

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

**COTW 4-2021
Thursday, September 9, 2021
Council Chamber / Video Conference
Regional Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee Members Present in the Council Chamber: Bradley (Regional Chair), Insinna

Committee Members Present via Video Conference: Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Diodati, Disero, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gale, Gibson, Greenwood, Heit, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Sendzik, Steele, Ugolini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Butters

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: D. Ane, Manager, Program Financial Support, H. Chamberlain, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, M. Elia, Technology Support Analyst, P. Hamilton, Program Financial Specialist, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, J. Tonellato, Director, Water & Wastewater Services, L. Vespi, Manager, Capital Projects, Water & Wastewater Engineering

Staff Present via Video Conference: D. Barnhart, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair, C. Cousins, Director, Homelessness and Community Engagement, D. Giles, Director, Community and Long Range Planning, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, J. Sinclair, Homelessness Action Plan Advisor, A. Tikky, Senior Planner

Others Present: C. Hamel, Consultant Project Manager and President, GM BluePlan

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1 South Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget and Property (Report PW 39-2021 (Agenda Item 5.1))

3.1.1 Peter Inman, Resident, City of Welland

Peter Inman, resident, City of Welland, appeared before Committee requesting staff review what infrastructure would be required in south Niagara Falls if the new hospital was not built and associated potential cost savings and requested staff establish partnerships with Niagara Health to consider upgrading existing hospital sites as an alternative.

4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 PW 39-2021

South Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget and Property

Chris Hamel, Consultant Project Manager & President, GM BluePlan Engineering, and Pamela Hamilton, Program Financial Specialist, provided information respecting South Niagara Falls Wastewater Solutions Schedule C Class Environmental Assessment. Topics of the presentation included:

- Project Background and Strategy Update
- Cost Estimates
- Financial Review
- Key Considerations and Risk Management
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Property Update
- Next Steps

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Report PW 39-2021, dated August 5, 2021, South Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget and Property, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That a budget increase to the capital projects associated with the new South Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant **BE CONSIDERED** as part of the 2022 budget process.

Carried

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Niagara Region: Core Housing Need and Growth Management

Paul Smetanin, President and CEO, Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis (CANCEA), provided information respecting Niagara Region: Core Housing Need and Growth Management. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background
- Construction Rates and Core Housing Need
- Core Housing - Need is Growing and Consequences
- Balanced Growth Management

5.2 Niagara's Affordable Housing Strategy

Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner of Community Services, and Michelle Sergi, Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, provided information respecting Niagara's Affordable Housing Strategy. Topics of the presentation included:

- Housing Terminology 101
- What is Niagara Region's Role?
- Niagara Region's Strategies to Address the Housing Crisis
- Activities to Support the Strategy

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide the total housing supply for 2019 to present. Councillor Insinna.

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 CWCD 2021-191

Response to Councillor Information Request re Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks Investigation

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That CWCD 2021-191, being a memorandum from B. Zvaniga, Interim, Commissioner, Public Works, dated September 3, 2021, respecting Response to Councillor Information Request re Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks Investigation, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Moved by Councillor Gale
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That CWCD 2021-191, being a memorandum from B. Zvaniga, Interim, Commissioner, Public Works, dated September 3, 2021, respecting Response to Councillor Information Request re Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks Investigation, **BE REFERRED** to the Corporate Services Committee meeting being held on September 15, 2021.

Carried

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of other business.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Jim Bradley
Regional Chair

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk