

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**PEDC 10-2024**

**Wednesday, November 6, 2024**

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

Committee: Bateman, Bradley (Regional Chair)\*, Champion\*, Davies (Committee Vice Chair), Foster\*, Ganann\*, Huson (Committee Chair), Jordan\*, Kaiser\*, Morocco, Rigby, Seaborn\*, Siscoe\*, Steele\*, Ugulini, Witteveen\*

Absent/Regrets: Junkin, Redekop

Staff: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning, D. Carnegie, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer\*, E. Chou, Manager, Trade & Investment, S. Crocco, Legal Counsel\*, S. Dunsmore, Acting Director, Infrastructure Planning and Development Engineering, R. Hill, Legislative Assistant, M. Marino, Associate Director, Economic Development, B. Landry, Manager, Economic Research and Analysis, D. Morreale, Director, Development Approvals, S. Norman, Senior Planner, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Robinson, Director, Strategic Transformation Office, M. Sergi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, G. Spezza, Director, Economic Development, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, A. Stea, Director, Community & Long Range Planning, D. Turner, Manager, Strategic Growth Services

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

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Huson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Committee Chair Huson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Committee Chair Huson declared a conflict with respect to Confidential Report PDS 30-2024 (Minute Item 9.1) respecting A Matter of Litigation Affecting the Municipality under s. 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal of the Proposed Uppers Quarry (Niagara Falls) Regional Official Plan Amendment Application, as the subject applicant is a client of her employer and therefore did not take part in its discussion.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**5. DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

**6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

There were no items for consideration.

**7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

7.1 ED 14-2024  
Niagara Economic Update

Blake Landry, Manager, Economic Research and Analysis, provided information respecting Niagara Economic Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Population
- Consumer Price Index
- Gross Domestic Products (2017)
- Wages and Salaries
- Primary Household Income Per Capita
- Home Price Index
- Retail Sales
- Investment in Construction (Residential and Non-residential)
- International Trade
- Business Counts
- Labour Force and Employment
- Unemployment Rate
- Participation Rate

Moved by Councillor Ganann  
Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That Report ED 14-2024, dated November 6, 2024, respecting Niagara Economic Update, **BE RECEIVED**.

**Carried**

7.2 ED 15-2024

Economic Development Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Update

Eric Chou, Manager, Trade and Investment, provided an Economic Development Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Purpose
- Investment Attraction Activities
- Asahi Kasei Invests \$1.56 Billion in Niagara Region
- Additional Companies that have invested in Niagara Region
- Site Visits with Potential Investors

Moved by Councillor Steele  
Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

That Report ED 15-2024, dated November 6, 2024, respecting Economic Development Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Update, **BE RECEIVED**.

**Carried**

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 Bill 23 Update

Michelle Sergi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, advised that a letter was sent from Minister Calandra regarding the potential proclamation date for Bill 23. She noted that the tentative date is set for March 31, 2025, but that the commenting period of currently open and additional information will be provided in the Councillor Weekly Correspondence Distribution.

8.2 Greenbelt Plan Amendment No. 4

Councillor Kaiser requested clarification on the Greenbelt Plan Amendment No. 4 Memorandum that was issued in the Councillor Weekly Correspondence Distribution on November 1, 2024. Erik Acs, Manager, Community Planning, provided clarification respecting the preliminary assessment of the amendment's implications.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

Committee did not resolve into closed session.

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

At this point in the meeting, Committee Vice Chair Davies assumed the chair.

10.1 **Confidential PDS 30-2024**

A Matter of Litigation Affecting the Municipality under s. 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal of the Proposed Uppers Quarry (Niagara Falls) Regional Official Plan Amendment Application

Moved by Councillor Morocco  
Seconded by Councillor Bateman

That Confidential PDS 30-2024, dated November 6, 2024, respecting A Matter of Litigation Affecting the Municipality under s. 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal of the Proposed Uppers Quarry (Niagara Falls) Regional Official Plan Amendment Application, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein, **BE APPROVED**.

**Carried**

11. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

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Councillor Huson  
Committee Chair

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Jenna Spratt  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk