

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**CL 3-2023**

**Thursday, February 23, 2023**

**Council Chamber / Video Conference**

**Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Council Members: Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Campion (via Video Conference), Chiocchio, Craiton, Davies (via Video Conference), Diodati, Easton (via Video Conference), Foster, Gale, Ganann (via Video Conference), Grant, Huson (via Video Conference), Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin (via Video Conference), Kaiser (via Video Conference), Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn (via Video Conference), Secord (via Video Conference), Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele (via Video Conference), Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa (via Video Conference)

Absent/Regrets: Heit, Witteveen

Staff: E. Amirault, Associate Director, Finance Operations & Systems (via Video Conference), D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance, R. Ferron, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services (via Video Conference), M. Franklin, Deputy Chief, Emergency Medical Services (via Video Conference), H. Furtado, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services (via Video Conference), P. Hamilton, Supervisor, Corporate Budgets, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health, B. Hutchings, Manager, Revenue Planning & Strategy, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Associate Medical Officer of Health (via Video Conference), P. Martel, Manager, Emergency Management, M. Lewis, Client & Support Advisor, D. Morreale, Director, Development Approvals (via Video Conference), M. Murphy, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, G. Scharback, Deputy Regional Clerk (via Video Conference), M. Sergi, Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development (via Video Conference), A. Stea, Director, Community & Long Range Planning (via Video Conference), F. Tassone, Acting Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, D. Woiceshyn, Director, Housing Services

Others Present: C. Stout, General Manager, Niagara Transit Commission (via Video Conference)

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Regional Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT**

Councillor Bateman read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**3.1 Addition of Items**

Moved by Councillor Bateman  
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That Alicia Marshall, **BE PERMITTED** to appear before Council as a delegate respecting Motion respecting Declarations of Emergency for Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction (Minute Item 5.1, Minutes PHSSC 2-2023 (Agenda Item 11.5)).

**Carried**

**3.2 Changes in Order of Items**

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

Moved by Councillor Insinna  
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Council Agenda CL 3-2023, **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

**Carried**

**4. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Councillor Gale declared a conflict with respect to Report COM 3-2023, (Minute Item 5.2, Minutes PHSSC 2-2023 (Agenda Item 11.5), respecting Group Purchasing Services for Long-Term Home Food and Related Supplies, as his daughter-in-law works in Long Term Care; therefore, he did not participate in any discussion or vote on this matter.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**6. CHAIR'S REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMARKS**

The Regional Chair provided information respecting events within the Region.

**7. DELEGATIONS**

7.1 Motion respecting Declarations of Emergency for Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction (Minute Item 5.1, Minutes PHSSC 2-2023 (Agenda Item 11.5))

7.1.1 Alicia Marshall, Resident, City of St. Catharines

Alicia Marshall, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Regional Council to share information and her perspective as a peer worker in the community. She requested Council support for the motion to declare a state of emergency for homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction in Niagara Region.

**8. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Morocco

That the following minutes of Regional Council **BE ADOPTED**:

Open Session Minutes CL 1-2023, Thursday, January 19, 2023 (Regular Meeting)

Open and Closed Session Minutes CL 2-2023, Thursday, February 9, 2023 (Special Meeting)

**Carried**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

9.1 CL-C 8-2023

Update to Bill No. 2023-19 Appendix 1 Schedule of Fees and Charges

Moved by Councillor Siscoe  
Seconded by Councillor Grant

That Correspondence Item CL-C 8-2023, respecting Update to Bill No. 2023-19 Appendix 1 Schedule of Fees and Charges, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**10. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**10.1 CL-C 5-2023**

Request for Appointments to the Procedural By-law Review Committee and Audit Committee

Moved by Councillor Davies  
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Correspondence Item CL-C 5-2023, dated February 23, 2023, respecting Request for Appointments to the Procedural By-law Review Committee and Audit Committee, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Councillor Ip **BE APPOINTED** to the Procedural By-law Review Committee, effective immediately; and
2. That Councillors Ip, Whalen, and Villella, **BE APPOINTED** to the Audit Committee, effective immediately.

**Carried**

**10.2 CLK 2-2023**

Public Member Appointment to Niagara Police Services Board and Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Sorrento

That Report CLK 2-2023, dated February 23, 2023, respecting Public Member Appointment to the Niagara Regional Police Services Board and Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the recommendations contained in Confidential Appendix 1 to Report CLK 2-2023 **BE APPROVED** confirming the Public Members for appointment to the Niagara Regional Police Services Board and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board;
2. That Nyarayi Kapisavanhu **BE APPOINTED** as the Public Member to the Niagara Regional Police Services Board for the remainder of this term of Council (until November 14, 2026) or until a successor is appointed; and

3. That Donna Cridland **BE APPOINTED** as the Public Member to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board for the remainder of this term of Council (until November 14, 2026) or until a successor is appointed.

**Carried**

## **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION**

### **11.1 Budget Review Committee of the Whole**

Minutes BRCOTW 3-2023, Thursday, January 19, 2023

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 3-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of Whole meeting held on Thursday, January 19, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

#### **11.1.1 Minute Item 5.1 Respecting BRC-C 3-2023, 2023 Proposed Operating Budget - Niagara Transit Commission**

The motion contained in Minute Item 5.1 was considered separately as follows:

That Correspondence Item BRC-C 3-2023, being a letter from M. Siscoe, Acting Chair, Niagara Transit Commission, dated January 10, 2023, respecting 2023 Proposed Operating Budget - Niagara Transit Commission, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That the Niagara Transit Commission 2023 Operating Budget **BE APPROVED** subject to By-law approval.

Moved by Councillor Campion  
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

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

That the Niagara Transit Commission 2023 Operating Budget **BE APPROVED with a \$4M transfer from Provincial Gas Tax to be allocated to the unsustainable revenue impact in the 2023 special levy and to reflect this in the local area municipalities' levy.**

**Defeated**

The Regional Chair called the vote on Minute Item 5.1 respecting BRC-C 3-2023, 2023 Proposed Operating Budget – Niagara Transit Commission, and declared it,

**Carried**

11.1.2 Balance of the Recommendations from the 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**

11.2 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 4-2023, Thursday, January 26, 2023

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 4-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of Whole meeting held on Thursday, January 26, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

11.3 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 5-2023, Thursday, February 9, 2023

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 5-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of Whole meeting held on Thursday, February 9, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

11.4 Public Works Committee

Minutes PWC 2-2023, Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Moved by Councillor Insinna  
Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Minutes PWC 2-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

11.5 Public Health and Social Services Committee

Minutes PHSSC 2-2023, Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Moved by Councillor Morocco  
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That Minutes PHSSC 2-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

11.5.1 Minute Item 5.1 Respecting Motion respecting Declarations of  
Emergency for Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addiction

The motion contained in Minute Item 5.1 was considered separately  
as follows:

Whereas Niagara Regional Council acknowledges that the challenges of homelessness, mental health and the opioid crisis are exceptionally complex issues that have a measurable and significantly detrimental impact on the residents of the Niagara region, including the loss of life;

Whereas addressing these issues places extreme stress on upper and lower-tier municipal programs and services, the Niagara Regional Police, Niagara Health, Emergency Medical Services and various non-profit service providers across the region;

Whereas the challenges of homelessness, mental health and opioids have seen a trend of becoming more prevalent in recent years and continue to have a significant impact on the Niagara community;

Whereas Niagara Region, through the staff in Community Services and Public Health, has taken many steps to address these issues with the development and provision of best-practice programming designed to mitigate their impact on the community;

Whereas Niagara Regional Council acknowledges that the challenges of homelessness, mental health and the opioid crisis are intrinsically diverse and should not be viewed as a single monolithic problem;

Whereas addressing these challenges will require strategies and tactics that are specifically designed for each of the unique issues;

Whereas Niagara Region accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with multiple stakeholders, including the provincial government and its agencies;

Whereas 26 Niagara agencies within the Region, including Public Health and Emergency Medical Services, have collaboratively developed a Substance Use Prevention Strategy known as the Opioid Prevention and Education Network of Niagara, and are actively implementing it;

Whereas Niagara Region is a “Built for Zero” community that has accurate and timely data regarding its homeless population and delivers programs and services targeted for strategically helping those individuals experiencing homelessness;

Whereas the challenges of homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction are found throughout the entire province of Ontario and are not unique to Niagara;

Whereas Niagara Regional Council recognizes that municipal emergencies in Ontario are declared by the head of council as per the process detailed in the Emergency Management and Civil Protections Act; and

Whereas Niagara Regional Council acknowledges that the declaration of an emergency does not immediately result in a municipality receiving any additional funds or resources from senior levels of government.



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to formally issue three separate declarations of emergency, in the areas of homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction, as per the procedure outlined in the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act;
2. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to the Provincial Government requesting that action be taken on the eight measures proposed by the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (as previously endorsed by Regional Council on June 23, 2022), including:
  - a) Creation of a multi-sectoral task force to guide the development of a robust provincial opioid response plan that will ensure necessary resourcing, policy change, and health and social system coordination;
  - b) Expanding access to evidence informed harm reduction programs and practices including lifting the provincial cap of 21 Consumption and Treatment Service (CTS) Sites, funding Urgent Public Health Needs Sites (UPHNS) and scaling up safer supply options;
  - c) Revision of the current CTS model to address the growing trends of opioid poisoning amongst those who are using inhalation methods;
  - d) Expanding access to opioid agonist therapy for opioid use disorder through a range of settings (e.g. mobile outreach, primary care, emergency departments, Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine Clinics), and a variety of medication options;
  - e) Providing a long-term financial commitment to create more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, including people with substance use disorders;
  - f) Addressing the structural stigma and harms that discriminate against people who use drugs, through provincial support and advocacy to the Federal government to decriminalize personal use and possession of substances and ensure increased investments in health and social services at all levels;

- g) Increasing investments in evidence-informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and
  - h) Funding additional and dedicated positions for public health to support the critical coordination and leadership of local opioid and substance abuse strategies;
- 3. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting action be taken to correct the funding allocation model for homelessness based on the results of Auditor General's 2021 report which found that provincial funding in this area is incorrect;
  - 4. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to the Ministry of Health and the CEO of Ontario Health requesting that the province immediately commit to fully funding gaps in mental health service as have been identified in the Needs Based Planning project by Niagara Ontario Health Team's Mental Health and Addictions Working Group, as well as funding ongoing annual increases as required by inflation and population need;
  - 5. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, David Lametti, and Federal Minister of Health, Jean-Yves Duclos, reaffirming Regional Council's October 22, 2020 motion urging the Federal government convene a task force to explore the legal regulation and decriminalization of all drugs in Canada;
  - 6. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) requesting that targeted advocacy be conducted in these areas, including the development of a singular motion that can be ratified by municipal councils across Ontario calling on the province to take immediate action;
  - 7. That Niagara Region through its Public Health and Social Services Committee **DECLARE** homelessness as a federal humanitarian crisis; and

8. That this motion **BE CIRCULATED** to the local area municipalities, all municipalities in Ontario and local MPs and MPPs.

Moved by Councillor Insinna  
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That the motion **BE AMENDED** to remove clause 5 as follows:

5. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, David Lametti, and Federal Minister of Health, Jean-Yves Duclos, reaffirming Regional Council's October 22, 2020 motion urging the Federal government convene a task force to explore the legal regulation and decriminalization of all drugs in Canada;

**Defeated**

Moved by Councillor Huson  
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That clause 7 **BE AMENDED** as follows:

7. That Niagara Region through its Public Health and Social Services Committee **URGE the federal government to ~~DECLARE~~ declare** homelessness as a federal humanitarian crisis.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Ugulini assumed the Chair.

Acting Chair Ugulini called the vote on the amendment, and declared it,

**Carried**

At this point in the meeting, Regional Chair Bradley assumed the Chair.

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

8. That this motion **BE CIRCULATED** to the local area municipalities, all municipalities in Ontario and local MPs and MPPs and **FCM**.

A request was made to vote on clauses 1 and 7 separately.

The Regional Chair called the vote on clauses 1 and 7 as follows:

1. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to formally issue three separate declarations of emergency, in the areas of homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction, as per the procedure outlined in the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act;
7. That Niagara Region through its Public Health and Social Services Committee **URGE** the federal government to declare homelessness as a federal humanitarian crisis.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (27): Bateman, Campion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Gale, Ganann, Grant, Huson, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (2): Insinna, Ip.

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on the balance of the motion, as amended.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (28): Bateman, Campion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Gale, Ganann, Grant, Huson, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (1): Insinna.

**Carried**

#### 11.5.2 Balance of Recommendations from the Public Health and Social Services Committee

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

**Carried**

11.6 Corporate Services Committee

Minutes CSC 2-2023, Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes CSC 2-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

11.7 Planning and Economic Development Committee

Minutes PEDC 2-2023, Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Moved by Councillor Huson

Seconded by Councillor Davies

That Minutes PEDC 2-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

11.8 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 6-2023, Thursday, February 16, 2023

Moved by Councillor Redekop

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 6-2023 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

11.8.1 Minute Item 5.2 Respecting 2023 Consolidated Levy Operating Budget

The motion contained in Minute Item 5.2 was considered separately as follows:

That Report CSD 16-2023, dated February 9, 2023, respecting 2023 Levy Operating Budget, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the 2023 net levy relating to the Niagara Regional Departments budget of \$173,862,521 for an increase of \$7,804,125 or 4.70% over the 2022 departmental operating budget **BE APPROVED** to support operations;
2. That the 2023 net levy relating to General Government budget of \$65,119,919 for an increase of \$2,640,367 or 4.23% over the 2022 general government operating budget **BE APPROVED** primarily to support for Development Charge grants and incentives;
3. That 2023 net levy include additional capital financing of \$10,557,500 or 2.60% over the 2022 general levy (adjusted to remove transit costs) **BE APPROVED**;
4. That a contribution of \$18,400,555 from the Taxpayer Relief Reserve, **BE APPROVED** to fund the net pressures related to the COVID-19 pandemic of \$18,271,768 for Regional Departments, and \$128,787 for the Agencies, Boards and Commissions COVID-19 pressures, as detailed in Appendix 3 to Report CSD 16-2023, for a net taxpayer impact of \$0;
5. That an increase of \$1,590,700 or 0.39% **BE APPROVED** to support staffing requirements for additional Land Ambulances as a result of offload delays and rising call volumes;
6. That an additional 1.85% or \$7,516,953 of assessment growth revenue **BE APPROVED** to fund \$890,226 of Tax Increment Grants, \$395,750 of operating costs of capital and \$6,230,977 for inflationary pressures;
7. That an additional 0.49% or \$2,000,000 **BE APPROVED** to fund 33% of \$6 million 2022 tax increase funded from reserves;

8. That the 2023 general levy of \$443,247,090 **BE APPROVED** to include:
  - a) Regional Departments & General Government of \$254,416,616;
  - b) Agencies, Boards, and Commissions of \$188,830,474; and
9. That the necessary by-law **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council for consideration.

Moved by Councillor Diodati  
Seconded by Councillor Sorrento

That the \$1.2M in industrial development charge grant reductions **BE ADDED** back into the budget.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (20): Campion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Gale, Ganann, Huson, Junkin, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen.

No (9): Bateman, Grant, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Kaiser, Seaborn, Villella, Zalepa.

**Carried**

The addition of \$1.2M in industrial development charge grant to the budget resulted in the following **amendment** to the original motion:

1. That the 2023 net levy relating to the Niagara Regional Departments budget of \$173,862,521 for an increase of \$7,804,125 or 4.70% over the 2022 departmental operating budget **BE APPROVED** to support operations;
2. That the 2023 net levy relating to General Government budget of ~~\$65,119,919~~ **\$66,319,919** for an increase of ~~\$2,640,367~~ **\$3,840,367** or ~~4.23%~~ **6.15%** over the 2022 general government operating budget **BE APPROVED** primarily to support for Development Charge grants and incentives;
3. That 2023 net levy include additional capital financing of \$10,557,500 or 2.60% over the 2022 general levy (adjusted to remove transit costs) **BE APPROVED**;

4. That a contribution of \$18,400,555 from the Taxpayer Relief Reserve, **BE APPROVED** to fund the net pressures related to the COVID-19 pandemic of \$18,271,768 for Regional Departments, and \$128,787 for the Agencies, Boards and Commissions COVID-19 pressures, as detailed in Appendix 3 to Report CSD 16-2023, for a net taxpayer impact of \$0;
5. That an increase of \$1,590,700 or 0.39% **BE APPROVED** to support staffing requirements for additional Land Ambulances as a result of offload delays and rising call volumes;
6. That an additional 1.85% or \$7,516,953 of assessment growth revenue **BE APPROVED** to fund \$890,226 of Tax Increment Grants, \$395,750 of operating costs of capital and \$6,230,977 for inflationary pressures;
7. That an additional 0.49% or \$2,000,000 **BE APPROVED** to fund 33% of \$6 million 2022 tax increase funded from reserves;
8. That the 2023 general levy of \$443,247,090 **\$444,447,090 BE APPROVED** to include:
  - a) Regional Departments & General Government of ~~\$254,416,616~~ **\$255,616,616**;
  - b) Agencies, Boards, and Commissions of \$188,830,474; and
9. That the necessary by-law **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council for consideration.

A request was made to vote on clause 8(b) of the motion separately. The Regional Chair called the vote on clause 8(b) and declared it,

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on the balance of the motion, as amended.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (21): Bateman, Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Kaiser, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (8): Campion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Gale, Grant, Junkin, Morocco, Villella.

**Carried**



11.8.2 Balance of Recommendations from 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**

**12. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT(S)**

12.1 CAO 3-2023

Niagara Week 2023

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Report CAO 3-2023, dated February 23, 2023, respecting Niagara Week 2023, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**Councillor Information Request(s)**

Consider the emergency declarations respecting homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction as potential advocacy items for Niagara Week. Councillor Villella.

**13. MOTIONS**

There were no motions for consideration.

**14. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Councillor Kaiser advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting respecting provincial tax relief for the Niagara wine industry.

**15. OTHER BUSINESS**

15.1 Requests to Staff

Staff were requested to provide updates on the social procurement policy and the training for EMS staff respecting human trafficking.

**16. CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session Minutes CL 1-2023 were lifted, therefore it was:

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

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

A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege & A Matter of Litigation or Potential Litigation under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Update respecting Litigation concerning Former Senior Administration Officials Employment Contracts; and

A Matter of Labour Relations, Personal Matters About Identifiable Individuals and Legal Advice Subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege under Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001- Corporate COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Amendment.

**Carried**

Council resolved into closed session at 10:09 p.m.

**17. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Council reconvened in open session at 10:20 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Council Members: Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Campion (via Video Conference), Chiocchio, Craitor, Davies (via Video Conference), Diodati, Easton (via Video Conference), Foster, Gale, Ganann (via Video Conference), Grant, Huson (via Video Conference), Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin (via Video Conference), Kaiser (via Video Conference), Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn (via Video Conference), Secord (via Video Conference), Siscoe, Steele (via Video Conference), Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa (via Video Conference)

Absent/Regrets: Heit, Sorrento, Witteveen

Staff: D. Gibbs, Director, Legal and Court Services (via Video Conference), T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, M. Lewis, Client & Support Advisor, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

17.1 Closed Session Minutes CL 1-2023, Thursday, January 19, 2023

Moved by Councillor Huson  
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Closed Minutes CL 1-2023 being the Closed Session minutes of the Regional Council meeting held on Thursday, January 19, 2023, **BE ADOPTED** with the removal of the attached speaking notes.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

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

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on the adoption of the Closed Session minutes with the removal of the speaking notes.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (15): Bateman, Campion, Chiocchio, Davies, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Redekop, Rigby, Siscoe, Steele.

No (11): Craitor, Diodati, Gale, Grant, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Seaborn, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

**Carried**

**Councillor Information Request(s)**

Have the Procedural By-law Review Committee consider the matter of speaking notes being attached to meeting minutes. Councillor Huson.

18. **BY-LAWS**

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Zalepa

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

Bill 2023-16

A by-law to adopt the 2023 Niagara Transit Commission Budget and Requisition for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2023-17

A by-law to adopt the 2023 capital budget for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2023-18

A by-law to adopt the 2023 operating budget and tax levy for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2023-19

A by-law to establish fees and charges for the services and activities provided by The Regional Municipality of Niagara and for the use of its property and to repeal By-laws 2021-114, 2022-19, 2022-63, and 2022-98.

Bill 2021-20

A by-law to amend By-law 89-2000 being a By-law to provide for the regulation of traffic on Regional Highways (Reduced Load Restrictions).

Bill 2023-21

A by-law to amend By-law 89-2000 being a By-law to provide for the regulation of traffic on Regional Highways (Designated Lanes in the City of Niagara Falls).

Bill 2023-23

A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of Regional Council at its meeting held February 23, 2023.

A request was made to vote on Bills 2023-16, 2023-17, and 2023-18 individually.

The Regional Chair called the vote on Bill 2023-16.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (21): Bateman, Craiton, Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (5): Champion, Chiocchio, Gale, Grant, Villella.

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on Bill 2023-17.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (20): Bateman, Craiton, Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (6): Champion, Chiocchio, Gale, Grant, Jordan, Villella.

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on Bill 2023-18.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (19): Davies, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (7): Bateman, Campion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Gale, Grant, Villella.

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on the balance of the Bills (Bills 2023-19, Bill 2023-20, Bill 2023-21, and Bill 2023-23), and declared it,

**Carried**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

---

Jim Bradley  
Regional Chair

---

Genevieve Scharback  
Deputy Regional Clerk

---

Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk