

Minutes

Committee of the Whole

January 25, 2024

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 10:05 a.m. with all members present. Councillors Dobreen and Bordignon participated electronically.

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Delegations

Andrii Zvorygin - Peak Oil and Rural Transition

Andrii Zvorygin presented to the Committee regarding estimates of future oil and gas production, concerns about the impact of declining oil and gas production on the economy, current societal structures, food security, and limited minerals to support the transition to green energy. The presenter spoke about homesteading, the possibilities for self-sufficient living at different scales, and the necessary policies to support such practices.

Councillor Eccles joined the meeting at this time.

In response to questions from the Committee, Andrii Zvorygin discussed the productions of tar sands oil, recycling or repurposing metal, and population projections.

Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

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

Consent Agenda

CW05-24

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 - Association of Municipalities of Ontario - AMO Policy Update - Social and Economic Prosperity Review

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income redistribution programs for those most in need; and

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Grey calls on the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

Correspondence - Town of Mono - Declaring a Road Safety Emergency

That the correspondence from the Town of Mono regarding the declaration of a road safety emergency be received for information.

Correspondence - Grey Highlands - Automated Speed Enforcement Community Safety Zones

That the correspondence from Grey Highlands regarding automated speed enforcement in community safety zones be received for information; and

That staff be directed to prepare a response letter to the Municipality of Grey Highlands which outlines Grey County's considerations around Automated Speed Enforcement.

CCR-CW-02-24 - Update to Fees and Service Charges By-law

That Report CCR-CW-02-24 regarding an update to the Fees and Service Charges By-law be received; and

That the proposed updates to the Fees and Charges schedule be supported as presented, and staff prepare a by-law to amend By-law 5090-20, being the Fees and Service charges by-law, for Council's consideration.

CCR-CW-04-24 - Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee Member Appointment

That report CCR-CW-04-24 Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee Member Appointment be received; and

That Jacob Morris-Wheeler and Pamela Matheson be appointed as members of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for the remainder of the current term.

FR-CW-01-24 - 2023 Housing Write Off of Uncollectible Accounts

That report FR-CW-01-24 regarding 2023 Housing Write Off of Uncollectible Accounts be received; and

That the recommended write offs in the amount of \$88,049 as outlined in the report be approved.

FR-CW-02-24 - Quarterly Purchasing Report – Quarter 4 2023

That report FR-CW-02-24 regarding the quarterly purchasing report for Quarter 4 of 2023 be received for information.

FR-CW-03-24 - Ontario Regulation 284/09 – 2024 Budget

That report FR-CW-03-24 regarding Ontario Regulation 284/09 – 2024 Budget be received for information.

PDR-CW-01-24 - Georgian Bay Enclave Vacant Land Plan of Condominium Information Report

That report PDR-CW-01-24 regarding a proposed vacant land plan of condominium application (County file number 42CDM-2023-05), known as Georgian Bay Enclave, on lands legally described as Part Lot 26, Concession 7, Registered Plan 16R-3261, Part 1, in the Town of The Blue Mountains, be received for information.

Carried

Items For Direction and Discussion

CAOR-CW-01-24 - Green Development Standards – January 2024 Update

CW06-24

Moved by: Councillor Nielsen

Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

That report CAOR-CW-01-24 be received for information; and

That a by-law be brought forward for Council's consideration to authorize the Warden and Clerk to sign a contribution agreement with Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) for a \$445,600 grant from the Codes Acceleration Fund that will support and enhance the Green Development Standards project in partnership with Wellington County and Dufferin County.

Carried

CAOR-CW-02-24 - Rural Recharge – January 2024 Update

CW07-24

Moved by: Councillor Carleton

Seconded by: Councillor Pringle

That Report CAOR-CW-02-24 be received regarding an update on the Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Network Partnership project now called Rural Recharge; and

That staff be directed to work with the successful third-party implementation company (Ivy Network) on applying for funding

through the MTO's ChargeON process to add a Level 3 fast charger on the Grey Gables site (206 Toronto Street South, Markdale); and

That an agreement be brought forward for Council's consideration should the funding be received through the MTO's ChargeON program.

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

The meeting recessed and reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

CW08-24

Moved by: Councillor Boddy

Seconded by: Councillor Hutchinson

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. **Labour relations or employee negotiations (HRR-CW-01-24 - OPSEU – Grey Gables & Lee Manor Bargaining Upset Limit Request).**
- ii. **Labour relations or employee negotiations (Service Level Reductions).**
- iii. **A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land (CSR-CW-01-24 - Motel Purchase for Emergency Shelter).**

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session at 11:21 a.m.

Council returned to open session at 12:37 p.m.

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

CW09-24

Moved by: Councillor Hutchinson

Seconded by: Councillor Nielsen

That the Motel Purchase for Emergency Housing report CSR-CW-01-24 be received; and

That staff be directed to finalize the agreement of purchase and sale between Grey County and 2367529 Ontario Inc. in the amount of \$3,050,000 for the purchase of the Diamond Motel located at 713 9th Ave East in Owen Sound, legal description: PT LT 3 E/S GARAFRAXA ST AND S/S UNION ST PL OWEN SOUND AS IN R450663; OWEN SOUND, PIN 37064-0007, which

shall include the land, building, guestroom furnishings, and all supplies necessary for the operation of the facility as a short-term residential; and

That staff be directed to prepare a by-law for Council's consideration, authorizing Grey County to enter into the Agreement of Purchase and Sale; and

That the purchase be funded from the Affordable Housing Fund.

Carried

Other Business

There was no other business.

Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillors Mackey and McKay, Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:40 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Brian Milne, Warden

Tara Warder, Clerk