

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

CL 13-2024

Thursday, August 29, 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, Champion, Craitor*, Davies, Diodati*, Easton, Foster, Gale, Grant*, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Junkin*, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Chiochio, Ganann, Heit, Jordan, Zalepa

Staff: C. Banach, Director, Housing Services, A. Basic, Legislative Coordinator, D. Carnegie, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, T. Cimino, Associate Director, Water Wastewater Engineering, C. Cousins, Director, Homelessness & Community Engagement, S. Crocco, Legal Counsel*, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, C. Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services*, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, S. Klair, Director, Childrens Services*, P. Lambert, Director, Water Wastewater Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Richardson, Program Specialist Security*, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works*, M. Sergi, Commissioner, Growth Strategy & Economic Development, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

* 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 6:35 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Councillor Kaiser read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

3. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

Regional Chair Bradley asked those in attendance to stand, if able, for the singing of 'O Canada'.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

4.1 Addition of Items

There were no items added to the agenda.

4.2 Changes in Order of Items

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

Moved by Councillor Whalen

Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Council Agenda CL 13-2024, **BE ADOPTED.**

Carried

5. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Morocco declared a conflict with respect to PDS-C 24-2024 (Minute Item 5.1, Minutes PEDC 7-2024 (Agenda Item 12.3)) respecting Smart Growth Program Extension Request - 75 Ormond Street, Thorold, as they are a business client; therefore, she did not participate in any discussion or vote on this matter.

6. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

7. CHAIR'S REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMARKS

The Regional Chair provided an update respecting activities within the Region.

8. DELEGATIONS

8.1 South Niagara Shelter Expansion (COM 29-2024, Agenda Item 11.1)

8.1.1 Deanna Bishop, Resident, City of Welland

Deanna Bishop, resident, City of Welland, appeared before Council, in support of the recommendation to create a South Niagara shelter site.

8.1.2 Jackie Proulx, Resident, City of Welland

Jackie Proulx, resident, City of Welland, appeared before Council, in opposition of the recommendation to create a South Niagara shelter site.

8.1.3 Christian Gava, Resident, City of Welland

Christian Gava, resident, City of Welland, appeared before Council, in opposition of the recommendation to create a South Niagara shelter site.

9. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

9.1 Council Minutes CL 11-2024

Moved by Councillor Secord
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That Minutes CL 11-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Regional Council meeting held on Thursday, July 25, 2024, **BE ADOPTED.**

Carried

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Huson

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

CL-C 72-2024
Physician Recruitment Community Roundtable

CL-C 74-2024
Niagara Transit Commission - Commingled Services – Service Issues Update

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information regarding the expansion of transit services over the past five years including timing for future transit service expansions. Councillor Gale.

Provide information respecting specialized transit services. Councillor Bateman.

11. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

11.1 COM 29-2024

South Niagara Shelter Expansion

Moved by Councillor Campion
Seconded by Councillor Siscoe

That Report COM 29-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting South Niagara Shelter Expansion, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Regional Council **AUTHORIZES** the transfer of \$2,840,400 Capital Variance Project - Levy funding to Niagara Regional Housing (NRH) for the South Niagara Emergency Shelter Project;
2. That Regional Council **APPROVES** commencing the creation of a South Niagara Shelter to be operational by end of year 2024, and that the incremental levy operating budget requirement of \$1,000,000 **BE CONSIDERED** for inclusion in the 2025 budget;
3. That Regional Council **AUTHORIZES** the increase of up to \$1,000,000 per annum to the current Hope Centre contract awarded through Report COM 5-2024, for the term commencing January 1, 2025 to March 31, 2027, with additional start up funding in 2024 to a maximum of \$250,000 to support South Niagara Shelter expansion of services; and
4. That the agreement with The Hope Centre for housing focused shelter operations **BE AMENDED**, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal and Court Services, to include the negotiated service levels and expenditures associated with the changes to the South Niagara shelter program.

Regional Chair Bradley recessed the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:55 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Secord

That the question **BE CALLED**.

Defeated

Regional Chair Bradley called the vote on the motion and declared it,

Recorded Vote:

Yes (19): Bateman, Campion, Davies, Easton, Foster, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Morocco, Redekop, Rigby, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Witteveen.

No (5): Gale, Grant, Junkin, Kaiser, Whalen.

Carried

11.2 CL-C 73-2024

Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Board of Directors
Vacancy

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Seaborn

That Memorandum CL-C 73-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Board of Directors
Vacancy, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That the appointment process to fill the vacancy **BE UNDERTAKEN** at
this time.

Carried

The Regional Chair advised Council that Councillors Bateman, Kaiser and
Witteveen had expressed interest in serving on the Niagara Peninsula
Conservation Authority (NPCA) Board of Directors. There being no other
members interested, voting was conducted.

Voting for Councillor Bateman (3): Bateman, Siscoe, Villella.

Voting for Councillor Kaiser (9): Campion, Diodati, Gale, Insinna, Kaiser,
Morocco, Rigby, Sorrento, Ugulini.

Voting for Councillor Witteveen (13): Davies, Easton, Foster, Grant,
Huson, Ip, Junkin, Redekop, Seaborn, Secord, Steele, Whalen, Witteveen.

Based on the result of the voting, the Regional Chair called the vote on the
motion as follows:

Moved by Councillor Sorrento
Seconded by Councillor Bateman

That Councillor Witteveen **BE APPOINTED** to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Board of Directors for the remainder of this term of Council, effective immediately.

Carried

11.3 CSD 45-2024

Bell Canada NG 9-1-1 Authority Service Contract

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Report CSD 45-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting Bell Canada NG 9-1-1 Authority Service Contract **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Report CSD 45-2024 respecting the Next Generation 9-1-1 Authority Service Agreement with Bell Canada **BE RECEIVED** and;
2. That the Regional Clerk and Regional Chair **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the agreement with Bell Canada in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal and Court Services.

Carried

11.4 CL-C 75-2024

Niagara Regional Police Service Board Request for Special Equipment Budget Transfer - 911 Back Up Centre

Moved by Councillor Ip
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That Correspondence Item CL-C 75-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting Niagara Regional Police Service Board Request for Special Equipment Budget Transfer - 911 Back Up Centre, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That Regional Council **APPROVE** a capital budget transfer in the amount of \$3,024,000 gross from the Niagara Regional Police Service approved 2021 Capital Project 20001462 21-NRPS Communications Back-Up to the Niagara Region Capital Project 20001271 20-911 Back-Up Rationalization.

Carried

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION

12.1 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 1-2024, Thursday, July 25, 2024

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 1-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on Thursday, July 25, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

12.2 Public Works Committee

Minutes PWC 7-2024, Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Moved by Councillor Witteveen
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Minutes PWC 7-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

12.2.1 Minutes PWC 7-2024, Minute Item 6.3 respecting Purchase Orders Increase for Parsons Inc., for the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, Detailed Transportation Assessment, Detailed Design and Contract Administration for Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road, City of Niagara Falls)

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

That Report PW 24-2024, dated August 13, 2024, respecting Purchase Order Increase for Parsons Inc, for the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, Detailed Transportation Assessment, Detailed Design and Contract Administration for Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road, City of Niagara Falls), **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That an increase to the Parsons Inc. Contract in the amount of \$412,752 (including 13% HST) **BE APPROVED** for a total revised Contract value of \$3,063,906 (including 13% HST), to be funded from the approved project budget;

2. That the Engineering Agreement with Parsons Inc. (Parsons) for the Montrose Road and Lyons Creek Road/Biggar Road – Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Design in the City of Niagara Falls **BE AMENDED**, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal and Court Services, to include the additional fees and scope of work necessary to complete the project; and
3. That the Commissioner of Public Works **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the amendment to the Engineering Agreement between The Regional Municipality of Niagara and Parsons Inc.

Carried

12.2.2 Balance of the Recommendations for the Public Works Committee

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

Carried

12.3 Planning and Economic Development Committee

Minutes PEDC 7-2024, Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Davies

That Minutes PEDC 7-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

13. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT(S)

13.1 CAO 14-2024

Federal Advocacy Update

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Report CAO 14-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting Federal Advocacy Update, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

14. MOTIONS

There were no motions for consideration.

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

15.1 Big City Mayors “Solve the Crisis” Campaign

Councillor Ip advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting endorsing the Big City Mayors Solve the Crisis Campaign.

15.2 Municipal Codes of Conduct

Councillor Bateman advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting respecting Municipal Codes of Conduct

15.3 Policing Costs

Councillor Kaiser advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting respecting a review of how policing costs are levied.

15.4 Procedural By-law – Councillor Speaking Time

Councillor Kaiser advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting respecting Councillor speaking time at Council and Committee of the Whole meetings.

16. CLOSED SESSION

Council did not resolve into closed session.

17. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

17.1 Confidential CSD 47-2024

A Matter Respecting Litigation and A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-Client privilege under s. 239(2)(e) and (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Update Regarding Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant (“NOTL WWTP”) and Niagara-on-the-Lake Sewage Pumping Station (“NOTL SPS”) Litigation

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Confidential Report CSD 47-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting A Matter Respecting Litigation and A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor-Client privilege under s. 239(2)(e) and (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Update Regarding Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant (“NOTL WWTP”) and Niagara-on-the-Lake Sewage Pumping Station (“NOTL SPS”) Litigation, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

17.2 Confidential PHD 4-2024

A Matter Respecting Labour Relations under s.239 (2) (b) of the Municipal Act, 2001-Proposed Changes to Public Health Led Program

Moved by Councillor Morocco
Seconded by Councillor Junkin

That Confidential Report PHD 4-2024, dated August 29, 2024, respecting A Matter Respecting Labour Relations under s.239 (2) (b) of the Municipal Act, 2001-Proposed Changes to Public Health Led Program, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

18. **BY-LAWS**

The Regional Chair advised that Bill 2024-52 would be considered separately as an affirmative vote of two-thirds was required.

Moved by Councillor Bateman
Seconded by Councillor Seaborn

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

Bill 2024-52

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

Moved by Councillor Morocco
Seconded by Councillor Siscoe

That Section 4 of Bill 2024-52 **BE AMENDED** as follows:

1. That the following wording be added to Section 9 of By-law No. 120-2010:

~~Members of the public, including delegates, are not permitted to have signs, props, placards or flags of any kind at meetings of Regional Council or its Committees.~~

The use of signs, props or flags is not permitted in Meetings if they contain a solid backing or hard handles, disrupt Meetings, or obstruct anyone from properly viewing Meetings. Signs, props or flags that are used must not contain defamatory, threatening or offensive language or imagery, hate speech; generally or with respect to specific individuals.

Carried

The Regional Chair called the vote on Bill 2024-52, as amended, and declared it,

Carried

Moved by Councillor Davies
Seconded by Councillor Steele

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

Bill 2024-50

A by-law to dedicate Part 3 on 59R-17966, in the City of Niagara Falls, as part of Regional Road No. 98 (Montrose Road).

Bill 2024-51

A by-law to regulate discharges to the sanitary and storm sewer systems of the Regional Municipality of Niagara to repeal By-law No. 27-2014.

Bill 2024-53

A By-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of Regional Council at its meeting held August 29, 2024.

Carried

19. OTHER BUSINESS

19.1 Provincial Investments in Mental Health and Addictions Supports

Councillor Siscoe enquired about the recent announcement from the Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, at the 2024 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference regarding proposals from municipalities and communities for treatment and social support hubs to provide a range of services for mental health and addictions support. Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, advised that staff were currently reviewing the document, and a verbal update would be provided at the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting being held on September 10, 2024.

20. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Jim Bradley
Regional Chair

Azra Basic
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk