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

#### CL 4-2024

## Thursday, March 21, 2024 Council Chamber - In Person and Electronic Meeting Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

<ul> <li>Absent/Regrets: Craitor, Gale, Morocco, Steele</li> <li>Staff: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning*, D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance, B. Brens, Associate Director, Budget Planning &amp; Strategy, D. Carnegie, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, B. Fricke, Senior Planner*, H. Furtado, Director, Financial Management &amp; Planning/Deputy Treasurer, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal &amp; Court Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Acting Commissioner, Community Services, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, D. Morreale, Director, Development Approvals*, AM. Norio, Regional Clerk, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth Strategy &amp; Economic Development, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, A. Stea, Director, Community &amp; Long Range Planning*, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer</li> </ul>	Council:	Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Campion*, Chiocchio, Davies, Diodati*, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Grant*, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn*, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
Staff, Governance, B. Brens, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy, D. Carnegie, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, B. Fricke, Senior Planner*, H. Furtado, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Acting Commissioner, Community Services, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, D. Morreale, Director, Development Approvals*, AM. Norio, Regional Clerk, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth Strategy & Economic Development, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, A. Stea, Director, Community & Long Range Planning*, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief	Absent/Regrets:	Craitor, Gale, Morocco, Steele
	Staff:	<ul> <li>Staff, Governance, B. Brens, Associate Director, Budget</li> <li>Planning &amp; Strategy, D. Carnegie, Deputy Chief Administrative</li> <li>Officer, B. Fricke, Senior Planner*, H. Furtado, Director,</li> <li>Financial Management &amp; Planning/Deputy Treasurer, D. Gibbs,</li> <li>Director, Legal &amp; Court Services, T. Harrison,</li> <li>Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. A. Kasmani,</li> <li>Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Acting Commissioner,</li> <li>Community Services, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, F. Meffe,</li> <li>Director, Human Resources, D. Morreale, Director, Development</li> <li>Approvals*, AM. Norio, Regional Clerk, T. Ricketts,</li> <li>Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth</li> <li>Strategy &amp; Economic Development, G. Spezza, Director,</li> <li>Economic Development, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, A.</li> <li>Stea, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief</li> </ul>

\* indicates members who participated electronically, all other members participated in person

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

Regional Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

# 2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

Councillor Huson read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

## 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### 3.1 <u>Addition of Items</u>

Moved by Councillor Bateman Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Gabriel Gebril, resident, City of St. Catharines, **BE PERMITTED** to appear before Council as a delegate respecting Flag Raising and Niagara Sign Lighting Policy (Minute Item 7.4, Minutes CSC 3-2024 (Agenda Item 11.4)); and

That Herb Sawatsky, 50by30Niagara, **BE PERMITTED** to appear before Council as a delegate respecting the Motion respecting Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy (Agenda Item 13.2).

Carried

## 3.2 Changes in Order of Items

Moved by Councillor Huson Seconded by Councillor Easton

That the order of the agenda **BE AMENDED** to consider the Motion respecting Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy (Agenda Item 13.2), immediately following the delegation on this matter (Agenda Item 7.2.1).

## Carried

Moved by Councillor Witteveen Seconded by Councillor Ganann

That Council Agenda CL 4-2023, **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

Carried

# 4. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

## 5. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

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

The Regional Chair provided an update respecting activities within the Region and advised Council that in consultation the Region's Emergency Management staff, a State of Emergency would be declared in advance of the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, in order to ensure the Region is ready to respond to any potential issue and for the safety of our residents and visitors.

Following the Chair's remarks, Councillor Ip provided comments respecting the incident that took place at the St. Catharines Public Library on March 9, 2024.

## 7. DELEGATIONS

- 7.1 <u>Flag Raising and Niagara Sign Lighting Policy (Minute Item 7.4, Minutes</u> <u>CSC 3-2024 (Agenda Item 11.4))</u>
  - 7.1.1 Saleh Waziruddin, Resident, City of St. Catharines

Saleh Waziruddin, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to express concern with the response received at the Corporate Services Committee meeting respecting the denial of requests to light the sign in the colours of the Palestinian flag, stating that the requirement for nations to be recognized by the Government of Canada only appears in the flag raising portion of the current policy, not the sign lighting portion of the policy.

7.1.2 Munajat Najmudin, Resident, City of Niagara Falls

Munajat Najmudin, resident, City of Niagara Falls, appeared before Council to express concern with the lack of consistency in the application of the Niagara Region Flag & Sign Lighting Policy.

7.1.3 Gabriel Gebril, Resident, City of St. Catharines

Gabriel Gebril, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to express concern with the response received at the Corporate Services Committee meeting respecting the denial of requests to light the sign in the colours of the Palestinian flag, as the requirement for recognition of the nation by the Government of Canada only appears in the flag raising portion of the policy.

- 7.2 <u>Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas</u> <u>Pipeline Subsidy (Agenda Item 13.2).</u>
  - 7.2.1 Herb Sawatzky, 50by30Niagara

Herb Sawatzky, 50by30Niagara, appeared before Council in support of the motion respecting Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy.

#### 13. MOTIONS

#### 13.2 <u>Support for the Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas</u> <u>Pipeline Subsidy</u>

Moved by Councillor Huson Seconded by Councillor Junkin

WHEREAS, Niagara's residents are struggling with rising energy costs and require assistance, particularly as they navigate the challenges of recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, natural gas is no longer the cheapest way to heat homes because of innovations in electric heat pumps which can provide all heating needs even in the cold climates, and result in competitive energy bills relative to gas heating;

WHEREAS, natural gas is methane gas, which is a fossil fuel that causes approximately one-third of Ontario's GHG emissions, and must be phased out because it is inconsistent with all climate targets, while heat pumps result in the lowest GHG emissions and are consistent with a zero-carbon future;

WHEREAS, the Ontario Energy Board ("OEB") released a decision that eliminated a subsidy for the installation of gas pipelines in new construction developments as of January 1, 2025, finding that this would lower energy bills for existing gas customers and improve affordability for new homebuyers;

WHEREAS on February 22, 2024, the provincial government introduced Bill 165 which, if passed, will effectively overturn the OEB decision;

WHEREAS, the OEB decision will help lower energy bills and encourage heating systems that are consistent with climate targets and plans;

WHEREAS, the construction of new methane gas pipelines, which have 60-year lifetimes, should not be subsidized because they are inconsistent with the Region's climate targets and will result in higher carbon emissions, higher energy bills, higher future de-carbonization retrofit costs to get off fossil fuel heating, and a continued financial drain as dollars leave the province to pay for fossil fuels extracted in other jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, Niagara Region declared a climate emergency in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Region has taken a number of steps to acknowledge and prioritize projects, programs, policies and initiatives to show leadership in addressing climate change by incorporating climate changes objectives into our Official Plan, joining the Partners for Climate Protection Program, developing the Niagara Climate Change Action Network, setting a Net Zero Corporate greenhouse gas emission reduction target by 2050, hosting an annual Climate Change Summit and in developing the Niagara Climate Change Municipal Community of Practice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Region of Niagara **SUPPORTS** the decision of the Ontario Energy Board to end the gas pipeline subsidy;
- 2. That Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to the Hon. Todd Smith, Minister of Energy, expressing Regional Council's support for the OEB and requesting that their decision stand; and
- 3. That the Regional Clerk **BE DIRECTED** to circulate this motion to the President of Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Colin Best; Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; Minister of Energy, Todd Smith; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy, and all Ontario Municipalities requesting support for the proposed changes.

Recorded vote:

Yes (11): Bateman, Ganann, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Rigby, Secord, Witteveen.

No (15): Campion, Chiocchio, Davies, Easton, Foster, Grant, Heit, Redekop, Seaborn, Siscoe, Sorrento, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

# Defeated

# 8. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

8.1 <u>Council Minutes CL 3-2024</u> Thursday, February 22, 2024

Moved by Councillor Heit Seconded by Councillor Davies

That Minutes CL 3-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Regional Council meeting held on Thursday, February 22, 2024, **BE ADOPTED**.

## 9. <u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>

There were no correspondence items.

## 10. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

10.1 <u>CL-C 27-2024</u>

Appointment of Budget Review Committee of the Whole Chair and Vice Chair for 2025 and 2026 Budget Years

Moved by Councillor Witteveen Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Correspondence Item CL-C 27-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting Appointment of Budget Review Committee of the Whole Chair and Vice Chair for 2025 and 2026 Budget Years, **BE RECEIVED;** and

That Councillor Redekop and Councillor Whalen **REMAIN** in their positions as Chair and Vice Chair of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole for the 2025 and 2026 budget years.

Carried

10.2 <u>CSD 18-2024</u> 2025 Budget Planning Update

> Moved by Councillor Redekop Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Report CSD 18-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting 2025 Budget Planning **BE RECEIVED**, and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED:** 

- That By-law No. 2019-79 being A By-Law to Define Budget Planning Requirements for the Regional Municipality of Niagara **BE AMENDED** to allow the Budget Review Committee of the Whole (BRCOTW) Budget Planning meeting to occur in July and the budget timetable to be approved by Council and to undertake some minor housekeeping amendments; and
- 2. That this report **BE CIRCULATED** to agencies, boards, and commissions (ABCs) in accordance with By-law 2017-63 "Budget Control".

### 10.3 <u>CL-C 28-2024</u>

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors Nomination

Moved by Councillor Ip Seconded by Councillor Junkin

That Correspondence Item CL-C 28-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors Nomination, **BE RECEIVED**; and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

- That Regional Council ENDORSE Councillor Diana Huson as Niagara Region's representative to stand for election on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) National Board of Directors (Ontario) for the remainder of this term of Council; and
- 2. That Regional Council **CONFIRM** it will assume all costs associated with Councillor Huson attending FCM's Board of Directors meetings.

#### Carried

#### **Councillor Information Request(s):**

Review the process to notify Councillors regarding opportunities to serve on various Boards such as AMO and FCM. Councillor Kaiser.

#### 10.4 CL-C 29-2024

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board of Directors Nomination

Moved by Councillor Whalen Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Correspondence Item CL-C 29-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board of Directors Nomination, **BE RECEIVED**; and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Council **NOMINATES** Councillor Robert Foster for the position of Director on Regional and Single Tier Caucus, on the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Board of Directors for the 2024-2026 term.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Bateman indicated she would like to be considered for nomination to the AMO Board; therefore, it was,

Moved by Councillor Witteveen Seconded by Councillor Kaiser

1. That Regional Council **NOMINATES** Councillor Haley Bateman for the position of Director on Regional and Single Tier Caucus, on the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Board of Directors for the 2024-2026 term.

As Council is only able to endorse one nominee for the AMO Board, voting was conducted.

Voting for Councillor Bateman (2): Bateman, Witteveen.

Voting for Councillor Foster (23): Campion, Chiocchio, Davies, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Grant, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

Moved by Councillor Heit Seconded by Councillor Sorrento

That Correspondence Item CL-C 29-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Board of Directors Nomination, **BE RECEIVED**; and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED:** 

1. That Regional Council **NOMINATES** Councillor Robert Foster for the position of Director on Regional and Single Tier Caucus, on the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Board of Directors for the 2024-2026 term.

Carried

# 11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION

#### 11.1 <u>Committee of the Whole</u> Minutes COTW 1-2024, Thursday, March 7, 2024

Moved by Councillor Villella Seconded by Councillor Bateman

That Minutes COTW 1-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Thursday, March 7, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

11.1.1 Minutes COTW 1-2024, Minute Item 7.1 respecting Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy

The motion contained in Minute Item 7.1 was considered separately as follows:

That Memorandum COTW-C 1-2024, dated March 7, 2024, respecting Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Moved by Councillor Bateman Seconded by Councillor Kaiser

That the motion **BE AMENDED** to add the following:

- 1. That the Regional Chair BE DIRECTED to send correspondence to the Provincial Government requesting that action be taken to at least double the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program rates and establish a policy to index rates to inflation, in order to mitigate further hardship that has resulted from frozen rates;
- 2. That the Regional Clerk BE DIRECTED to circulate a copy of the Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy and correspondence to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Association of Municipalities Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, local area MPs and MPPs and local area municipalities; and
- 3. That staff BE DIRECTED to provide an update on the status of actions taken to address poverty as outlined in the Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy by December 2024.

Moved by Councillor Zalepa Seconded by Councillor Siscoe

That Memorandum COTW-C 1-2024, dated March 7, 2024, respecting Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy and the proposed amendment **BE REFERRED** to the Public Health and Social Services Committee to allow staff to provide additional information.

11.1.2 Balance of the Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Meeting

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

Carried

11.2 <u>Public Works Committee</u> Minutes PWC 3-2024, Tuesday, March 5, 2024

> Moved by Councillor Witteveen Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Minutes PWC 3-2024 being the Open and Closed Session minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

11.3 <u>Public Health and Social Services Committee</u> Minutes PHSSC 3-2024, Tuesday, March 5, 2024

> Moved by Councillor Chiocchio Seconded by Councillor Sorrento

That Minutes PHSSC 3-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

# 11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION

11.4 <u>Corporate Services Committee</u> Minutes CSC 3-2024, Wednesday, March 6, 2024

> Moved by Councillor Foster Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes CSC 3-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

11.5 <u>Planning and Economic Development Committee</u> Minutes PEDC 3-2024, Wednesday, March 6, 2024

> Moved by Councillor Huson Seconded by Councillor Davies

That Minutes PEDC 3-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

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

There were no Chief Administrative Officer reports.

# 13. MOTIONS

13.1 Federal Infrastructure Investment

Moved by Councillor Huson Seconded by Councillor Siscoe

WHEREAS, Canada is experiencing record population growth, having welcomed 1.25 million new Canadians last year alone;

WHEREAS, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) we need to build at least 3.5 million additional homes by 2030, and municipalities need to build or expand the infrastructure to accommodate this growth;

WHEREAS, FCM has estimated that the cost of the municipal infrastructure required to support housing development is, on average, in the range of \$107,000 per unit;

WHEREAS, according to Statistics Canada the cost of upgrade existing municipal infrastructure so that it is in a state of good repair is in the range of \$170 billion;

WHEREAS, non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure project without a corresponding growth in revenue;

WHEREAS, unlike federal and provincial revenue, municipal tax revenue has not increased in recent years along with inflation, economic growth or population growth; WHEREAS, municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end, the Canada Community-Building Fund is being renegotiated and the Permanent Public Transit Fund is set to start in 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which was formerly known as the federal Gas Tax Fund, provides more than \$2 billion in annual capital funding directly to municipalities through a predictable allocation mechanism, and municipalities of all sizes use the CCBF to deliver direct results for Canadians by building and renewing critical core public infrastructure, including water infrastructure, local roads, public transit and community, and cultural and recreational facilities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send correspondence to the Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, and any other relevant ministry, expressing Niagara Regional Council's support of the CCBF, while also urging the federal government to take action on the following priorities:
  - a. Collaborate with agreement signatories and municipalities to maintain the CCBF as a source of direct, predictable, long-term funding for local infrastructure priorities;
  - b. Commit in Budget 2024, to the next generation of infrastructure programs, including a new program for water and wastewater infrastructure and an increase to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund;
  - c. Convene a meeting of the provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a "Municipal Growth Framework" to modernize the way that municipalities are funded in order to enable Canada's longterm growth; and
- 2. That the Regional Clerk **BE DIRECTED** to send a copy of this motion to AMO and all of Niagara's local municipalities for their consideration and support.

### 14. NOTICES OF MOTION

Moved by Councillor Ip Seconded by Councillor Huson

That in accordance with 2.4 of Niagara Region's Procedural By-law, the rules of procedure, specifically subsection 18.2 "Notices of Motion" of the Procedural Bylaw, **BE SUSPENDED** to permit Council to consider a motion respecting Workplace Harassment and the Display of Signage.

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

Carried

## 14.1 Workplace Harassment and the Display of Signage

Moved by Councillor Ip Seconded by Councillor Huson

WHEREAS Niagara Regional Council supported recommendations by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) to strengthen Codes of Conduct to protect municipal staff from workplace harassment; and

WHEREAS Niagara Regional Council's own Code of Conduct speaks to how Members of Council shall conduct themselves in relation to staff; and

WHEREAS staff of Niagara Region should never be the target of abusive behaviour, whether through public or private communications, from Councillors, co-workers, or the public; and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2023, Niagara Regional Council also passed a motion affirming equity, diversity, and inclusion and recognizing the damaging impacts of hate and intolerance directed at Members of Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1. That Niagara Regional Council **REAFFIRMS** its position that neither Councillors nor staff should be targets of harassment or other abusive behaviour from Members of Council, co-workers, or the public; and
- 2. That staff **PROVIDE** a report for consideration by the Procedural Bylaw Review Committee that includes draft wording to amend the Procedural By-law to address the display of signage in Council/Committee meetings that is contrary to Council's position on and Niagara Region's policies addressing Workplace Harassment and Violence, and best practices for addressing their removal.

Recorded vote:

Yes (23): Bateman, Chiocchio, Davies, Diodati, Foster, Ganann, Grant, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (0).

Carried

# 15. <u>CLOSED SESSION</u>

Moved by Councillor Zalepa Seconded by Councillor Ganann

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

A Matter of Litigation and Advice that is Subject to Solicitor Client Privilege pursuant to s. 239(2)(e) and (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001- Update regarding Regional Development Charge By-law Appeals further to Mediation

## Carried

Council resolved into closed session at 9:18 p.m.

# 16. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Council reconvened in open session at 9:46 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Council:	Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Chiocchio, Davies, Diodati*, Foster, Ganann, Grant*, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn*, Siscoe, Sorrento, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
Absent/Regrets:	Campion, Craitor, Easton, Gale, Morocco, Secord, Steele
Staff:	D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance*, B. Brens, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy, H. Furtado, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, AM. Norio, Regional Clerk, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer
	* indicates members who participated electronically, all other members participated in person

16.1 <u>Confidential CSD 13-2024</u> A Matter of Litigation and Advice that is Subject to Solicitor Client Privilege pursuant to s. 239(2)(e) and (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001- Update regarding Regional Development Charge By-law Appeals further to Mediation

Moved by Councillor Ugulini Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Confidential Report CSD 13-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting A Matter of Litigation and Advice that is Subject to Solicitor Client Privilege pursuant to s. 239(2)(e) and (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001- Update regarding Regional Development Charge By-law Appeals further to Mediation, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

# Carried

16.2 Confidential PDS 11-2024

A Matter of Litigation Affecting the Municipality under s. 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Ontario Land Tribunal Partial Settlement of Appeal of West Lincoln OPA 63

Moved by Councillor Huson Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Confidential Report PDS 11-2024, dated March 21, 2024, respecting A Matter of Litigation Affecting the Municipality under s. 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Ontario Land Tribunal Partial Settlement of Appeal of West Lincoln OPA 63, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

## 16.3 <u>Confidential CHR 2-2024 REVISED</u> Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 -Contract Extension for the Chief Administrative Officer

Moved by Councillor Heit Seconded by Councillor Junkin

That Confidential Report CHR 2-2024 REVISED, dated March 21, 2024, respecting Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Contract Extension for the Chief Administrative Officer, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That the Regional Chair **BE AUTHORIZED** to proceed as outlined in Confidential CHR 2-2024 REVISED.

Carried

# 17. <u>BY-LAWS</u>

Moved by Councillor Seaborn Seconded by Councillor Ganann

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

Bill 2024-18

A by-law to set and levy the rate of taxation for regional general and special purposes for the year 2024.

# Bill 2024-19

A by-law to set tax ratios and tax rate reductions for prescribed property subclasses for regional purposes and area municipal purposes for the year 2024.

Bill 2024-20

A by-law to amend By-law 89-2000 being a by-law to provide for the regulation of traffic on Regional Highways - All-way stop designation Regional Road 3 (Lakeshore Road) at Brawn Road/Augustine Road in the Township of Wainfleet.

# Bill 2024-21

A by-law to amend By-law 89-2000 being a By-law to Provide for the Regulation of Traffic on Regional Highways - All Way Stop Designation Regional Road 101 (Portage Road) at Regional Road 101 (Mountain Road) in the City of Niagara Falls.

Bill 2024-22

A by-law to amend By-law 2019-79 being a By-law to define Budget Planning Requirements for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2024-23 A by-law to adopt ratify and confirm the actions of Council at its meeting held March 21, 2024.

Carried

# 18. OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of other business.

# 19. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Jim Bradley Regional Chair Kelly Lotimer Deputy Regional Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio Regional Clerk