

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

**CL 9-2024**

**Thursday, June 27, 2024**

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

Council: Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Campion, Chiocchio, Craitor\*, Diodati\*, Easton, Foster\*, Gale\*, Ganann, Grant\*, Heit, Huson, Ip, Junkin\*, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord\*, Siscoe, Sorrento\*, Steele, Ugulini, Villella\*, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa\*

Absent/Regrets: Davies, Insinna, Jordan

Staff: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning\*, D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance, A. Basic, Legislative Coordinator, D. Carnegie, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, M. Cruickshank, Legal Counsel\*, R. Ferron, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services\*, C. Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services\*, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, P. Lambert, Director, Infrastructure Planning & Development Engineering, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, P. Maposa, Director, Asset Management, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions\*, L. Morin, Senior Planner\*, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, C. Ogunniyi, Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Indigenous Relations, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth Strategy & Economic Development, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development\*, A. Stea, Director, Community & Long Range Planning\*, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, L. Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities

\* indicates participants who attended the meeting electronically,  
all others participated in person

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Councillor Ganann read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

3.1 **Addition of Items**

There were no items added to the agenda.

3.2 **Changes in Order of Items**

Moved by Councillor Bateman  
Seconded by Councillor Kaiser

That the order of the agenda **BE AMENDED** to consider Minute Item 6.3 of Minutes CSC 6-2024 (Agenda Item 11.4), respecting Proposed Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy Amendments, immediately following the delegations on this matter (Agenda Items 7.2.1 to 7.2.8).

**Carried**

Moved by Councillor Huson  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Council Agenda CL 9-2024, **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.

**7. DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (Minute Item 7.1, Minutes PEDC 6-2024 (Agenda Item 11.5))**

**7.1.1 Sandor Ligetfalvy, Resident, City of Niagara Falls**

Sandor Ligetfalvy, resident, City of Niagara Falls, appeared before Council, in support of the recommendation to not amend the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.

**7.1.2 Ken Kawall, Resident, Town of Lincoln**

Ken Kawall, resident, Town of Lincoln, appeared before Council to request that Council support the proposed amendments to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.

**7.1.3 Gabriel Gebril, Resident, St. Catharines**

Gabriel Gebril, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to request that Council approve the proposed amendments to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Terms of Reference.

**7.1.4 Rachel Reid, Resident, St. Catharines**

Rachel Reid, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to request that Council approve the proposed amendments to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Terms of Reference.

**7.2 Proposed Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy Amendments (Minute Item 6.3, Minutes CSC 6-2024 (Agenda Item 11.4))**

**7.2.1 Saleh Waziruddin, Resident, St. Catharines**

Saleh Waziruddin, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to request that Council reject the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy.

7.2.2 Gabriel Gebril, Resident, St. Catharines

Gabriel Gebril, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to request that Council vote against the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy.

7.2.3 Zeina Othman, Resident, St. Catharines

Zeina Othman, Resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council in opposition of the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy.

7.2.4 Rachel Reid, Resident, St. Catharines

Rachel Reid, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to express concerns respecting the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy.

7.2.5 Susan Howard-Azzeh, Resident, St. Catharines

Susan Howard-Azzeh, resident, St. Catharines, appeared before Council in opposition of the proposed Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy amendments.

7.2.6 Abdel Latef El-batniji, Resident, St. Catharines

Abdel Latef El-batniji, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to express concerns respecting the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy.

7.2.7 Nabila Gebril, Resident, St. Catharines

Nabila Gebril, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to request that Council reject the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy and that the Niagara Region sign be lit in the colors of the Palestinian flag.

7.2.8 Jason Whitney, Resident, St. Catharines

Jason Whitney, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council in opposition of the proposed amendments to the Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy.

**11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION**

**11.4 Corporate Services Committee**

**11.4.1 Minutes CSC 6-2024, Minute Item 6.3 respecting Proposed Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy Amendments**

The motion contained in Minute Item 6.3 was considered separately as follows:

That Report CLK 2-2024, dated June 12, 2024, respecting Proposed Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy Amendments, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the proposed amendments to Corporate Policy C-A-027, Flag Raising and Niagara Sign Lighting Policy, in Appendix 1 of Report CLK 2-2024, **BE APPROVED**.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (26): Champion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Gale, Ganann, Grant, Heit, Huson, Ip, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Zalepa.

No (2): Bateman, Witteveen.

**Carried**

**8. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Councillor Diodati

Seconded by Councillor Champion

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

Open Session Minutes CL 7-2024, Thursday, May 23, 2024 (Special Meeting)

Open and Closed Session Minutes CL 8-2024, Thursday, May 23, 2024 (Regular Meeting)

**Carried**

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Moved by Councillor Seaborn  
Seconded by Councillor Secord

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

CWCD 2024-98

Continuation of Urgent Care Centre Operation in Fort Erie (& Port Colborne) and Request for Regional Support

CL-C 55-2024

Correspondence from CC Beaver, Resident, St. Catharines, respecting the Proposed Flag Raising and Sign Lighting Policy Amendments (Minute Item 6.3, Minutes CSC 6-2024 (Agenda Item 11.4))

CHR 5-2024

Report on 2024 Niagara Week Activities

CL-C 57-2024

2024 Municipal Funding Agreement – Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)

A request was made to consider CWCD 2024-98 separately.

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Item CWCD 2024-98, being a letter from the Town of Fort Erie dated May 28, 2024, respecting Continuation of Urgent Care Centre Operation in Fort Erie (& Port Colborne) and Request for Regional Support, **BE RECEIVED**;

That Regional Council **SUPPORT** the Town of Fort Erie in advocating to the Minister of Health and Niagara Health for a commitment to continue the operation of Urgent Care Centre at Douglas Memorial in Fort Erie following the opening of the South Niagara Hospital as the primary care safety net until a viable and sustainable alternative is in place in the community; and

That a copy of this motion **BE SENT** to the Minister of Health and Niagara Health.

**Carried**

The Regional Chair called the vote on the remaining correspondence items and declared it,

**Carried**

**10. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**10.1 PDS 22-2024**

Bill 185 Update (Cutting Red Tape to Build Homes Faster Act, 2024)

Moved by Councillor Campion

Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That Report PDS 22-2024, dated June 27, 2024, respecting Bill 185 Update (Cutting Red Tape to Build Homes Faster Act, 2024), **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**10.2 CL-C 56-2024**

Community Safety and Policing Act – Protocol for the Sharing of Information between the Niagara Police Service Board and Niagara Region

Moved by Councillor Ip

Seconded by Councillor Steele

That Memorandum CL-C 56-2024, dated June 27, 2024, respecting Community Safety and Policing Act – Protocol for the Sharing of Information between the Niagara Police Service Board and Niagara Region, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That Regional Council **AUTHORIZE** the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk to sign the Protocol for the Sharing of Information between the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Service Board and The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

**Carried**

**Councillor Information Request(s):**

That staff investigate enhanced road safety data sharing with the Niagara Regional Police Service to assist in data-driven decision making.  
Councillor Zalepa.

At this point in the meeting Councillor Steele assumed the chair.

**11. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION**

**11.1 Procedural By-law Review Committee**

Minutes PBLRC 2-2024, Monday, May 27, 2024

Moved by Councillor Bateman  
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Minutes PBLRC 2-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Procedural By-law Review Committee meeting held on Monday, May 27, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

**11.2 Public Works Committee**

Minutes PWC 6-2024, Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Moved by Councillor Heit  
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Minutes PWC 6-2024 being the Open and Closed Session minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

**11.3 Public Health and Social Services Committee**

Minutes PHSSC 6-2024, Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Moved by Councillor Morocco  
Seconded by Councillor Ip

That Minutes PHSSC 6-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**



11.4 Corporate Services Committee

Minutes CSC 6-2024, Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes CSC 6-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**, save and except Minute Item 6.3.

**Carried**

11.5 Planning and Economic Development Committee

Minutes PEDC 6-2024, Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Moved by Councillor Huson

Seconded by Councillor Seaborn

That Minutes PEDC 6-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

At this point in the meeting Chair Bradley assumed the chair.

11.5.1 Minutes PEDC 6-2024, Minute Item 7.1 respecting Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

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

That Report PDS 21-2024, dated June 12, 2024, respecting Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the request from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee to amend the Committee's Terms of Reference **BE DENIED**.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (24): Champion, Chiocchio, Diodati, Foster, Ganann, Grant, Heit, Huson, Ip, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugolini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (2): Bateman, Easton.

**Carried**

11.5.2 Balance of Recommendations from the Planning and Economic Development Committee

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

**Carried**

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

12.1 CAO 9-2024

2024 Chief Administrative Officer Performance Objectives and Development Plan

Ron Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, provided information respecting 2024 Chief Administrative Officer Performance Objectives and Development Plan.

Moved by Councillor Bateman  
Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Memorandum CAO 9-2024, dated June 27, 2024, respecting 2024 Chief Administrative Officer Performance Objectives and Development Plan, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That the 2024 Chief Administrative Officer Performance Objectives and Development Plan **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

**13. MOTIONS**

There were no motions for consideration.

**14. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Councillor Bateman advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting respecting Niagara Region's commitment to the Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities.

**15. CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Heit  
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

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

Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual, A Matter of Legal Advice that is Subject to Solicitor- Client Privilege and A Matter of Litigation or Potential Litigation under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Associate Medical Officer of Health

**Carried**

Council resolved into closed session at 9:43 p.m.

**16. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Council reconvened in open session at 9:59 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

Council: Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Campion, Chiocchio, Diodati\*, Easton, Foster\*, Gale\*, Ganann, Grant\*, Heit, Huson, Junkin\*, Kaiser, Morocco, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord\*, Siscoe, Sorrento\*, Steele, Ugulini, Villella\*, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Craitor, Davies, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Redekop, Zalepa

Staff: Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

\* indicates participants who attended the meeting electronically, all others participated in person

16.1 Confidential CAO 10-2024

A Matter respecting Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual, A Matter of Legal Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege and A Matter of Litigation or Potential Litigation under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Associate Medical Officer of Health

Moved by Councillor Whalen  
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Confidential CAO 10-2024, dated June 27, 2024, respecting Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual, A Matter of Legal Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-Client Privilege and A Matter of Litigation or Potential Litigation under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Associate Medical Officer of Health, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations therein **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

17. **BY-LAWS**

Moved by Councillor Morocco  
Seconded by Councillor Huson

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

Bill 2024-36

A by-law to amend By-law 120-2010, being The Procedural By-law.

Bill 2024-37

A by-law to authorize the execution of the municipal funding agreement for the Canada Community-Building Fund with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Bill 2024-38

A by-law to adopt, ratify, and confirm the actions of Council at its meeting held June 27, 2024.

**Carried**

18. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of other business.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

---

Jim Bradley  
Regional Chair

---

Kelly Lotimer  
Deputy Regional Clerk

---

Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk