

Township of South-West Oxford
Council Minutes
July 9, 2024

Members Present: Mayor: Mayor David Mayberry, Paul
Councillors: Buchner (Ward 1), Peter Ypma
(Ward 2), George Way (Ward 4),
Jim Pickard (Ward 5), Craig Gillis
(Ward 6)

Members Absent: Valerie Durston (Ward 3)

Staff Present: Mary Ellen Greb, CAO/Deputy Clerk
Julie Middleton, Clerk/Deputy CAO
Brooke Crane, Treasurer
Adam Prouse, Works Superintendent
Paul Groeneveld, Fire Chief
Howard Leaver, Chief Building Official
Nicole Chambers, Records Management Co-
ordinator/Clerk's Assistant

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mayor David Mayberry and a quorum was present.

Motion to Accept Agenda

Resolution No. 1 Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the regular meeting agenda for the July 9th, 2024 meeting of council be approved, as amended (add two delegations).

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Minutes

June 18th, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Resolution No. 2 Moved by Paul Buchner

Mr. Walton reviewed possible financing options and requested Council's direction in relation to a public consultation process.

Discussion took place regarding block assessments as provided by the Drainage Act, and the increased level of cost that the Township is faced with in relation to asset management and future capital and maintenance costs. Council provided direction to proceed with public consultation in September, 2024 and present estimates to the public in relation what the cost to residents may be.

Resolution No. 4 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive the report on Urban Storm Water Systems Operation and Financing Options by rw2 Engineering Ltd., dated June 26, 2024, as information;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to undertake public consultation with affected residents prior to making recommendations to Council for storm water systems operations and financing.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

9:45 a.m. - By-law Exemption Request - Stephanie Foreman re: Chickens in Residential Zone (Beachville)

CL 29-2024: By-law Exemption Request - Animal Care and Control By-law (Chickens) - Stephanie Foreman

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to present them with a by-law exemption request received from Stephanie Foreman, located at 584437 Beachville Road, to permit the keeping of chickens within a residential zone. She advised Council that since the writing of the report, she has received two calls from neighbours that were circulated during the public notice process that have both expressed support for the keeping of chickens by Stephanie Foreman, provided that the chickens are contained to their own property.

Discussion took place regarding the need to have a broader discussion among Council regarding the keeping of chickens in residential zones and whether or not an amendment to the Township's by-law may be appropriate.

Resolution No. 5 Moved by Craig Gillis
Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 29-2024: By-law Exemption Request - Animal Care and Control By-law (Chickens) - Stephanie Foreman as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve the by-law exemption request received from Stephanie Foreman to permit the keeping of chickens on her property located at 584437 Beachville Road subject to the following conditions:

- That no chicken be replaced at the end of its' life;
- That the chickens be for personal use only with no sale of eggs, manure or additional chickens being permitted;
- That chicken feed be kept indoors or in a rodent proof container and secured at all times to prevent rodents and other animals from accessing it;
- That the chickens be contained to Ms. Foreman's property only and not permitted to roam to neighbouring property;
- Should continued complaints be received by enforcement staff in relation to noise or the chickens wandering off their property, the Township may issue an order that the chickens and/or roosters be removed from the property.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

9:54 a.m. - Noise By-law Exemption Request - Foldens Hall Board - Music in the Park
CL 30-2024: Noise By-law Exemption Request - Foldens Hall Board (Music in the Park)

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to present them with a request received from the Foldens Hall Board for an exemption to the Township's Noise By-law to permit the amplification of sound for their Music in the Park event scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 17th, 2024. She advised that no concerns have been expressed as a result of circulation of the request.

Councillor Way commented that this event is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the hall board. It is anticipated that the event and amplified sound will be complete by 8:00 p.m. The cost of the event is \$20 per ticket.

Resolution No. 6 Moved by George Way
 Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 30-2024: Noise By-law Exemption Request - Foldens Hall Board (Music in the Park) as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize an exemption to Section 3.3 of the Township's Noise By-law No. 49-2021 for the Foldens Hall Board for the Music in the Park event to take place on Saturday, August 17th, 2024 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the property located at 374091 Foldens Line;

AND FURTHER THAT Council provide direction to staff to notify enforcement staff and the OPP of the noise by-law exemption approved by Council.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

9:56 a.m. - Noise By-law Exemption Request - Salford Hall Board (Rock Well Band)

CL 31-2024: Noise By-law Exemption Request - Salford Hall Board (Concert in the Park)

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to present them with a request received from the Salford Hall Board for an exemption to the Township's Noise By-law to permit the amplification of sound for their Concert in the Park event scheduled to take place on Saturday, July 13th, 2024. She advised that no concerns have been expressed as a result of circulation of the request.

Resolution No. 7 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by Jim Pickard

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 31-2024: Noise By-law Exemption Request - Salford Hall Board (Concert in the Park) as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize an exemption to Section 3.3 of the Township's Noise By-law No. 49-2021 to permit the amplification of sound for the Salford Hall Board Concert in the Park (Rock Well Band) event to take place on Saturday, July 13th, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Salford Park located at 383908 Salford Road.

AND FURTHER THAT Council provide direction to staff to notify enforcement staff and the OPP of the noise by-law exemption approved by Council.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Staff Reports

WD 08-2024: Dust Suppressant Tender

Works Superintendent Adam Prouse provided Council with a report to seek their approval to award the dust suppressant contract to Pollard Distribution Inc. for the supply and delivery of dust suppressant for the 2024-2027 Seasons. Discussion took place regarding the difference between the materials proposed.

Resolution No. 8 Moved by Paul Buchner
Seconded by Jim Pickard

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive Report WD 8-2024 as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the bid from Pollard Distribution Inc. for the supply and delivery of Dust Suppressant for the 2025-2027 seasons.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

** Council took a ten-minute break at 10:00 a.m.*

Appointments

10:10 a.m. - Sarah Hamulecki, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations and Warden Marcus Ryan - Safe & Well Oxford Update and DEI Inclusion Charter

Sarah Hamulecki, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations and Warden Marcus Ryan addressed Council to provide them with an update from the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee and present a proposed Inclusion Charter for Oxford County. Sarah Hamulecki thanked Council for the opportunity to address them and provided Council with a brief history of the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan. She commented on the legislated requirement of Oxford municipalities to develop a community safety and well-being plan and the partnership formed by all eight area municipalities to complete one plan for all of Oxford County.

Mrs. Hamulecki reviewed the five priority risk areas identified within the plan including mental health, substance misuse and addictions, affordable housing, diversity, equity and inclusion and gender-based violence. She commented on the goals and objectives within the plan in relation to the priority risk areas, and reviewed data and metrics that the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee will be utilizing as indicators and measures of implementation. She provided Council with a summary of sample indicators within each priority risk area.

** Councillor Ypma left the meeting at 10:10 a.m. and returned at 10:16 a.m.*

Mrs. Hamulecki presented the draft Inclusion Charter for Oxford and noted that the document has been prepared by the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action Coalition (DEI Action Coalition). The development of the Inclusion Charter is identified as a goal within the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan. With respect to the Calls to Action included within the document, Council was advised that this is intended to be a list of suggested best practices and recommendations in relation to what area municipalities can do in support of the Inclusion Charter. It is anticipated that each municipality may adapt and choose to implement calls to action as they deem most appropriate for their own communities. Council was advised that the DEI Action Coalition is continuing to do work with regards to other tools and resources to make available to area municipalities to help support them with implementation.

Mayor Marcus Ryan commented that inclusion means a lot of different things to different people including helping people understanding how they can better interact with the Township, and adopting language practices that make it easier for people to be involved and understand business processes and procedures. He noted that area municipalities do a lot to support inclusion

already, and commented on the fact that municipalities are better off as an organization when we include everyone.

Looking ahead, Sarah Hamulecki advised that the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan will need to be updated by July, 2025 and discussions in relation to this update have begun. This presents an opportunity to evolve the plan and make sure that it represents what works best for the County of Oxford. The next Safe and Well Oxford summit will take place on November 1st, 2024. The County of Oxford will also be considering the development of a grant policy to support Safe and Well Oxford (i.e. financial resources, space sharing).

Councillor Pickard thanked Sarah Hamulecki and Warden Marcus Ryan for their presentation and commented on the challenges that have been experienced in relation to implementing DEI initiatives. He expressed concern in relation to the wording of the proposed resolution brought forward for Council's consideration, particularly in relation to implementation of the calls to action included within the Inclusion Charter.

Councillor Ypma thanked Mrs. Hamulecki and Warden Ryan for their presentation, and read a prepared statement which expressed concern and questions in relation to the proposed Inclusion Charter and calls to action. He specifically referenced concerns in relation to the employment, service delivery, economic partnerships sections of the Inclusion Charter and calls to action. He expressed concern that the document will create a fragmented society where the loudest minority groups will hold the greatest influence. He stated that businesses, government and universities across North America are abandoning DEI policies as a failed experiment, and suggested that now is not the time for Oxford County of the Township of South-West Oxford to jump into that failed experiment.

Warden Marcus Ryan noted that South-West Oxford Council approved the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan which included a request to develop an Inclusion Charter for Oxford. He stated that how South-West Oxford Council chooses to implement the inclusion charter is up to them. He advised that the purpose of the presentation today is to report back on the work that the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee and DEI Action Coalition was asked to do. He advised Council that there are people within Oxford communities that do not feel safe and well – they do not share the same experiences and privileges as he does within the community. He commented on past discrimination within Canada based on race, religion and gender. He suggested that Canada is one of the best countries because Canada continually strives to do better. He encouraged us to continue to evolve and do better and to include more people in our society. He stated that people that feel excluded are not going to engage with their government.

Leaders need to take courageous and active steps to make sure that no one is being unintentionally excluded.

10:48 a.m. - Helmut Schneider, Vice President, Renewable Energy Development, Prowind Renewables - Presentation re: Introduction and Vision for Oxford County

Helmut Schneider, Vice President of Prowind Renewables, provided information to Council regarding the organization and their vision and goals within Oxford County. He discussed the work that they have done in other communities, including the community wind park at Gunn's Hill in Norwich. He commented on the benefits of such projects including the generation of affordable needed energy, tax revenue for the municipality and revenue for landowners and local businesses.

Mr. Schneider also spoke in relation to social acceptance of wind energy projects in relation to perceived noise and visual impacts of the projects.

Mr. Schneider advised Council that Prowind would like to support Oxford County to reach their zero emissions goal, be transparent with municipalities and the County with respect to local projects and their intention to submit a bid for a 200 MW wind capacity in the LT2 RFP process (IESO). They would like to continue to engage the public over the next several months regarding their plans and provide any resources that may be necessary for support. He presented Council with a proposed project timeline with anticipated completion of the project by 2030.

Discussion took place among Council in relation to concerns within the community regarding noise, vibration and potential ground water contamination associated wind energy. Mr. Schneider spoke to research findings on the impacts of wind energy. He stated that the low frequency noise from wind turbines is not a health concern. He encouraged members of Council to visit the Gunn's Hill wind park. Discussion also took place regarding the end of life for wind turbines and recycling of the materials. Mr. Schneider also advised that wind turbines are often turned off at night to protect the bat population.

Mayor Mayberry thanked Mr. Schneider for his presentation.

Appointments (continued)

11:00 a.m. - Strik Municipal Drain - Court of Revision

- Appointment of Court of Revision - Councillor Craig Gillis, Councillor Jim Pickard, Councillor George Way (Chair)

Resolution No. 9 Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford appoint Councillor George Way, Councillor Craig Gillis and Councillor Jim Pickard to the Strik Municipal Drain Court of Revision.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Resolution No. 10 Moved by George Way
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford move into Court of Revision for the Strik Municipal Drain.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Resolution No. 11 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford reconvene in regular session.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Safe & Well Oxford Update and DEI Inclusion Charter (continued)

11:22 a.m. - Irene Grace-Bom re: Inclusion Charter for Oxford County

Irene Grace-Bom addressed Council regarding the proposed Inclusion Charter for Oxford County. She commented on the good work that higher education is providing to promote respectful behaviour and communication to all. She questioned the need for the Inclusion Charter locally, and whether or not complaints have come forward in this regard to suggest that a higher level of conduct is required.

She stated that research has shown that diversity, equity and inclusion policies are not effective, and the Township needs to take a hard look in relation to what is needed within Oxford. She suggested that the Township provide more time for members of the public to comment on the proposed Inclusion Charter and conduct more thorough research on the matter.

Well Oxford Inclusion Charter until the Fall following more public consultation.

DISPOSITION: Motion Defeated

Resolution No. 13 Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by Craig Gillis

Whereas municipalities within Oxford County, including the Townships of Blandford-Blenheim, East Zorra-Tavistock, Norwich, Zorra and South-West Oxford, together with the Town of Ingersoll, the Town of Tillsonburg, and the City of Woodstock, developed a shared Community Safety and Well-being Plan, Safe & Well Oxford, in response to the requirements of the Police Services Act, to be lead by Oxford County. The municipalities together created a plan to improve the overall well-being of their communities and enhance the lives of residents across the County;

And Whereas the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan serves as a strategic framework for addressing the community safety and well-being priorities as follows:

1. Mental Health;
2. Affordable Housing;
3. Substance Misuse;
4. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion;
5. Gender Based Violence.

And Whereas the Inclusion Charter for Oxford is an integral component of the goals and objectives of the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan. The Inclusion Charter for Oxford will strengthen efforts to create a safe, inclusive and thriving community for all residents and represents a fundamental commitment to promoting diversity, equity and inclusion across all of our communities.

And Whereas the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Action Coalition has been established by the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee to provide guidance and recommendations for implementing inclusive practices within our organizations and communities.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford approve and endorse the Inclusion Charter for Oxford as a guiding framework for promoting diversity, equity and inclusion within our organization and community.

And Further That Council provide direction to staff to report back to Council regarding implementation of the DEI Inclusion Charter and how to best implement the recommendations within the Township of South-West Oxford.

And Further That Council affirm its commitment to creating an inclusive environment where all individuals feel valued, respected, and empowered to contribute to the social and overall well-being of Oxford County.

Discussion on the motion:

Discussion took place among council regarding the timing and method of public consultation in relation to the Safe and Well Oxford Inclusion Charter and suggested that this will come at the time of report back by staff.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Staff Reports (continued)

CAO 15-2024: Succession Planning - Staffing Objectives for the Future

Chief Administrative Officer Mary Ellen Greb provided Council with a report to present them with a draft succession plan for their consideration and input. She advised that the draft plan will be circulated to senior staff for input as well, prior to coming back to Council for final approval. Members of Council expressed support for the succession plan, and commented on their support of staff moving forward into leadership opportunities as long as it is fair, and that staff understand that they will be competing for positions dependent on the hiring policy of the day – it needs to be clear that it is not a guaranteed opportunity, a balanced approach is necessary. It was stated that the best way to grow and enhance the Township as a whole is to mentor and improve the capability of staff that you have.

Resolution No. 14 Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council receive Report CAO 15-2024 as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council provide direction to the Chief Administrative Officer to review with staff for additional input.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CL 34-2024: Recommendation from Environment and Energy Innovation Committee - Additional Solar Panels for Beachville Fire Hall

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to bring forward a recommendation from the Township's Environment and Energy Innovation Committee to purchase additional solar panels for the Beachville Fire Hall. She explained that the additional panels will help to generate more power on cloudy days.

Councillor Pickard provided a summary of the hydro usage at all three fire halls and noted the positive impact that the solar panels have had over the first half of this year. The Township's Environment and Energy Innovation Committee reviewed this data on a monthly basis. Councillor Craig Gillis questioned the amount of hydro being generated by the solar panels in relation to the maximum permitted by the IESO.

Councillor Pickard noted that the return on investment may take several years, however the initiative reduces the Township's greenhouse gas emissions and shows leadership by Council. Councillor Ypma questioned the lifecycle cost and impact of the solar panel project and electric vehicles. He asked that this be added to the next Environment and Energy Innovation Committee meeting agenda to report back to Council.

Resolution No. 15 Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 34-2024: Recommendation from Environment and Energy Innovation Committee - Additional Solar Panels for the Beachville Fire Hall as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve the purchase of eight (8) additional solar modules from Arntjen Solar for the Beachville Fire Hall at a cost of approximately \$7,000 plus HST to be funded from the Township's Climate Change Reserve.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Council provided direction to the Mayor to write to the Ministry of Energy and Electrification regarding virtual net metering for Township facilities.

**Council took a break for lunch at 12:22 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.*

Staff Reports (continued)

CL 33-2024: Review and Proposed Amendments to Township of South-West Oxford Open-Air Burning By-law

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with an update on the review and proposed amendments to the Township of South-West Oxford Open-Air Burning By-law in 2023. She reviewed the highlights of the proposed changes and commented on the challenges that the Township has experienced with the current by-law. Discussion took place regarding the need for updated public education and awareness on the amendments to the by-law.

Resolution No. 16 Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 33-2024: Review and Proposed Amendments to Township of South-West Oxford OpenAir Burning By-law as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve the draft amended Open-Air Burning By-law for the Township of South-West Oxford as attached to this report as Appendix 'A'.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

FD 08-2024: Fire Services Community Risk Assessment

Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld provided Council with a report to request their endorsement of the updated Fire Services Community Risk Assessment (CRA) as proposed. He advised Council that the CRA needs to be reviewed annually. He commented on suggested services that the Township may want to consider as outlined in the recommendation contained within the staff report.

Mayor David Mayberry questioned what the current priorities are within South-West Oxford. Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld stated that the Township needs to look at how it is handling specialty rescue (water), confined space rescue and large industrial fires. It was discussed that water rescue was removed based on an evaluation of the number of calls and cost to provide the service. If the service is needed, someone will need to be called in.

Resolution No. 17 Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED THAT Staff Report #2024-008 entitled "Fire Services Community Risk Assessment" be received as information;

AND THAT Staff be directed to prepare the necessary reports for Council consideration to address the following recommendations:

- Establish a position of Public Fire and Life Safety Educator within the Fire Services Organizational Structure;
- Proposed strategies to mitigate firefighter exposure to cancer causing carcinogens as identified under the Ministry of Labor Cancer Prevention Protocols;
- Explore the benefits and financial implications for Township certification under a Superior Tanker Shuttle Program;
- Conduct a statistical analysis of Hazardous Materials Responses and explore the viability and need of purchasing the necessary equipment and supplies to provide Hazardous Materials response to the Operations level;
- Conduct a Study of the Township's long-term projections for building demographics (e.g. high-rise and large industrial buildings) that will impact fire services resource needs (e.g. fire apparatus) in the future;
- Conduct a Review of the current level of service for Hazardous Materials Response, Water and Ice Rescue, and Confined Space Rescue to determine the best method/options to provide these services for events and incidents requiring a level of service above the Awareness Level; and

- Review and formalize fire protection agreements with neighboring Fire Services, where possible, for approved levels of service and levels of service above current approved levels.

Discussion on the motion:

Discussion took place regarding three-story rescue. The Township does not have a ladder truck; one would need to be called in if needed. The Township has fire suppression capabilities but not rescue at three stories. Mutual aid and automatic aid may be considered for this service – there is no current formalized agreement for a ladder truck.

It was discussed that a list of service resources available to the SWOX fire service may be generated for reference.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

FD 09-2024: Fire Services Shared Services Initiative for Firefighter Mental Health/Peer Support

Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld provided Council with a report to obtain their approval to participate in a shared services initiative with six other Oxford County fire services in a program to promote firefighter mental health and wellness through the establishment of a local fire services mental health Peer Support Program. This is a program that the Oxford County EMS uses through Tema to provide immediate support to responders after a critical incident.

Resolution No. 18 Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED THAT Report FD-2024-009 entitled “Fire Services Shared Services Initiative for Firefighter Mental Health/Peer Supports” be received as information;

AND FURTHER THAT the Township of South-West Oxford Fire and Emergency Services be authorized to participate with surrounding municipalities to develop a trained Peer Support Team and join the Peer Connect App.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

FD 10-2024: Fire Services 2024 Quarterly Activity Report (April - June)
To provide Council an overview of South-West Oxford Fire and Emergency Services activities for the second quarter of 2024.

Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld provided Council with a report to provide them with an overview of South-West Oxford Fire and Emergency Services activities for the second quarter of 2024. He noted that the Oxford County Joint Fire Prevention Inspector has resigned. The position has been posted and recruitment is underway. In the interim, Chief Paul Groeneveld will complete any necessary inspections.

Resolution No. 19 Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. FD2024-010
entitled "Fire Services 2024 Quarterly Activity Report
(April – June)" be received as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

FD 11-2024: Fire Services Member Certification Overview

Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld provided Council with a report to provide them with an overview of the Fire Services status of the members' level of compliance with the provincial minimum mandatory training and certification requirements. In 2026, the fire fighters have to be certified to fire fighter level II. Few SWOX fire fighters need additional courses in addition to a couple of officers. Some fire fighters will not be able to achieve or do not want to achieve the required certification level – this will need to be dealt with at the time. Generally, the Township is in good shape. He confirmed that funds are available for the required training.

Resolution No. 20 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 2024-011 entitled
"Fire Services Member Certification Overview" be
received as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CL 35-2024: Ward Boundary Review Update - Public Consultation

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with an update on the progress of the ward boundary review and to seek their direction regarding the initiation of the public consultation phase of the process throughout the summer months, including a public meeting to be scheduled in September, 2024.

Council reviewed the proposed ward boundary changes and provided additional comments and input in relation to aligning the boundary between proposed Ward 4 and Ward 5. Council provided direction to proceed with public consultation once the final amendments have been made.

Resolution No. 21 Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 35-2024: Ward Boundary Review - Public Consultation as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council provided direction to staff to initiate the public consultation portion of the ward boundary review process and to proceed with scheduling a public consultation session as part of the regular Council meeting scheduled on Tuesday, September 17th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CL 36-2024: Updated Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2024 to 2028

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to present them with the draft updated Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for the Township of South-West Oxford, and provide Council with an opportunity to provide comments and input in advance of final approval of the plan in relation to the goals and objectives contained within the updated plan.

Members of Council provided additional input in relation to the updated Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, as follows:

- Consider refurbishing the bathroom at the Mount Elgin Community Centre to eliminate gender specific bathrooms and replace them with individual accessible stalls. This would require a greater overhaul of the washroom facilities;
- Consider ways to make sidewalks/curbs more accessible;
- Improve accessibility of washrooms in Salford Community Centre and Brownsville Community Centre.

WD 09-2024: Drainage/Building Vehicle Needs

Works Superintendent Adam Prouse provided Council with a report to seek their approval to purchase one new or used light duty or 1/4-ton truck for the Drainage/Building Department.

Resolution No. 24 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that Council receive report WD 9-2024 as information;

AND FURTHER that Council authorizes the Works Superintendent to purchase one new or used truck for the drainage/building department;

AND FURTHER that the vehicle be financed utilizing the balance of the Township Drainage Reserve with additional funds being borrowed from the Township Disaster Relief Reserve at 0% interest with payments to be paid back to the reserve over no more than 5 years.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

TR 02-2024: 2024 Second Quarter Budget Update

Treasurer Brooke Crane provided Council with a report to provide them with a summary of the January to May 2024 financial activity related to the approved 2024 Township Budget. She noted that under general fire operation there has been 58% utilization overall for wages and fire – this includes management and administration for fire services. She advised Council that all community grants have been sent out.

Resolution No. 25 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that South-West Oxford Council receive Report No. TR 02-2024 as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Closed Session (2:00 P.M.)

The meeting will be closed to the public to discuss subject matter that is:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

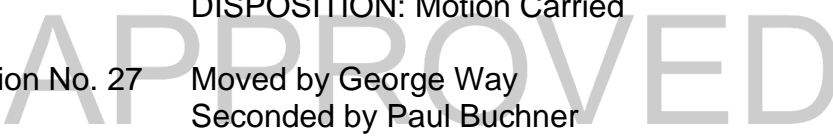
Resolution No. 26 Moved by George Way
Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that Council hold a closed meeting at 2:09 p.m. in order to discuss a matter pertaining to:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried



Resolution No. 27 Moved by George Way
Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that Council reconvene in regular session at 4:08 p.m.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Discussion Items

Township Tree Planting (Councillor Peter Ypma)

Councillor Ypma commented on concerns he received from a resident in the area and questioned why the Township plants trees along the roadside – it was suggested that this is a hazard for motorists. Council noted that this request was considered previously and that there was no indication from Council that they wished for any changes to the existing tree planting policy.

Agenda Items & Correspondence

#132 - County Council Report June, 2024

#133 - Warden's Charity Golf Tournament 2024

#134 - MNRFC Correspondence re: Streamlining of approvals under the Aggregate Resources Act

#135 - For Information: SWPH 2023 Annual Report

#136 - Oxford County Library information for Council

#137 - Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy

#138 - SWOX Communications (Village Voice)

#139 - Oxford County Joint Messaging and Communications - Legacy Oil and Gas Wells

#140 - Oxford County Briefing Memo re: Bill 185 Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act

#141 - AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments

Resolution No. 28 Moved by Peter Ypma
Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that agenda and correspondence items #132 to #141 inclusive be received as information and that they be noted and filed.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Accounts Payable Report

July 9th, 2024 - Accounts Payable Report

Resolution No. 29 Moved by George Way
Seconded by Jim Pickard

RESOLVED that the following Accounts be approved for payment:

Accounts Payable for June 16, 2024 to July 6, 2024	\$2,054,003.48
Bi-Weekly Payroll #13	\$50,526.68
Fire Pay #6	\$25,455.26
Council Pay #6	\$8,524.58
Total:	\$2,138,510.00

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Information Items & Correspondence

#142 - Township of Bonnechere Valley Resolution re: Increase Infrastructure Funding

#143 - Township of Larder Lake Resolution re: Asset Retirement Obligation PS 3280

#144 - Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan Resolution re: Regulations for Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries

Resolution No. 30 Moved by Craig Gillis
Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that information and correspondence items #142 and #143 be received as information and that they be noted and filed.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Resolution No. 31 Moved by Craig Gillis
Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that Council ask the Township's Fire Chief to review item #144 for his comments.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

By-laws and Agreements

- By-Law No. 51-2024 - Provisional By-law - Strik Municipal Drain (third and final reading only)

Council discussed the implications of providing third reading of the Strik Municipal Drain provisional by-law and requested confirmation in relation to whether the drain, as presented and designed in the engineer's report, will have a legal outlet.

- By-Law No. 53-2024 - To amend Township of South-West Oxford Zoning By-law (ZN 4-22-20 - The Oxford Hills)
- By-Law No. 54-2024 - To amend Township of South-West Oxford Zoning By-law (ZN 4-24-02 - Jan and Jony Roos)

Resolution No. 34 Moved by Peter Ypma
Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford defer report CL 32-2024: SWOX Strategic Plan 2023 to 2026 - 2024 Second Quarter Progress Report to the August 13, 2024 meeting agenda.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Council Round Table

Council members shared updates from their respective wards and community involvement. Brownsville Fire Fighters will host a pork BBQ on Saturday, August 17th. Foldens walking path construction is underway. Sweaburg pickleball court is paved and completion work is underway. Mount Elgin Hall Board will be hosting a beef dinner on September 14th, 2024. Mount Elgin Trivia Night is scheduled on October 4th, 2024.

Confirmatory By-law

By-Law No. 57-2024 - To confirm all actions and proceedings of Council (July 9th, 2024)

Resolution No. 35 Moved by George Way
Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that By-law 57-2024 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held Tuesday, July 9th, 2024 be read a first, second and third time this 9th day of July, 2024.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the By-law and affix the corporate seal.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Adjournment

Resolution No. 36 Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Council meeting be adjourned at 4:31 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, August 13th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CLERK: Julie Middleton

MAYOR: David Mayberry

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.

APPROVED