

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION**

**CSC 4-2021  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
Council Chamber / Video Conference  
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee Members Present in the Council Chamber: Foster (Committee Chair), Rigby

Committee Members Present via Video Conference: Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Campion, Diodati, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Gale, Heit, Ip, Redekop, Whalen (Committee Vice-Chair)

Other Councillors Present via Video Conference: Sendzik

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: H. Chamberlain, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, E. Fabiani, Technology Support Analyst, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, D. Pasto, Risk Management Program Manager, J. Tonellato, Director, Water Wastewater Services, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

Staff Present via Video Conference: S. Crocco, Legal Counsel, M. Cruickshank, Legal Counsel, R. Fleming, Senior Tax & Revenue Analyst, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions, M. Murphy, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Foster called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Councillor Redekop declared an indirect pecuniary interest respecting the presentation, Niagara Health - Partnering Together for the Future South Niagara Hospital (Agenda Item 3.1), as his daughter is employed by the Niagara Health System.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 **Niagara Health - Partnering Together for the Future South Niagara Hospital**

Mary Jane Johnson, Project Director, Stakeholder Relations, Lynn Guerriero, President and Interim Chief Executive Officer, Angela Zangari, Executive Vice President Finance, Redevelopment and Operations, Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Johan Viljoen, Chief of Staff and Executive Vice President, Medical Affairs and Cliff Harvey, Chief Planning Officer, Niagara Health provided information respecting Niagara Health - Partnering Together for the Future South Niagara Hospital. Topics of the presentation included:

- Building a Healthier Niagara, Together
- Current Service Model
- Future Service Model
- South Niagara Site Overview
- South Niagara Site Programs and Services
- South Niagara Site - Regional Benefits
- Regional Local Share - Commitments

4. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

5.1 **CSD 18-2021**

Authorization of Tile Drainage Loan

Moved by Councillor Easton

Seconded by Councillor Edgar

That Report CSD 18-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting Authorization of Tile Drainage Loan, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That an amount sufficient for the payment of the principal and interest costs of the debenture for tile drainage listed in Schedule "A" attached to Report CSD 18-2021, **BE LEVIED** to the Town of Lincoln.

**Carried**

5.2 CSD 22-2021

Program Review and Options for 2021-2022 Insurance Renewal

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by Councillor Fertich

That Report CSD 22-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting Program Review and Options for 2021-2022 Insurance Renewal, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Council **AUTHORIZE** staff to negotiate with Niagara Region's existing Insurer/Broker, Marsh Canada Limited ("Marsh") in order to secure an insurance agreement extension on behalf of Niagara Region, Niagara Regional Police Service and Niagara Regional Housing for the November 1, 2021, to November 1, 2022, policy period;
2. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to continue the review of the current insurance program and associated risks and to report back to Council by the end of April 2022, regarding all available options to Council including potentially going back out to market in 2022-2023; and
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to obtain an updated actuarial analysis of Niagara Region's loss exposure and risk financing.

**Carried**

5.3 CSD 23-2021

2021 Property Tax Policy, Ratios and Rates

Moved by Councillor Heit

Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Report CSD 23-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting 2021 Property Tax Policy, Ratios and Rates, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Council **APPROVE** the following tax ratios and sub-class reductions for the 2021 taxation year:

Property Classification	Tax Ratio	Sub-Class Reduction
Residential	1.000000	
New Multi-Residential	1.000000	
Multi-Residential	1.970000	
Commercial	1.734900	
Commercial – Excess Land	1.734900	22.5%
Commercial – Vacant Land	1.734900	22.5%
Industrial	2.630000	
Industrial – Excess Land	2.630000	22.5%
Industrial – Vacant Land	2.630000	22.5%
Pipeline	1.702100	
Farmland	0.250000	
Managed Forest	0.250000	
Farmland Awaiting Development 1	1.000000	25%
Farmland Awaiting Development 2	Class Ratio	
Landfill Sites	2.940261	

2. That the necessary by-laws **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council for consideration and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Councils of the Area Municipalities for information; and
3. That Report CSD 23-2021 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Councils of the Area Municipalities for information.

**Carried**

**Councillor Information Request(s):**

Provide information on the financial impact of taxing all multi-residential properties at the same rate prior to the 2022 budget discussions.  
Councillor Redekop.

Consider implementation of a small business tax class. Councillor  
Campion.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Reports CSD 24-2021 and CLK 3-2021 were considered separately.

6.3 **CSD 24-2021**

Hospice Niagara Request for Funding

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Report CSD 24-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting Hospice  
Niagara Request for Funding, **BE RECEIVED** for information and the  
following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Hospice Niagara Funding request of \$4 million **BE  
RECEIVED** for information.

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Campion

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

1. That the Hospice Niagara Funding request of \$4 million **BE  
RECEIVED** for information;
2. ***That Council SUPPORTS the request for funding by Hospice  
Niagara in the amount of \$4 million;***
3. ***That funding for the project BE INCLUDED in the 2022 Niagara  
Region operating budget, to be paid in 4 equal annual instalments  
with timing to be determined and a report to come forward to the  
Budget Review Committee of the Whole; and***
4. ***That staff BE DIRECTED to develop a program for dealing with  
this type of health care related request for funding, possible  
criteria to include how the proposed project integrates with other  
health care services in Niagara, the extent of service to all  
residents of Niagara, the impact of proposed new services or  
extension of existing services and how the project will be funded  
through private fundraising and other sources of revenue.***

Moved by Councillor Ip  
Seconded by Councillor Diodati

That consideration of the amendment, respecting Hospice Niagara Request for Funding, **BE DEFERRED** to the Corporate Services Committee meeting being held on July 14, 2021.

**Carried**

6.4 CLK 3-2021

Double Direct Councillors

Moved by Councillor Diodati  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Report CLK 3-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting Double Direct Councillors, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Moved by Councillor Diodati  
Seconded by Councillor Gale

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

That Report CLK 3-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting Double Direct Councillors, **BE RECEIVED** for information;

***That Regional Council SUPPORT the request from the City of Niagara Falls; and***

***That staff BE DIRECTED to initiate the process to elect, by the double direct method, three members of Niagara Falls City Council to serve as both Regional and City Councillors.***

Recorded Vote:

Yes (3): Diodati, Fertich, Gale.

No (11): Bradley, Butters, Campion, Easton, Edgar, Foster, Heit, Ip, Redekop, Rigby, Whalen.

**Defeated**

The Committee Chair called the vote on the original motion and declared it,

**Carried**

**6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Moved by Councillor Heit  
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That the following items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

CSC-C 13-2021  
COVID-19 Response and Business Continuity in Corporate Services

CSD 21-2021  
Regional Development Charges Treasurer's Statement 2020

PHD-C 5-2021  
Update Regarding Class Action Lawsuit Against Opioid Manufacturers and  
Distributors on Behalf of Canadian Municipalities

**Carried**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7.1 2022 Canada Summer Games Update**

Councillor Whalen enquired whether Committee will be receiving a report providing an update on the 2022 Canada Summer Games. Todd Harrison, Commissioner Corporate Services/Treasurer, advised that a report will be provided at an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting.

**7.2 Request for Revisions to the Municipal Act, 2001 to Address Serious Misconduct by Municipal Councillors**

Councillor Butters enquired about the motion respecting Request for Revisions to the Municipal Act, 2001, to Address Serious Misconduct by Municipal Councillors, that was referred to the Corporate Services Committee at the Council meeting held on March 25, 2021. Committee Chair Foster advised that the referred motion would be included on the agenda for the Corporate Services Committee meeting being held on May 12, 2021.

**7.3 Review of Ride Sharing and Vehicles for Hire Policies**

Councillor Ip requested an update on the review of the by-laws related to ride sharing and vehicles for hire. Todd Harrison, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer, advised that a report would be included on the agenda for the Corporate Services Committee meeting being held on June 16, 2021.

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Gale  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That this Committee **DO NOW MOVE** into closed session for the purpose of receiving information of a confidential nature respecting A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-client Privilege and Respecting Litigation – Response to Councillor Gale’s Motion regarding Litigation Matters reported in Confidential CSD 60-2020.

**Carried**

Committee resolved into closed session at 11:53 a.m.

**9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

Committee reconvened in open session at 12:24 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Committee Members Present in the Council Chamber: Foster (Committee Chair), Rigby

Committee Members Present via Video Conference: Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Diodati, Easton, Fertich, Gale, Heit, Ip, Redekop, Whalen (Committee Vice-Chair)

Absent/Regrets: Campion

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: H. Chamberlain, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, E. Fabiani, Technology Support Analyst, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, D. Pasto, Risk Management Program Manager, J. Tonellato, Director, Water Wastewater Services, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

Staff Present via Video Conference: K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator

9.1 Confidential CSD 25-2021

A Matter Respecting a Proposed Acquisition of Land by the Municipality – Seniors Community Programs Lease Agreement in St. Catharines

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Confidential Report CSD 25-2021, dated April 14, 2021, respecting A Matter Respecting a Proposed Acquisition of Land by the Municipality – Seniors Community Programs Lease Agreement in St. Catharines, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein, **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

9.2 Confidential CSC-C 12-2021

A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-client Privilege and Respecting Litigation – Response to Councillor Gale’s Motion regarding Litigation Matters reported in Confidential CSD 60-2020

Moved by Councillor Gale  
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Confidential Correspondence Item CSC-C 12-2021, being a memorandum from M. Cruickshank, Legal Counsel, dated April 14, 2021, respecting A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-client Privilege and Respecting Litigation – Response to Councillor Gale’s Motion regarding Litigation Matters reported in Confidential CSD 60-2020, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

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Councillor Foster  
Committee Chair

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Kelly Lotimer  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk