

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

COTW 1-2025

Thursday, February 6, 2025

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

Committee: Bradley (Regional Chair), Bateman*, Campion*, Chiocchio*, Craitor*, Diodati*, Foster, Gale, Ganann, Grant, Huson*, Insinna, Jordan, Junkin*, Kaiser*, Morocco, Rigby, Seaborn*, Siscoe, Ugulini, Villella*, Whalen, Witteveen, Zalepa

Absent/Regrets: Davies, Easton, Heit, Ip, Redekop, Secord, Sorrento, Steele

Staff: E. Amirault, Associate Director, Corporate Business Continuity and Resilience Strategy*, D. Carnegie, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer, T. Cimino, Associate Director, Water, Wastewater Engineering*, R. Ferron, Chief/Director, Emergency Medical Services, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, C. Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services*, R. Hill, Legislative Coordinator, Dr. A. Kasmani, Medical Officer of Health, H. Koning, Commissioner, Community Services, S. Klair, Director, Children's Services*, A. Korchok, Chief of Staff, Governance, P. Lambert, Director, Water & Wastewater Services, M. Leckey, Program Financial Specialist, K. Lotimer, Deputy 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, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works, M. Sergi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, M. Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, R. Williams, Human Resources Consultant*, B. Wilson, Legal Counsel, N. Wolfe, Director, Construction, Energy & Facilities Management*

Others Present: H. Mayes-Frenett, Senior Consultant, Operational Research in Health*

* 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 6:32 p.m.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Councillor Kaiser read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. **DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. **REPORTS**

Ron Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of initiatives to respond to the pending US tariffs and advised Council that the Region is working on a robust strategy based on four key areas (Protecting Niagara, Supporting Local, Future State Planning and Niagara/US Partnerships) to ensure Niagara remains resilient in the face of any potential trade actions that may occur.

4.1 **CSD 5-2025**

Procurement By-law Review and Proposed Amendments

Brian Wilson, Legal Counsel, Bart Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions, and Frank Tassone, Director, Transportation Services, provided information respecting Procurement By-law Review and Proposed Amendments. Topics of the presentation included:

- The Review Process and Resulting Opportunities
- Proposed Substantiative Amendments
- What these proposed modernizations mean operationally
- Next Steps - Timing

Moved by Councillor Zalepa

Seconded by Councillor Ganann

That Report CSD 5-2025, dated February 6, 2025, respecting Procurement By-law Review and Proposed Amendments, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Moved by Councillor Insinna

Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Report CSD 5-2025 **BE REFERRED** to the Corporate Services Committee meeting being held on April 9, 2025, for staff to provide information respecting internal audit controls and the use of independent auditors that report to Council, in light of the proposed changes to the Procurement By-law.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (21): Champion, Chiocchio, Craitor, Diodati, Foster, Gale, Ganann, Grant, Huson, Insinna, Jordan, Junkin, Kaiser, Morocco, Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen, Witteveen.

No (2): Bateman, Zalepa.

Carried

4.2 PHD 1-2025

Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) 10 Year Master Plan

Richard Ferron, Chief, Niagara Emergency Medical Services, Melanie Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, and Hannah Mayes-Frenett, Senior Consultant, Operational Research in Health, provided information respecting the Niagara Emergency Medical Services 10 Year Master Plan. Topics of the presentation included:

- Key Findings of Service and Facilities Analysis
- Predictive Modelling Capabilities
- Demand Projections
- Facility and Ambulance Requirements
- Financial Impacts
- Recommendations/Next Steps

Moved by Councillor Insinna

Seconded by Councillor Morocco

That Report PHD 1-2025, dated February 6, 2025, respecting Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) 10 Year Master Plan, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the 10-year master facilities plan **BE ENDORSED IN PRINCIPLE** so that staff may proceed to 'Request for Proposals' for conceptual design of an EMS Hub with performance specifications and continue to explore partnership opportunities as detailed within this report;
2. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to proceed with expression of interest (EOI) for the lease-based scenario for an EMS Hub; and
3. That financing in the amount of \$3,895,250 gross and \$3,036,890 net **BE INITIATED** from the 2017 capital budget for EMS Central Hub (#20000117) and that the project **BE FUNDED** as follows:
 - Development Charges \$858,360
 - Debt \$3,036,890.

Carried

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of other business.

6. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Jim Bradley
Regional Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Deputy Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk