. Giles, Acting Commissioner, Planning & Development Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, P. Lambert, Director, Infrastructure, Planning & Development Engineering, K. Lutz, Deputy Chief/Associate Director, Emergency Medical Services, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions, D. Rurak, Director, Asset Management Office, K. Smith, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities, D. Woiceshyn, Chief Executive Officer, Niagara Regional Housing, N. Wolfe, Director, Construction, Energy, and Facilities Management, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

1. CALL TO ORDER

Regional Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Addition of Items

Moved by Councillor Edgar
Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Ed Smith **BE PERMITTED** to appear before Council as an individual delegate respecting Correspondence Item CL-C 1-2021 - Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Gale
Seconded by Councillor Darte

That APG Neuros **BE PERMITTED** to appear before Council as a delegate respecting the issue of turbo blowers.

Council was advised that, in accordance with the Procedural By-law, delegations are only permitted to appear at Council meetings with respect to items on the Council agenda, and as there were no items on the agenda respecting turbo blowers, a two-thirds majority would be required to add the delegation. It was further noted that a report requested by Council concerning turbo-blowers is being prepared for the March Public Works Committee which would be an appropriate time for APG Neuros to delegate.

At this point in the meeting Councillor Gale withdrew his motion.

2.2 Changes in Order of Items

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

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That Council Agenda CL 1-2021, **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

Carried

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Gale declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters concerning hospital funding, as his daughter is a member of the hospital board, and his son is employed by Niagara Health.

Councillor Steele declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters concerning hospital funding, as his wife is employed by Niagara Health.

Councillor Sendzik declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters concerning hospital funding, as a member of his family is employed by Niagara Health.

Councillor Redekop declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters concerning hospital funding, as his daughter conducts contract work for Niagara Health.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

5. CHAIR'S REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMARKS

The Regional Chair provided an update respecting activities within the Region and the efforts of Niagara Region with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic.

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma (CL-C 1-2021 (Agenda Item 8.2.1))

Ed Smith, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council respecting Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma. Mr. Smith suggested, that in addition to the recommendation of the Integrity Commissioner to reprimand Councillor Bylsma, that Council consider removing him from any taskforces or boards that he sits on where he represents Niagara Region.

7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

7.1 Council Minutes CL 23-2020

Thursday, December 17, 2020

Moved by Councillor Witteveen
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Minutes CL 23-2020 being the Open and Closed Session minutes of the Regional Council meeting held on Thursday, December 17, 2020, **BE ADOPTED**.

Carried

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Receive and/or Refer

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That the following items **BE DEALT WITH** as follows:

CL-C 2-2021 respecting Amendment to Waste Management By-law, **BE RECEIVED**;

CL-C 5-2021 respecting Northwest Welland Secondary Plan – Regional Interest, **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried

8.2 For Consideration

8.2.1 CL-C 1-2021

Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma

Moved by Councillor Witteveen
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Correspondence Item CL-C 1-2021, being Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That Council **CONSIDER** the recommendation of the Integrity Commissioner contained in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 at this time.

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That the motion **BE AMENDED** as follows:

1. That Correspondence Item CL-C 1-2021, being Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma, **BE RECEIVED**; and

2. That Council **CONSIDER** the recommendation of the Integrity Commissioner contained in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 at this time;

3. ***That Regional Council ISSUE a reprimand to Councillor Bylsma, condemning his Radio Interview remarks as referred to in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 (CL-C 1-2021); and***

4. ***That this reprimand BE CIRCULATED to the Township of West Lincoln Council.***

Moved by Councillor Sendzik
Seconded by Councillor Darte

That the amendment **BE AMENDED** to add the following clause:

That Councillor Bylsma BE REMOVED from any Agencies, Boards or Commissions representing Niagara Region for the duration of 2021.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (20): Butters, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Redekop, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen.

No (9): Diodati, Fertich, Greenwood, Insinna, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Witteveen, Zalepa.

Carried

Council requested advice from the Director of Legal and Court Services regarding the amendment to the amendment to remove Councillor Bylsma from any agencies, boards or commissions that he sits on. Staff advised that this information would need to be provided in closed session as it would be legal advice subject to solicitor-client privilege; therefore it was:

Moved by Councillor Zalepa
Seconded by Councillor Huson

That Council **DO NOW MOVE** into closed session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature respecting:

A Matter of Legal Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720-Councillor Dave Bylsma.

Carried

Council resolved into closed session at 8:13 p.m.

Council reconvened in open session at 9:18 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Council Members Present in the Council Chamber:	Bradley (Regional Chair), Insinna
Council Members Present via Video Conference:	Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
Absent/Regrets:	Bellows
Staff Present in the Council Chamber:	M. Lewis, Client and Support Advisor, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Staff Present via Video Conference:	D. Barnhart, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair, R. Ferron, Deputy Chief/Associate Director, Emergency Medical Services, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, D. Giles, Acting Commissioner, Planning & Development Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, P. Lambert, Director, Infrastructure, Planning & Development Engineering, K. Lutz, Deputy Chief/Associate Director, Emergency Medical Services, F.

Meffe, Director, Human Resources, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions, D. Rurak, Director, Asset Management Office, K. Smith, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities, D. Woiceshyn, Chief Executive Officer, Niagara Regional Housing, N. Wolfe, Director, Construction, Energy, and Facilities Management, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Huson

That the motion **BE DEFERRED** to the Regional Council meeting being held on February 25, 2021, to allow the Integrity Commissioner to be in attendance.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (4): Gale, Insinna, Junkin, Rigby.

No (25): Butters, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Nicholson, Redekop, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

Defeated

Moved by Councillor Campion
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That the question **BE CALLED.**

Carried

The Regional Chair called the vote on the amendment as amended as follows:

3. That Regional Council ISSUE a reprimand to Councillor Bylsma, condemning his Radio Interview remarks as referred to in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 (CL-C 1-2021);

4. That Councillor Bylsma BE REMOVED from any Agencies, Boards or Commissions representing Niagara Region for the duration of 2021; and

5. That this reprimand BE CIRCULATED to the Township of West Lincoln Council.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (21): Butters, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Redekop, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen.

No (8): Diodati, Fertich, Insinna, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Witteveen, Zalepa.

Carried

The Regional Chair called the vote on the motion as amended, as follows:

1. That Correspondence Item CL-C 1-2021, being Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 - Councillor Dave Bylsma, **BE RECEIVED**; and
2. That Council **CONSIDER** the recommendation of the Integrity Commissioner contained in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 at this time;
3. That Regional Council **ISSUE** a reprimand to Councillor Bylsma, condemning his Radio Interview remarks as referred to in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 (CL-C 1-2021); and
4. That Councillor Bylsma **BE REMOVED** from any Agencies, Boards or Commissions representing Niagara Region for the duration of 2021.
5. That this reprimand **BE CIRCULATED** to the Township of West Lincoln Council.

Clauses 1 and 2 were voted on separately and declared,

Carried

Clauses 3 and 5 were voted on separately as follows:

3. That Regional Council **ISSUE** a reprimand to Councillor Bylsma, condemning his Radio Interview remarks as referred to in Report on Code of Conduct Complaint - IC-221-0720 (CL-C 1-2021); and

5. That this reprimand **BE CIRCULATED** to the Township of West Lincoln Council.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (26): Butters, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (3): Diodati, Fertich, Junkin.

Carried

Clause 4 was voted on separately as follows:

4. That Councillor Bylsma **BE REMOVED** from any Agencies, Boards or Commissions representing Niagara Region for the duration of 2021.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (20): Butters, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Redekop, Sendzik, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen.

No (9): Diodati, Fertich, Greenwood, Insinna, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Witteveen, Zalepa.

Carried

8.2.2 CL-C 3-2021

Vacancy on the Linking Niagara Transit Committee

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Correspondence Item CL-C 3-2021, being a memorandum from A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, dated January 21, 2021, respecting Vacancy on the Linking Niagara Transit Committee, **BE RECEIVED;** and

That Councillor Zalepa **BE APPOINTED** to fill the vacancy.

Carried

8.2.3 CL-C 7-2021

Recommendations for Consideration from the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 21, 2021

Moved by Councillor Zalepa
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Correspondence Item CL-C 7-2021, being a memorandum from A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, dated January 21, 2021, respecting Recommendations for Consideration from the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 21, 2021, **BE RECEIVED**;

That Report CSD 5-2021, dated January 14, 2021, respecting 2021 Levy Operating Budget, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the 2021 net levy budget relating to the Niagara Regional Departments of $208,777,440 as consolidated in Appendix 1 of Report CSD 5-2021 **BE APPROVED** including the following in accordance with the 2021 budget planning strategy:

   1.1 That an increase of $2,038,765 or 1.0% over the 2020 departmental operating budget **BE APPROVED** to support operating expenses;

   1.2 That an increase of $2,046,918 or 1.0% over the 2020 departmental operating budget **BE APPROVED** to support pay-as-you-go capital financing;

2. That a contribution of $18,808,401 from the Taxpayer Relief Reserve, which includes Safe Restart Funding, **BE APPROVED** to fund the net pressures related to the COVID-19 pandemic of $17,196,924 for Regional Departments, and $1,611,477 for the Agencies, Boards and Commissions COVID-19 pressures, as detailed in Appendix 2 of Report CSD 5-2021, for a net taxpayer impact of $0;

   2.1 That an additional $4,319,211 draw from the Taxpayer Relief Reserve **BE APPROVED** to reduce the 2021 net levy operating budget to 1.8%;

3. That an additional 1.44% or $5,664,748 of assessment growth **BE APPROVED** to costs, as detailed in Appendix 3 of Report CSD 5-2021, in alignment with section 4.7 of By-law 2019-79 Budget Planning By-law;

4. That the 2021 net levy operating budget including the Niagara Regional Departments of $210,083,411 and Agencies, Boards, and Commissions of $195,217,203 for a total $405,300,614, **BE APPROVED**;

5. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to prepare a report for the Corporate Services Committee respecting establishment of a 'Hospital Contribution Reserve'; and

6. That the necessary by-law **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council for consideration.

A request was made to vote on clause 5 of the motion separately.

The Regional Chair called the vote on the remaining clauses and declared it,

Carried

Clause 5 was considered separately as follows:

5. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to prepare a report for the Corporate Services Committee respecting establishment of a 'Hospital Contribution Reserve'.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (26): Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (0).

Carried

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION

9.1 Public Works Committee

Minutes PWC 1-2021, Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Fertich

That Minutes PWC 1-2021 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

9.2 Public Health and Social Services Committee

Minutes PHSSC 1-2021, Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That Minutes PHSSC 1-2021 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

9.3 Chief Administrative Officer Recruitment Committee

Minutes CAORC 1-2021, Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

That Minutes CAORC 1-2021 being the Open Session minutes of the Chief Administrative Officer Recruitment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED.**

Carried

9.4 Corporate Services Committee

Minutes CSC 1-2021, Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes CSC 1-2021 being the Open and Closed Session minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

9.4.1 Minute Item 6.3 respecting Next Generation 911 (NG911) Update

The motion contained in Minute Item 6.3 was considered separately as follows:

That Report CSD 3-2021, dated January 13, 2021, respecting Next Generation 911 (NG911) Update, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to continue the planning for the implementation of NG911 in coordination with partner agencies, boards and councils; and

2. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to develop a recommended model of a consolidated emergency dispatch service for Niagara.

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Sendzik

That the motion **BE AMENDED** to add clause 3 as follows:

3. That staff BE DIRECTED to provide an interim update report to Regional Council at the March 25, 2021 Council meeting with the final report presented no later than the Regional Council meeting being held on June 24, 2021.

Carried

The Regional Chair called the vote on the motion as amended, as follows:

That Report CSD 3-2021, dated January 13, 2021, respecting Next Generation 911 (NG911) Update, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to continue the planning for the implementation of NG911 in coordination with partner agencies, boards and councils;
2. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to develop a recommended model of a consolidated emergency dispatch service for Niagara; and
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to provide an interim update report to Regional Council at the March 25, 2021 Council meeting with the final report presented no later than the Regional Council meeting being held on June 24, 2021.

Carried

9.4.2 Balance of the recommendations of Corporate Services Committee

The Regional Chair called the vote on the balance of the recommendations from the Corporate Services Committee, and declared it,

Carried

9.5 Planning and Economic Development Committee

Minutes PEDC 1-2021, Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Darte

That Minutes PEDC 1-2021 being the Open Session minutes of the Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

9.5.1 Minute Item 6.2 respecting Regional Official Plan Amendment 18 and Local Official Plan Amendment 24 – Northwest Welland Urban Boundary Expansion Request

The motion contained in Minute Item 6.2 was considered separately as follows:

That Report PDS 3-2021, dated January 13, 2021, respecting Regional Official Plan Amendment 18 and Local Official Plan Amendment 24 – Northwest Welland Urban Boundary Expansion Request, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 18 – Northwest Welland Urban Area Boundary Expansion **BE APPROVED** (attached as Appendix 2 to Report PDS 3-2021);

2. That Local Official Plan Amendment No. 24 to the City of Welland Official Plan **BE APPROVED** as modified (attached as Appendix 3 to Report PDS 3-2021);

3. That all parties **BE NOTIFIED** of Regional Council's decision in accordance with Planning Act, 1990 requirements;

4. That staff **ISSUE** a declaration of final approval for Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 18 and Local Official Plan Amendment No. 24, 20 days after notice of Council's decision has been given, provided that no appeals have been filed against the decision, in accordance with Planning Act, 1990 requirements; and

5. That this report **BE CIRCULATED** to the City of Welland.

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Junkin

That the motion **BE AMENDED** to add clause 6 as follows:

6. That all required reports BE DISTRIBUTED to the Town of Pelham and City of Thorold.

Carried

The Regional Chair called the vote on the motion as amended and declared it,

Carried

9.5.2 Balance of the recommendations of Planning and Economic Development Committee

The Regional Chair called the vote on the balance of the recommendations from the Planning and Economic Development Committee and declared it,

Carried

9.6 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 1-2021, Thursday, January 14, 2021

Moved by Councillor Zalepa
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 1-2021 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on Thursday, January 14, 2021, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

9.6.1 Minute Item 5.3 respecting Hospital Funding Contribution Policy

The motion from Minute Item 5.3 was considered separately as follows:

That Report CSD 13-2021, dated January 14, 2021, respecting Hospital Funding Contribution Policy, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Council **APPROVE** a regional funding contribution policy to a maximum of 21% of the total local contribution;

2. That Council **APPROVE** a funding commitment of $12.6M toward the required local contribution for the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH) project pending the completion of a formal contribution agreement; and

3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to develop a comprehensive financing strategy for Regional contributions to hospital projects and be completed as part of the 2022 Budget process.

Moved by Councillor Junkin
Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That Regional Council **EXTEND** this meeting's curfew to 11:00 p.m.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Whalen
Seconded by Councillor Zalepa

That approval of the regional funding contribution policy to a maximum of 21% of the total local contribution **BE DEFERRED** until a comprehensive financing strategy for Regional contributions to hospital projects is developed.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (8): Bylsma, Fertich, Gibson, Heit, Insinna, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (18): Butters, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Greenwood, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Ugulini, Villella.

Defeated

Moved by Councillor Diodati
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That the rules of procedure **BE SUSPENDED** to permit Council to extend this meeting's curfew until business is completed.

Two-thirds majority having been achieved, the Regional Chair declared the vote,

Carried

The Regional Chair called the vote on the recommendations contained in Minute Item 5.3.

Clause 1 was considered separately as follows:

1. That Council **APPROVE** a regional funding contribution policy to a maximum of 21% of the total local contribution.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (13): Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Fertich, Foster, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Ugulini, Witteveen.

No (14): Bradley, Butters, Darte, Edgar, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Rigby, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

Defeated

Clause 2 was considered separately as follows:

2. That Council **APPROVE** a funding commitment of $12.6M toward the required local contribution for the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH) project pending the completion of a formal contribution agreement.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (20): Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Fertich, Foster, Gibson, Greenwood, Huson, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen.

No (6): Butters, Edgar, Heit, Insinna, Ip, Zalepa.

Carried

Clause 3 was considered separately as follows:

3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to develop a comprehensive financing strategy for Regional contributions to hospital projects and be completed as part of the 2022 Budget process.

Carried

9.6.2 Balance of the recommendations of Budget Review Committee of the Whole

The Regional Chair called the vote on the balance of the recommendations from the Budget Review Committee of the Whole and declared it,

Carried

10. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT(S)

There were no Chief Administrative Officer reports.

11. MOTIONS

11.1 Shared Service Delivery

Moved by Councillor Zalepa
Seconded by Councillor Foster

WHEREAS the Region contracted KPMG to conduct a sustainability review which was completed and presented to Council in 2019;

WHEREAS the sustainability review identified a potential savings between $1.8 - $7.1 million dollars through an opportunity for "Integration of Service with Local Area Municipalities";

WHEREAS Regional Council has a responsibility to explore all opportunities to utilize public tax dollars in a manner that is as efficient and effective as possible; and service delivery review affords an opportunity to improve service levels while ensuring that municipalities are efficiently employing their resources while respecting local autonomy;

WHEREAS Niagara's municipal CAO's have had preliminary meetings to discuss potential shared service delivery opportunities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Regional Council **ADOPT** an exploration of shared service delivery as a Council commitment and priority for the remainder of the term;

2. That Regional Council **REQUEST**:

   a) a summary report from the Chief Administrative Officer providing an update on shared service delivery discussions, progress to date and areas identified for further exploration;

   b) a draft timeline to engage municipal partners and discussion topics for further exploration on shared service opportunities; and

c) these items be included on the March agenda of Regional Council for discussion.

Carried

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1 Hospital Capital Cost Share Funding Policy

Councillor Villella advised that she would like to bring forward a motion for consideration at this Council meeting respecting the provincial hospital capital cost share funding policy.

The Regional Chair informed Council that in order to consider the motion at this meeting, notice would need to be waived with the affirmative support of two-thirds of the members present.

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the notice requirements under Section 18.1 of the Procedural By-law **BE WAIVED** to permit the consideration of a motion from Councillor Villella respecting the provincial hospital capital cost share funding policy.

Two-thirds majority having been achieved, the Regional Chair declared the vote,

Carried

Moved by Councillor Villella
Seconded by Councillor Huson

WHEREAS the Constitution Acts, 1867 to 1982, give provincial governments exclusive authority and responsibility for the provision of hospitals;

WHEREAS current provincial policy expects a local contribution equal to a minimum of 10% of the capital costs related to new hospital construction projects;

WHEREAS this funding policy places an unaffordable burden on communities who often look to their local municipalities to help fund a large portion of the mandated 10% "local share";

WHEREAS municipalities have limited opportunities to generate the revenue necessary to fund the 10% capital share required by provincial policy;

WHEREAS funding this share requires a municipality to either make significant sacrifices to core municipal programs and services, or consider significant increases to property tax bills; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has a greater capacity to raise funds through broader and more progressive taxes, spread across a larger base in comparison to that of municipalities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send a letter to Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health requesting the Province of Ontario revise the Hospital Capital Cost Share funding policy to covers 100% of all new hospital construction costs.

The following friendly ***amendment*** was accepted by the Regional Chair, and the mover and seconder of the motion:

That a copy of the letter BE CIRCULATED to the local area MPPs.

The Regional Chair called the vote on the motion as amended, and declared it,

Carried

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Public Statement

Councillor Gale made a statement regarding comments recently made concerning him in the media.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gale
Seconded by Councillor Darte

That Council **DO NOW MOVE** into closed session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature respecting:

A Matter concerning Personal Matters about identifiable individuals under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Update on Whistleblower Policy Complaints

Carried

Council resolved into closed session at 11:23 p.m.

15. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Council reconvened in open session at 11:32 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Council Members Present in the Council Chamber:	Bradley (Regional Chair), Insinna
Council Members Present via Video Conference:	Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Rigby, Steele, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
Absent/Regrets:	Bellows, Redekop, Sendzik, Ugulini
Staff Present in the Council Chamber:	M. Lewis, Client and Support Advisor, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Staff Present via Video Conference:	D. Barnhart, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

15.1 REVISED Confidential CL-C 4-2021

A Matter concerning Personal Matters about identifiable individuals under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Update on Whistleblower Policy Complaints

Moved by Councillor Edgar
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Revised Confidential Memorandum CL-C 4-2021, dated January 21, 2021, respecting A Matter concerning Personal Matters about identifiable individuals under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Update on Whistleblower Policy Complaints, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

16. BY-LAWS

Moved by Councillor Whalen
Seconded by Councillor Bylsma

That the following Bills **BE NOW READ** and **DO PASS**:

Bill 2021-01
A by-law to authorize long-term financing (1-10 years) in the amount of $25,000,000; and (1-30 years) in the amount of $52,820,651 Niagara Region Capital Projects.

Bill 2021-02
A by-law to adopt the 2021 capital budget for the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2021-03
A by-law to establish fees and charges for services and activities provided by The Regional Municipality of Niagara and for the use of its property and to repeal Bylaw No. 2019-100.

Bill 2021-04
A by-law to accept, assume and dedicate Part of Lot 21, Concession 1, in the Town of Grimsby as part of Regional Road No. 40 (South Service Road).

Bill 2021-05
A by-law to authorize a 2021 Interim and waste management special upper-tier levy for the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2021-06
A by-law to amend By-law 2020-62, being a by-law to amend By-law 2017-56, being a By-law to regulate the use of the waste management system for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2021-07
A by-law to adopt the 2021 operating budget and tax levy for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2021-08
A by-law to provide for the adoption of amendment 18 to the Official Plan for the Niagara Planning Area to implement the urban boundary expansion for the northwest area of the City of Welland.

Bill 2021-09
A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of Regional Council at its meeting held on January 21, 2021.

Carried

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 p.m.

Jim Bradley
Regional Chair

Matthew Trennum
Deputy Regional Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk