

Minutes

Committee of the Whole

September 28, 2023

Call to Order

Grey County Council met on the above date at the County Administration Building. Warden Milne assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. with all members present, except Councillors McKay and McQueen. Alternate Councillor Allwood attended on behalf of Councillor McQueen. Councillors Mackey and Bordignon participated virtually.

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Business Arising from Minutes

Committee of the Whole – September 14, 2023 – Notice of Motion
– Councillor Shirley Keaveney

Moved by: Councillor Keaveney
Seconded by: Councillor Kentner

WHEREAS the Council of the County of Grey recognizes access to attainable and affordable housing is important to the community and supports that work in the County's Housing Action Plan, which includes additional actions centred on land use planning, policy, and community development approaches; and

WHEREAS the Bluewater District School Board declared the property located at 87 Aiken Street, PINs 37118-0051 and 37118-0062 in the Municipality of Meaford or commonly known as the Georgian Bay Community School Track, as surplus on October 18, 2022, and available for public sale on June 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Meaford passed the following resolution requesting that Grey County purchase the

property for a housing and greenspace project at their September 18, 2023, meeting:

That Council of the Municipality of Meaford:

1. **Ask the County of Grey to purchase the former GBCS track property for a future housing and green space project;**
2. **Request that County Council direct county staff to prepare a summary of options for the development of a housing project on that property; and**
3. **Commit \$500,000 towards the purchase of the property, in addition to the \$370,100 in County PILT funds previously allocated to a housing project in Meaford.**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the County of Grey hereby directs staff to enter into negotiations for the purchase of 87 Aiken Street in Meaford; and

1. **That the authority to negotiate the purchase of this property be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer; and**
2. **That staff prepare a report investigating options for a housing and green space project on the subject lands; and**
3. **That funds be allocated from the remaining 2021 payment in lieu of taxes settlement (PILT), as earmarked for affordable or attainable housing projects within the Municipality of Meaford, to support this initiative as part of the 2024 budget process.**

CW133-23

Moved by: Councillor Dobreen

Seconded by: Councillor Keaveney

That the Committee of the Whole does now go into closed session pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, to discuss:

1. **A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality (CAOR-CM-17-23 - Potential Land Acquisition – 87 Aiken Street, Meaford); and**

That the following staff remain in attendance:

1. **Kim Wingrove; Randy Scherzer; Tara Warder; Anne Marie Shaw; Mary Lou Spicer; Michael Letourneau; Rob Hatten; and Sarah Goldrup.**

Councillor Greig requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: Mackey 4, Carleton 6, Pringle 5, Allwood 6, Neilsen 5, Paterson 4, Dickert 3, Kentner 6, Keaveney 5, Boddy 8, Milne 4, Dobreen 3, Matrosovs 7, Bordignon 7, Eccles 6, Hutchinson 6

Opposed: Greig 8

Absent: McKay 3

The motion was Carried (85-8).

Council went into closed at 10:34 a.m.

Council returned to open session 11:15 a.m.

The Warden confirmed that only the items stated in the resolution to move into closed session were discussed.

The meeting recessed and reconvened at 11:25

CW134-23

Moved by: Councillor Keaveney

Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

That consideration of the notice of motion raised by Councillor Shirley Keaveney from the September 14, 2023, meeting of the Committee of the Whole be deferred pending the outcome of the direction given to staff in closed session.

Councillor Greig requested a recorded vote.

In Favour: Mackey 4, Carleton 6, Pringle 5, Allwood 6, Paterson 4, Dickert 3, Kentner 6, Keaveney 5, Boddy 8, Milne 4, Dobreen 3, Matrosovs 7, Bordignon 7, Eccles 6, Hutchinson 6

Opposed: Neilsen 5, Greig 8

Absent: McKay 3

The motion was Carried (80-13).

Delegations

Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Councillor Eccles requested that item 6.b. regarding report EDTC-CW-14-23 - Cycling and Trails Master Plan Preliminary Implementation on the consent agenda for this meeting be pulled for further discussion.

Consent Agenda

CW135-23

Moved by: Councillor Nielsen

Seconded by: Councillor Pringle

That the following Consent Agenda items be received; and

That staff be authorized to take the actions necessary to give effect to the recommendations in the staff reports; and

That the correspondence be supported or received for information as recommended in the consent agenda.

- a. **That the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting dated September 19, 2023, and the resolutions contained therein, be adopted as presented. That the following resolutions contained therein be endorsed:**
 - i. **That report CSR-CS-16-23 be received; and
That Grey County Council approve the December 31, 2023, deadline for operators in Grey County to opt into the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) System.**
 - ii. **That report CSR-CS-18-23 pertaining to Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Transfer Payment Agreement be received; and
That a by-law be prepared authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute the Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) Transfer Payment Agreement with the Ministry of Housing and Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) Sign Back Letter; and
That \$491,000 in OPHI funding and \$714,100 in COCHI unbudgeted funds be approved for use in 2023; and
That action be taken prior to council approval as per Section 26.6 b of Procedural By-law 5134-22.**
 - iii. **That report CSR-CS-20-23 regarding the Social Services Burial and Cremation Fee Schedule be received; and
That the Social Services Funeral Schedule be updated with base coverage adjusted to cover only costs of direct burial and cremation.**
 - iv. **That the correspondence from the Municipality of Grey Highlands regarding the creation of an age-friendly logo and flag to communicate age-friendly concepts be received; and
That staff be directed to send a letter to the Municipality advising of next steps for developing an age-friendly logo as outlined in the Age-Friendly Strategy.**

Carried

Items For Direction and Discussion

EDTC-CW-13-23 - Grey Bruce Local Immigration Partnership (GBLIP) Year Three Review

CW136-23

Moved by: Councillor Nielsen

Seconded by: Councillor Carleton

That report EDTC-CW-13-23 regarding GBLIP Year Three Review be received for information; and

That staff be permitted to travel out of province to attend the Pathway to Prosperity National Conference, as required and funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC); and

That staff be permitted to travel out of country to attend the #WESImmigrantsWork Annual Convening funded by WES.

Carried

CAOR-CW-15-23 - Update on Reconciliation and Relationship Building with First Nations

CW137-23

Moved by: Councillor Eccles

Seconded by: Councillor Dobrean

That Report CAOR-CW-15-23 Update on Reconciliation and Relationship Building with Indigenous People be received; and

That the Council of the County of Grey recognizes and supports the key tenets of the Declaration of Mutual Commitment and Friendship between the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centre:

- **Indigenous people reside and build community and resilience in municipalities across Ontario;**
- **The value of Indigenous knowledge and expertise to design, plan, implement, and evaluate public policy and programs that impact the well-being of Indigenous people is paramount;**
- **The responsibility is taken up by Indigenous Friendship Centres to meet Indigenous community needs;**
- **The value of building relationships and partnerships with Friendship Centres to improve the quality of life of Indigenous people in their municipality and to work against racism, inequality, discrimination and stigma within and between communities;**

- **The exchange of information and skills within and between municipal governments and related associations contributes to improved understanding of Indigenous relations.**

That the Shko Naaniibwida - Standing Strong Together document developed by the M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre which provides recommendations on how to further recognize First Nation culture be supported by the County of Grey and incorporated into 2024 work planning; and

That Grey Roots Museum be directed to build on their outreach and engagement with Indigenous people by increasing access to stories and artifacts in the collections and offering admission at no charge to Indigenous people.

Carried

CAOR-CW-16-23 - EV Charging Infrastructure and Clean Fuels

CW138-23

Moved by: Councillor Pringle

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

That report CAOR-CW-16-23 regarding the installation of electric vehicle chargers (EV) to support light-duty EV fleet vehicles be received; and

That staff be directed to apply to the Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP) that would cover up to 50% of the costs to install twenty EV chargers with the County's matching funds of \$100,000 being considered in the 2024 budget.; and

That Council support the grant application to NRCan's Education and Awareness project stream to support a conference style event, in partnership with other community partners, that would explore use of hydrogen and other clean fuels for zero-emission vehicles; and

That the County's contribution for the event of up to \$12,400 be included in the draft 2024 budget, to be funded from anticipated savings in the 2023 budget.

Carried

Items for Further Discussion from the Consent Agenda

EDTC-CW-14-23 - Cycling and Trails Master Plan Preliminary Implementation

CW139-23

Moved by: Councillor Matrosovs

Seconded by: Councillor Allwood

That report EDTC-CW-14-23 regarding Cycling and Trails Master Plan Preliminary Implementation be received for information.

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

CW140-23

Moved by: Councillor Eccles

Seconded by: Councillor Keaveney

That the Committee of the Whole does now go into closed session pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, to discuss:

1. **Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege (PDR-CW-44-23 - Thornbury Acres Appeal Report 42CDM-2022-11).**

That the following staff remain in attendance:

1. **Kim Wingrove; Randy Scherzer; Tara Warder; Michael Letourneau; Scott Taylor; Rob Hatten; and Sarah Goldrup.**

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session at 12:29 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 12:45 p.m.

The Warden confirmed that only the items stated in the resolution to move into closed session were discussed.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Carleton and Eccles, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:46 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Brian Milne, Warden

Tara Warder, Clerk