

Minutes

Committee of the Whole

December 14, 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 10:11 a.m. with all members present except Councillor Pringle. Councillors McQueen, Nielsen, and Bordignon participated electronically.

Declaration of Interest

Councillors Paterson, Dickert, Eccles, and Hutchinson declared a conflict of interest concerning the closed meeting item listed as item 8 on today's agenda and did not participate in any discussion or vote related to this item.

Business Arising from Minutes

Committee of the Whole – November 23, 2023 – Notice of Motion
– Councillor Matrosovs

CW188-23

Moved by: Councillor Matrosovs

Seconded by: Councillor Dobreen

WHEREAS the vehicle and active transportation current and future needs and demographics have evolved since 2011 in the quadrant described as from Highway 26 between Grey Road 19/21, to Grey Road 19 from Grey Road 21 to Highway 26, Grey Road 21 from Grey Road 19 to Highway 26;

WHEREAS implications of alterations and detours will affect traffic on Town roads in this quadrant;

WHEREAS current demographics and needs of the area are not what was predicted over a decade ago;

WHEREAS there is new information about potential future development in the quadrant unknown over a decade ago;

WHEREAS Grey County endorses active transportation in Going Green in Grey.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That Grey County Council direct staff to engage in further collaborative meetings and communication with the Ministry of Transportation, Simcoe County, and The Blue Mountains regarding:

- 1. Grey Road 19 from Jozo Weider Blvd. to Grey Road 21;**
- 2. the intersection of Highway 26/Grey Road 21; and**
- 3. future roundabouts at Grey Road 19/Crosswinds Blvd. and Grey Road 19/21;**

And Be It Further Resolved That Grey County coordinate with The Blue Mountains to arrange these meetings and communication to address traffic flow issues, consider active transportation options and safety, and update cost requirements of upper and lower tiers for Council's consideration.

Carried

Delegations

Tom Allwood - Multi-Municipal Energy Working Group - Battery Energy Storage Systems

Tom Allwood presented to the Committee as part of the Multi-Municipal Energy Working Group regarding battery energy storage systems (BESS). The presenter spoke about the new storage capacity sought by the IESO and the application process. The presenter highlighted concerns for battery energy storage systems regarding fire safety and emergency preparedness, noise or light emissions, unconfirmed regulations or decommissioning requirements, setbacks or separation distances, the development of prime agricultural land, and minimal notice or consultation requirements.

In response to questions, Tom Allwood discussed concerns about BESS applications within the region, the variable proprietary technology used, the lack of technical guidelines provided when requiring municipal support, fire safety and emergency response consideration, water sources and runoff for fire suppression, and the lack of consultation with neighbouring municipalities or other stakeholders, such as the Niagara Escarpment Commission. Further, the presenter discussed how municipalities can join the working group and the role of batteries and pump storage in Ontario's energy system.

CW189-23

Moved by: Councillor Greig

Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

That staff be directed to prepare a report regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems to provide further information on these projects, the IESO process, and options for further direction or advocacy; and

That staff share the delegation's presentation and any further information with Grey County member municipalities.

Carried

Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

There were no items on the consent agenda pulled for further discussion.

Consent Agenda

CW190-23

Moved by: Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

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.

Correspondence - Grey County Federation of Agriculture -
Funding for Grey County Agricultural Services

That correspondence from Grey County Federation of Agriculture regarding funding for Grey County Agricultural Services be received for information.

Correspondence - Grey County Beef Farmers Association -
Funding for Grey County Agricultural Services

CW190-23

Moved by: Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

That the correspondence from the Grey County Beef Farmers Association regarding funding for Grey County Agricultural Services be received for information.

Correspondence - Town of Parry Sound - Call for Changes to the
Legislation Act 2006

That Grey County Council support the correspondence from the Town of Parry Sound regarding a call for changes to the Legislation Act, 2006, regarding publication notice requirements; and

That the resolution of support be forwarded to AMO for further advocacy.

Planning and Economic Development Advisory Committee minutes dated November 30, 2023

That the Planning and Economic Development Advisory Committee minutes dated November 30, 2023, be adopted as presented; and

That the following resolutions contained therein be endorsed:

That report EDTC-PEDAC-19-23 regarding Georgian College Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre and Maker Space Management be received; and

That in-year savings from the 2023 economic development general budget of \$45,000 be used to co-fund the Henry Bernick pilot program; and

That the Warden and Clerk be authorized to sign the Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre agreement with Georgian College; and

That start-up support for the Maker Space be single sourced from NewMakelt at a cost of \$40,000 plus HST; and

That staff take action prior to County Council approval as per Section 26.6 (b) of the Procedural By-law.

CSR-CW-27-23 - Declaration of Surplus Lands

That report CSR-CW-27-23 regarding declarations of surplus lands be received;

That Grey County Council declares the following two Westmount properties as surplus to the needs of the municipality:

- a. **1325 8th Avenue West, Owen Sound legally described at Lot 23, registered plan 444, City of Owen Sound, County of Grey together with a shared driveway easement over Lot 24, Registered Plan 444, City of Owen Sound, County of Grey, and subject to a shared driveway easement benefitting Lot 24, Registered Plan 444; City of Owen Sound, County of Grey; and**
- b. **1355 8th Avenue West, Owen Sound legally described at Lot 28, registered plan 444, City of Owen Sound, County of Grey together with a shared driveway easement over Lot 29,**

Registered Plan 444, City of Owen Sound, County of Grey and subject to a shared driveway easement benefitting Lot 29, Registered Plan 444, City of Owen Sound, County of Grey; and

That the Clerk be directed to provide notice of Council's intent to sell the property in accordance with the Sale of Land Procedure.

Carried

Items For Direction and Discussion

CAOR-CW-23-23 - Terms of Reference – Budget and Finance Committee

CW191-23

Moved by: Councillor Carleton

Seconded by: Councillor McKay

That Report CAOR-CW-23-23 be received; and

That the Terms of Reference for the Budget and Finance Committee be endorsed as presented.

Carried

CCR-CW-23-23 - Committee and Board Appointments

CW192-23

Moved by: Councillor Dobreen

Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

That report CCR-CW-23-23 regarding committee and task force appointments be received; and

That the Warden's appointment to the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS), Board of Health and Clean Energy Frontier Program be endorsed; and

That the appointments as outlined in CCR-CW-23-23 be endorsed as amended to include the appointment of Councillor Matrosovs to the Planning and Economic Development Advisory Committee.

CW193-23

Moved by: Councillor Dickert

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

That the following members be appointed to the Budget and Finance Committee for 2024:

- i. **Warden and Councillors Greig, Nielsen, Eccles, and Mackey**

Carried

CCR-CW-24-23 - Land Acknowledgement Policy Review

CW194-23

Moved by: Councillor Keaveney

Seconded by: Councillor Hutchinson

That report CCR-CW-24-23 regarding a review of the Land Acknowledgement Policy be received; and

That Policy 3-34 being the Land Acknowledgement Policy be repealed, in favour of proceeding with a less structured policy framework.

Carried

EDTC-CW-22-23 - Community Improvement Plan Continuation

CW195-23

Moved by: Councillor Dobreen

Seconded by: Councillor Carleton

That report EDTC-CW-22-23 regarding Community Improvement Plan Continuation be received; and

That the CIP Program be renewed until December 31, 2028, to align with the term of the EDTC Master Plan; and

That the County continue to participate in grant programs, without the \$180,000 contribution in 2024.

Carried

PDR-CW-50-23 - Surplus Public Lands for Housing, PDR-CW-50-23

CW196-23

Moved by: Councillor Boddy

Seconded by: Councillor Carleton

That staff report PDR-CW-50-23 regarding Surplus Public Lands for Housing be received; and

That Council direct staff to further explore the following options and prepare a further report with associated costs and recommendations:

- i. **The potential sale or granting of surplus lands to a 3rd party for development of affordable housing**
- ii. **The potential long-term lease of public lands for affordable housing development**
- iii. **The potential sale or lease of public lands for market – rate housing to facilitate reinvestment into other affordable housing projects**

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

CW197-23

Moved by: Councillor Dobreen

Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

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:

- i. **Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals (PDR-CW-49-23 - Official Plan Amendment 11 Appeals Update).**

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session at 12:00 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 12:30 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 Eccles and Paterson, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:31 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Brian Milne, Warden

Tara Warder, Clerk