

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

CSC 1-2025

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

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

Committee: Bateman, Bradley (Regional Chair)*, Campion, Davies*,
Diodati*, Foster (Committee Chair), Gale, Ganann*, Grant*,
Insinna, Redekop*, Siscoe, Whalen (Committee Vice-Chair) ,
Zalepa*

Absent/Regrets: Heit, Secord

Staff: E. Amirault, Associate Director, Corporate Business Continuity*,
R. Ball-Condron, Program Manager, Government Relations, B.
Brens, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy, D.
Carnegie, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer, D.
Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, R. Hill, Legislative
Coordinator, A. Korchok, Chief of Staff, K. Lotimer, Deputy
Regional Clerk*, P. Maposa, Director, Asset Management, F.
Meffe, Director, Human Resources, B. Menage, Director,
Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions*, A.-M. Norio, Regional
Clerk, M. Raquion, Director, Financial Management &
Planning/Deputy Treasurer, M. Sergi, Deputy Chief
Administrative Officer, M. Steele, Associate Director, Reporting &
Analysis, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Rebecca Hill, Legislative Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Councillor Insinna read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. **DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. SELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

4.1 Call for Nominations for Committee Chair

Rebecca Hill, Legislative Coordinator, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Corporate Services Committee for the remainder of the term (2025-2026).

Moved by Councillor Diodati
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Councillor Foster **BE NOMINATED** for Chair of the Corporate Services Committee for the remainder of the term (2025-2026).

4.2 Motion to Close Nominations for Committee Chair

The Legislative Coordinator called a final time for nominations for the position of Corporate Services Committee Chair. There being no further nominations it was:

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Gale

That nominations for the position of Chair of the Corporate Services Committee for the remainder of the term (2025-2026), **BE CLOSED**.

4.3 Voting for the Position of Committee Chair

There being only one nominee for the position of Committee Chair, the Legislative Coordinator announced that Councillor Foster would be the Corporate Services Committee Chair for the remainder of the term (2025-2026).

4.4 Call for Nominations for Committee Vice-Chair

Rebecca Hill, Legislative Coordinator, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Corporate Services Committee for the remainder of the term (2025-2026).

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Bateman

That Councillor Whalen **BE NOMINATED** for Vice-Chair of the Corporate Services Committee for the remainder of the term (2025-2026).

4.5 Motion to Close Nominations for Committee Vice-Chair

The Legislative Coordinator called a final time for nominations for the position of Corporate Services Committee Vice-Chair. There being no further nominations it was:

Moved by Councillor Siscoe
Seconded by Councillor Ganann

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Corporate Services Committee for the remainder of the term (2025-2026), **BE CLOSED**.

4.6 Voting for the Position of Committee Vice-Chair

There being only one nominee for the position of Committee Vice-Chair, the Legislative Coordinator announced that Councillor Whalen would be the Corporate Services Committee Vice-Chair for the remainder of the term (2025-2026).

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Foster assumed the Chair.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

6. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

7.1 CSD 6-2025

2025 Property Tax Policy, Ratios and Rates

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Siscoe

That Report CSD 6-2025, dated February 5, 2025, respecting 2025 Property Tax Policy, Ratios and Rates, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Council **APPROVE** the following tax ratios and sub-class reductions for the 2025 taxation year:

Property Classification	Tax Ratio	Sub-Class Reduction
Residential	1.000000	
New Multi-Residential	1.000000	
Multi-Residential	1.970000	
Commercial	1.734900	
Commercial – Excess Land	1.734900	
Commercial – Vacant Land	1.734900	
Industrial	2.630000	
Industrial – Excess Land	2.630000	
Industrial – Vacant Land	2.630000	
Aggregate Extraction	2.140048	
Pipeline	1.702100	
Farmland	0.250000	
Managed Forest	0.250000	
Farmland Awaiting Development 1	1.000000	25.00%
Farmland Awaiting Development 2	Class Ratio	
Landfill Sites	2.940261	

2. That the interim and final Regional levy amounts and dates **BE APPROVED** in accordance with Appendix 5 to Report CSD 6-2025;
3. That the necessary by-laws **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council for consideration and **BE CIRCULATED** to the Councils of the Local Area Municipalities for information; and
4. That Report CSD 6-2025 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Councils of the Local Area Municipalities for information.

Carried

8. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8.1 CSD 7-2025

Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund Update

Melanie Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, provided information respecting Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Program Overview
- Program Condition
- Development Charge Challenges
- Scan of Housing Enabling Projects (Local & Regional)
- Conclusions & Next Steps

Moved by Councillor Zalepa

Seconded by Councillor Ganann

That Report CSD 7-2025, dated February 5, 2025, respecting Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund Update, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

8. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Moved by Councillor Campion

Seconded by Councillor Insinna

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

CSC-C 2-2025

Fees and Charges By-Law Amendment- Senior Services

CAO 1-2025

Recruitment of Commissioner Corporate Services

Carried

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Social Procurement Policy

Councillor Bateman requested an update respecting the creation of a social procurement policy. Dan Carnegie, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer, advised that next steps regarding a social procurement policy were being included as part of the information presented to Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting being held on February 6, 2025 as part of the review of the Procurement By-law.

9.2 Core Services Review

Councillor Insinna inquired about the possibility of a core services review. Ron Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that staff are currently exploring options with respect to the 2026 budget process to ensure Council has fulsome information and that a service review would be part of that process.

9.3 Provincial Funding for Police Services

Councillor Zalepa requested an update related to the request sent to the Province requesting that the Province fund 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.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Councillor Foster
Committee Chair

Rebecca Hill
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

