

Wednesday, February 5th, 2025
Council Chambers
47 Wilmot St. S. Drumbo, ON
Streamed live to Township of Blandford-Blenheim YouTube Channel
4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Council met at 4:00 p.m. for their first Regular Meeting of the month.

Present: Mayor Peterson, Councillors Banbury, Barnes, Demarest and Young.

Staff: Baer, Belanger, Borton, Davidson, Degier, Krug, and Matheson.

Other: Robson, Planner.

Mayor Peterson in the Chair.

1. Welcome

2. Call to Order

3. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #1

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

Be it hereby resolved that the agenda for the February 5th, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted, as printed and circulated.

.Carried

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

5. Adoption of Minutes

a. January 22, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes of Council

RESOLUTION #2

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the minutes of the January 22nd, 2025 Meeting of Council be adopted, as printed and circulated.

.Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

7. Public Meetings

a. Public Meeting under the Planning Act, Committee of Adjustment

RESOLUTION #3

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Council move into Committee of Adjustment at 4:01 p.m.

.Carried

i. Applications for Minor Variance

MVA10-24, 11967113 Ontario Inc, Drumbo Lot

MVA11-24, DaCosta, 48 Elgin Street West

MVA01-25, McDonald, 907384 Township Road 12

The Minutes can be found on the February 5th, 2025 Committee of Adjustment.

RESOLUTION #4

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

Be it hereby resolved that the Committee rise at 4:20 p.m. and that the Open Council meeting resumes.

.Carried

b. Public Meeting under the Planning Act, Official Plan Amendment & Zone Change

RESOLUTION #5

Moved by – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Council rise and go into a Public Meeting under the Planning Act to consider an application for official plan amendment and zone change:

OP24-19-1, ZN1-24-26, & ZN1-24-27 (Baker, Mensink & Hoffer);

And that Mayor Peterson Chair the Public Meeting.

.Carried

- i. Application for Official Plan Amendment & Zone Change – OP24-19-1, ZN1-24-26, & ZN1-24-27 (Baker, Mensink & Hoffer);

The Planner presented the Report, recommending to approve-in-principle of the zone change and that Township Council provide support for the official plan amendment application. Councillor Banbury questioned the level crossing of the rail line and whether it would be required to be removed. Planner Robson responded that the rail line did not comment regarding Councillor Banbury's question, nor would Oxford County get involved in any rail line conditions. Mayor Peterson made comment to the rail line. The applicants were present. No persons in attendance spoke further for or against the application.

RESOLUTION #6

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that the Public Meeting be adjourned and that the Regular Meeting of Council reconvene.

.Carried

RESOLUTION #7

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim approve-in-principle the zone change applications (File Nos. ZN1-24-26 and ZN1-24-27) submitted by Evelyne Baker, John Mensink, and Eric and Shelley Hoffer, whereby the lands described as Lot 5, Concession 6 (Blandford) be rezoned from 'General Agricultural Zone (A2)' to 'Rural Residential Zone (RR)' and 'Special General Agricultural Zone (A2-sp)' to facilitate a farm consolidation; and,

That the Township of Blandford-Blenheim advise Oxford County Council that the Township supports the application for Official Plan Amendment (File No. OP24-19-1), submitted by Evelyne Baker, John Mensink, and Eric and Shelley Hoffer, for the lands described as Lot 5, Concession 6 (Blandford), to include a site-specific special policy for subject lands to permit the severance of the only single detached dwelling through a farm consolidation.

.Carried

8. Delegations / Presentations

None.

9. Correspondence

a. Specific

None.

b. General

None.

10. Staff Reports

a. Adam Degier – Drainage Superintendent

i. DS-25-01 – Petition for Drainage, Appointment of Engineer – Sparks Drain

RESOLUTION #8

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that Report DS-25-01 be received as information; and,

Whereas the Grand River Conservation Authority have not registered any comments to the petition for drainage works for Lot 10 Concession 3 Blenheim, Blandford-Blenheim, from John Pynenburg in the affected area of the existing private Sparks Drain; and further,

That Council appoints K Smart & Associates Ltd., 85 McIntyre Dr. Kitchener, Ont. N2R 1H6, to prepare a new drainage report as per the petition in accordance with Section 4 of the Drainage Act.

.Carried

b. Trevor Baer – Director of Community Services

i. CS-25-01 – Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #9

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report CS-25-01 be received as information.

.Carried

c. Jim Borton – Director of Public Works

i. PW-25-01 – Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #10

Moved by – Councillor Banbury

Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report PW-25-01 be received as information.

.Carried

d. Drew Davidson – Director of Protective Services

- i. FC-25-02 – Emergency Preparedness Grant

RESOLUTION #11

Moved by – Councillor Barnes

Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-25-02 be received as information.

.Carried

11. Reports from Council Members

Councillor Demarest reported that the Blenheim District Home and School Association is raising funds to build an outdoor education centre at the Drumbo School, and would appreciate any support or donations from the community. Councillor Demarest noted the Blenheim District Home and School Association's fundraising dance is also happening this weekend.

12. Unfinished Business

None.

13. Motions and Notices of Motion

- a. Councillor Young read a Notice of Motion regarding a long-term Vision Zero Policy and the safety of the roads in Blandford-Blenheim.

14. New Business

None.

15. Closed Session

RESOLUTION #12

Moved by – Councillor Demarest

Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Council move into Closed Session under the authority of Section 239 of the Municipal Act at 4:46 p.m. to discuss:

- a. Report CAO-25-04 - A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality. [s. 239 (2)(c)]

Re: Tax Sale Update

- b. Report CAO-25-05 – Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose [s. 239 (2)(f)]

Re: EFT Matters

.Carried

RESOLUTION #13

Moved by – Councillor Banbury

Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Council does now adjourn from Closed Session and resume into Open Session at 4:57 p.m. and reports the following:

That Council provided direction to staff regarding Reports CAO-25-04 & CAO-25-05.

.Carried

16. By-laws

RESOLUTION #14

Moved by – Councillor Demarest

Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the following By-laws be now read a first and second time:

- a. 2481-2025, Being a By-law to amend Zoning By-Law Number 1360-2002, as amended (ZN1-24-20);

- b. 2482-2025, Being a By-law to amend Zoning By-Law Number 1360-2002, as amended (ZN1-24-23);

- c. 2483-2025, Being a By-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required for 2025 for Township purposes; and,

- d. 2484-2025, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

RESOLUTION #15

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

Be it hereby resolved that the following By-laws be now read a third and final time:

- a. 2481-2025, Being a By-law to amend Zoning By-Law Number 1360-2002, as amended (ZN1-24-20);
- b. 2482-2025, Being a By-law to amend Zoning By-Law Number 1360-2002, as amended (ZN1-24-23);
- c. 2483-2025, Being a By-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required for 2025 for Township purposes; and,
- d. 2484-2025, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

17. Other Business

None.

18. Adjournment and Next Meeting

RESOLUTION #16

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Whereas business before Council has been completed at 4:59 p.m.;

Be it hereby resolved that Council adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, February 19th, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

.Carried

Mark Peterson, Mayor
Township of Blandford-Blenheim

Sarah Matheson, Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim