

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**PHSSC 7-2023**

**Tuesday, July 11, 2023**

**Council Chamber - In Person and Electronic Meeting  
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bateman, Bradley (Regional Chair) (via Video Conference), Chicocchio (Committee Co-Chair), Craitor, Easton, Foster, Insinna, Ip, Kaiser (via Video Conference), Siscoe, Sorrento (via Video Conference), Whalen, Witteveen

Other Councillors: Ganann (via Video Conference)

Absent/Regrets: Diodati, Jordan, Morocco (Committee Co-Chair)

Staff: C. Cousins, Director, Homelessness and Community Engagement, R. Ferron, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services, A. Fyfe, Manager, Program Financial Support, Dr. M. M. Hirji, Associate Medical Officer of Health, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, S. Klair, Director, Children's Services, H. Koning, Director, Senior Services, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator (via Video Conference), A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth Strategy & Economic Development (via Video Conference), J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities (via Video Conference), D. Woiceshyn, Director, Housing Services

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Co-Chair Chicocchio called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**4. DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

**5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

5.1 PHD 6-2023

Approval of the 2022-2023 Public Health and Emergency Services Program Audits

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Report PHD 6-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Approval of the 2022-2023 Public Health and Emergency Services Program Audits, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the draft audited schedule of revenue and expenses and the annual reconciliation return for the Public Health General Programs for the year ended December 31, 2022 (Appendix 1 and 2 to Report PHD 6-2023), **BE APPROVED**;
2. That the draft audited schedule of revenue and expenses and the annual reconciliation return for the Community Mental Health Program for the year ended March 31, 2023 (Appendix 3 and 4 to Report PHD 6-2023), **BE APPROVED**;
3. That the draft audited schedules of revenue and expenses for the following programs for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023, **BE APPROVED**:
  - Ambulance Communication Services (Appendix 5 to Report PHD 6-2023)
  - Infant and Child Development Services (ICDS) (Appendix 6 to Report PHD 6-2023)
  - Healthy Babies, Healthy Children (HBHC) (Appendix 7 to Report PHD 6-2023);
4. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to co-ordinate with the auditor to finalize the statements as presented; and
5. That Report PHD 6-2023 **BE FORWARDED** to the Region's Audit Committee for information.

**Carried**

5.2 COM 20-2023  
Budget Adjustment – Seniors Services

Moved by Councillor Witteveen  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Report COM 20-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Budget Adjustment – Seniors Services, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That an adjustment to the previously adopted 2023 Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) operating budget in the amount of \$7,682,725, to be fully funded through the Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC), **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

5.3 COM 25-2023  
Recommendations to Update Niagara Region’s Centralized Waitlist for Community Housing

Moved by Councillor Ip  
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Report COM 25-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Recommendations to Update Niagara Region’s Centralized Waitlist for Community Housing, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Council **APPROVE** the recommended changes to the Housing Services Local Priority Groups for households applying to be on the centralized waitlist for Niagara Region community housing as outlined in Report COM 25-2023.

**Carried**

5.4 COM 26-2023

Emergency Shelter and Phase 1 Bridge Housing Budget Adjustment

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Report COM 26-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Emergency Shelter and Phase 1 Bridge Housing Budget Adjustment, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the gross budget adjustment to the previously adopted 2023 Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) budget in the amount of \$6,153,900 gross and \$0 net, to be fully funded through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) Homelessness Prevention plan (HPP) funding, **BE APPROVED**;
2. That Regional Council **AUTHORIZES** the transfer of \$6,903,900 to Niagara Regional Housing for capital projects for Emergency Shelter and the Phase 1 Bridge Housing Project;
3. That this report **BE FORWARDED** to Niagara Region Corporate Services Committee for information at the July 12, 2023, meeting; and
4. That this report **BE FORWARDED** to Niagara Regional Housing Board of Directors for information at its next scheduled meeting.

**Carried**

**6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

6.1 CAO 9-2023

Update on the Declarations of Emergency for Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addictions

Renata Faber, Manager, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention, provided information respecting Substance Use Health. Topics of the presentation included:

- Role of Public Health in Substance Use
- Four Pillars
- Overdose Prevention & Education Network of Niagara
- Outreach
- Policy and Advocacy
- Emergency Medical Services
- Community Engagement and Comprehensive School Health
- Parenting and ACEs
- Current Opportunities

Moved by Councillor Bateman  
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Report CAO 9-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Update on the Declarations of Emergency for Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addictions, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

At this point in the meeting Councillor Whalen assumed the Chair.

Moved by Councillor Ip  
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That the motion **BE AMENDED** to include the following clause:

***That the states of emergency for homelessness, mental health and opioid addictions as defined under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act BE TRANSITIONED to be states of crisis.***

Recorded vote:

Yes (7): Easton, Insinna, Ip, Siscoe, Sorrento, Whalen, Witteveen.

No (4): Bateman, Chiocchio, Craitor, Kaiser.

**Carried**

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

That Report CAO 9-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Update on the Declarations of Emergency for Homelessness, Mental Health and Opioid Addictions, **BE RECEIVED** for information; and

That the states of emergency for homelessness, mental health and opioid addictions as defined under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act **BE TRANSITIONED** to be states of crisis.

**Carried**

At this point in the meeting, Committee Co-Chair Chiocchio assumed the Chair.

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of other business.

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Whalen  
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That the Public Health and Social Services Committee **DO NOW MOVE** into closed session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature respecting:

A Matter of Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations and Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual under s. 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Associate Medical Officer of Health

**Carried**

Committee resolved into closed session at 2:34 p.m.

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

Committee reconvened in open session at 2:41 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Committee: Bateman, Chiochio (Committee Co-Chair), Craitor, Easton, Insinna, Ip, Kaiser (via Video Conference), Siscoe, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Bradley (Regional Chair), Diodati, Foster, Jordan, Morocco (Committee Co-Chair), Sorrento

Staff: A. Fyfe, Manager, Program Financial Support, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator (via Video Conference), A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

**9.1 Confidential MOH 1-2023**

A Matter of Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations and Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual under s. 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Associate Medical Officer of Health

Moved by Councillor Bateman  
Seconded by Councillor Siscoe

That Confidential Report MOH 1-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting A Matter of Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations and Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual under s. 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Associate Medical Officer of Health, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendation contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

9.2 Confidential COM-C 30-2023

A Matter of a Proposed or Pending Acquisition of Land by the Municipality under s.239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Niagara Regional Housing Acquisition of Property in the City of St. Catharines (Confidential Report NRH 3-2023)

Moved by Councillor Ip  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Confidential Memorandum COM-C 30-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting A Matter of a Proposed or Pending Acquisition of Land by the Municipality under s.239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Niagara Regional Housing Acquisition of Property in the City of St. Catharines (Confidential Report NRH 3-2023), **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendation contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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Councillor Chiocchio  
Committee Co-Chair

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Kelly Lotimer  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk