

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

CL 16-2024

Thursday, November 21, 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*, Chiocchio*, Craitor*, Davies*, Diodati*, Easton*, Foster*, Gale, Ganann, Grant*, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Junkin*, Kaiser, Morocco, Redekop, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento*, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
- Absent/Regrets: Jordan, Rigby
- Staff: D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance, R. Bradshaw, Associate Director, Water & Wastewater Asset Management*, B. Brens, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy, D. Carnegie, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer, T. Cimino, Associate Director, Water Wastewater Engineering*, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, C. Habermebl, Director, Waste Management Services*, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Commissioner, Community Services, P. Lambert, Director, Water & Wastewater Services, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, M. Marino, Associate Director, Economic Development*, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, S. Norman, Senior Planner*, M. Raquion, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, M. Rasiulis, Procurement Manager*, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, A. Stea, Director, Community & Long-Range Planning*, M. Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer
- Others Present: D. Soloman, Director/Principal Consultant, Robinson Global Management*, C. Stout, General Manager, Niagara Transit Commission*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Regional Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Councillor Ganann read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

3. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

Regional Chair Bradley asked all in attendance to stand 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 Steele

Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Council Agenda CL 16-2024, **BE ADOPTED.**

Carried

5. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

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 2025 Proposed Operating Budget and Special Levy Requisition - Niagara Transit Commission (Minute Item 6.2, Minutes BRCOTW 4-2024 (Agenda Item 12.5))

8.1.1 Diane Foster, Resident, City of St. Catharines

Diane Foster, resident, City of St. Catharines, appeared before Council to express concerns with the paratransit system.

9. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

9.1 Council Minutes CL 15-2024
Thursday, October 24, 2024

Moved by Councillor Morocco
Seconded by Councillor Ganann

That Minutes CL 15-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the
Regional Council meeting held on Thursday, October 24, 2024, **BE
ADOPTED.**

Carried

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Councillor Easton
Seconded by Councillor Secord

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

CL-C 102-2024

Niagara Region Integrity Commissioner Annual Report – Operating Period
August 17, 2023 to August 16, 2024

CL-C 103-2024

Appointment of Deputy Clerks for the Purposes of the Commissioners for Taking
Affidavits

Carried

11. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

11.1 CL-C 105-2024

Town of Fort Erie Motion respecting Affordable Housing Community
Improvement Plan

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Correspondence Item CL-C 105-2024, being a letter dated
November 19, 2024, from the Town of Fort Erie respecting Affordable
Housing CIP, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That staff **BE DIRECTED** to provide a report to Council, after consultation with local area municipalities, regarding the current status of Regional programs that assist in the construction of affordable or attainable housing units in Niagara and the development of a Regional Affordable Housing Community Improvement Plan that would provide matching or additional funding to support affordable housing initiatives in Niagara.

Carried

11.2 CL-C 106-2024

Niagara Transit Commission Recommended Community Member Appointment to the Niagara Transit Commission Public Advisory Committee

Moved by Councillor Siscoe
Seconded by Councillor Villella

That Correspondence Item CL-C 106-2024, dated November 21, 2024, respecting Niagara Transit Commission Recommended Community Member Appointment to the Niagara Transit Commission Public Advisory Committee, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

That William Barnes **BE APPOINTED** to the Niagara Transit Commission Public Advisory Committee as the representative for the City of Welland, for the remainder of this term of Council.

Carried

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS - OPEN SESSION

12.1 Public Works Committee

Minutes PWC 10-2024, Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Moved by Councillor Witteveen
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

That Minutes PWC 10-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

12.2 Public Health and Social Services Committee

Minutes PHSSC 10-2024, Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Moved by Councillor Morocco

Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

That Minutes PHSSC 10-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Public Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

12.3 Corporate Services Committee

Minutes CSC 10-2024, Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes CSC 10-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED** save and except Minute Items 10.1 and 10.2.

Carried

12.4 Planning and Economic Development Committee

Minutes PEDC 10-2024, Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Moved by Councillor Huson

Seconded by Councillor Davies

That Minutes PEDC 10-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

12.5 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 4-2024, Thursday, November 7, 2024

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 4-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

12.6 Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Minutes BRCOTW 5-2024, Thursday, November 14, 2024

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes BRCOTW 5-2024 being the Open Session minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting held on Thursday, November 14, 2024, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein **BE APPROVED**.

12.6.1 Minutes BRCOTW 5-2024, Minute Item 6.3 respecting 2025

Proposed Operating Budget - Niagara Regional Police Service and Police Service Board

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

1. That Correspondence Item BRC-C 7-2024, dated November 5, 2024, respecting 2025 Proposed Operating Budget - Niagara Regional Police Service and Police Service Board, **BE RECEIVED**;
2. That the Niagara Regional Police Service and Police Service Board 2025 Proposed Operating Budget of \$213,308,546 or 13.18% **BE APPROVED** in principle subject to consideration of the general levy for Niagara Region;

3. That Niagara Regional Council **DIRECT** the Regional Chair to write a letter to Premier Doug Ford and Solicitor General Michael Kerzner to request that the increase in the Niagara Regional Police Services operating budget of \$10,323,969 (5.7%) as a result of the replacement of the Police Services Act with the Community Safety and Policing Act, be funded by the province, rather than through the tax levy funded by the property taxes of Niagara residents; and
4. That this motion and the letter written by the Regional Chair **BE CIRCULATED** to all 12 local area municipalities, Niagara's four MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario's Inspectorate of Policing, and the Niagara Regional Police Service Board.

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Huson

That the Niagara Regional Police Service and Police Service Board 2025 Proposed Operating Budget, **BE REFERRED** to the Police Service Board requesting a further budget reduction of \$1.067 million.

Carried

12.6.2 Balance of Recommendations from Budget Review Committee of the Whole

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

Carried

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

There were no Chief Administrative Officer's reports.

14. **MOTIONS**

There were no motions for consideration.

15. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

Councillor Bateman advised that she would be bringing forward a motion to the next Council meeting respecting the use of the notwithstanding clause to remove encampments.

16. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Insinna

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

A Matter respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2)(b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Additional Information - Confidential HR 7-2024 and CSC-C 12-2024 - Non-Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update.

Carried

Council resolved into closed session at 7:30 p.m.

17. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Council reconvened in open session at 9:30 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

- Council: Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman, Champion*, Chiocchio*, Craitor*, Davies*, Diodati*, Easton*, Foster*, Gale, Ganann, Grant*, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Junkin*, Kaiser, Morocco, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento*, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa
- Absent/Regrets: Ip, Jordan, Redekop, Rigby, Villella
- Staff: K. Angrilli, Manager, Total Rewards, D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance, D. Carnegie, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, C. Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services*, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Commissioner, Community Services, P. Lambert, Director, Water & Wastewater Services, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, F. Meffe, Director, Human Resources, J. Middleton, Associate Director, Talent, Development and Rewards, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, M. Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services*, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer
- Others Present: C. Stout, General Manager, Niagara Transit Commission*

17.1 Confidential Presentation

A Matter respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2)(b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Additional Information - Confidential HR 7-2024 and CSC-C 12-2024 - Non-Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update

Moved by Councillor Gale

Seconded by Councillor Ugulini

That the Confidential presentation respecting a Matter Respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2)(b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Additional Information - Confidential HR 7-2024 and CSC-C 12-2024 - Non-Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (21): Bateman, Campion, Diodati, Easton, Foster, Ganann, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Seaborn, Secord, Siscoe, Sorrento, Steele, Ugulini, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa.

No (5): Chiocchio, Craitor, Davies, Gale, Grant.

Carried

17.2 Confidential HR 7-2024

A Matter respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Non-Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update

Moved by Councillor Huson

Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Confidential HR 7-2024, dated October 9, 2024, respecting A Matter respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Non Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update, **BE RECEIVED** and staff **PROCEED** as directed in closed session.

Carried

17.3 Confidential CSC-C 12-2024

A Matter respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Non-Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update (Confidential Report HR 7-2024)

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Ganann

That Confidential CSC-C 12-2024, dated November 6, 2024, respecting A Matter respecting Personal Matters about Identifiable Individuals and Labour Relation or Employee Negotiations under s. 239(2)(b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Non Union Compensation Review Phase Two Update (Confidential Report HR 7-2024), **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried

17.4 Corporate Services Committee

Closed Session Minutes CSC 10-2024, Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Minutes CSC 10-2024 being the Closed Session minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, **BE ADOPTED**.

Carried

18. **BY-LAWS**

Moved by Councillor Witteveen
Seconded by Councillor Seaborn

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

Bill 2024-70

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 73 (Mud Street) at Park Road South/South Grimsby Road 6 in the Town of Grimsby/Township of West Lincoln.

Bill 2024-71

A by-law to amend By-law 89-2000 to Provide for the Regulation of Traffic on Regional Highways (Prohibited Turns Regional Road 3 Garrison Road in the Town of Fort Erie).

Bill 2024-72

A by-law to amend By-law 89-2000 Being a By-law to Provide for the Regulation of Traffic on Regional Highways (Reduced Load Restrictions in the Township of West Lincoln).

Bill 2024-73

A by-law to adopt the 2025 Waste Management Budget for The Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Bill 2024-74

A by-law to adopt the 2025 Transit Commission Budget and Requisition for the Regional Municipality of Niagara Special Levy Tax for Transit.

Bill 2024-75

A by-law to adopt the 2025 Wastewater budget and set the requisitions to be charged for wastewater received from the lower-tier municipalities for the period of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025.

Bill 2024-76

A by-law to adopt the 2025 Water Budget and to set the requisition to be charged for water supplied to lower-tier municipalities for the period of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025.

Bill 2024-77

A by-law to appoint Deputy Regional Clerks for the purposes of the Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act and to repeal By-law No. 2023-33.

Bill 2024-78

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

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

Bill 2024-74 was voted on separately as follows:

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

Bill 2024-74

A by-law to adopt the 2025 Transit Commission Budget and Requisition for the Regional Municipality of Niagara Special Levy Tax for Transit.

Carried

Acting Regional Chair Ugulini, called the vote on the remainder of the Bills and declared it,

Carried

19. OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of other business.

20. ADJOURNMENT

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

Jim Bradley
Regional Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Deputy Regional Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk