

MINUTES

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

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

Staff: Baer, Belanger, Borton, Davidson, Harmer, 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 Banbury

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

.Carried

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

5. Adoption of Minutes

a. January 15th, 2025, Budget Meeting Minutes of Council

RESOLUTION #2

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the minutes of the January 15th 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

MVA09-24, Simpson, 927546 Oxford Road 8

The Minutes can be found on the January 22nd, 2025 Committee of Adjustment.

RESOLUTION #4

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the Committee rise at 4:06 p.m. and that the Open Council meeting resumes.

.Carried

b. Public Meeting under the Planning Act, Zone Change

RESOLUTION #5

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Council rise and go into a Public Meeting under the Planning Act to consider applications for zone change:

ZN1-24-23 (John, Derek, Valerie & Gerry Pynenburg); and,

ZN1-24-24, (Heeg Dairy Inc.);

And that Mayor Peterson Chair the Public Meeting.

.Carried

i. Application for Zone Change – ZN1-24-23 (John, Derek, Valerie & Gerry Pynenburg)

The Planner presented the Report, recommending to approve-in-principle. An applicant was present. No Member asked question or made comment regarding the application. No persons in attendance spoke for or against the application.

ii. Application for Zone Change – ZN1-24-24 (Heeg Dairy Inc.)

The Planner presented the Report, recommending to approve-in-principle. The applicant was present. Mayor Peterson asked a question regarding the existing home on the property. The Planner confirmed that the houses must have been built prior to December 1995 to be considered for this type of severance. No further Member asked question or made comment regarding the application. No persons in attendance spoke for or against the application.

RESOLUTION #6

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

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 application submitted by John, Derek, Valerie, and Gerry Pynenburg (File No. ZN 1-24-23) whereby the lands described as Part Lot 9 and Lot 10, Concession 3 (Blenheim), Township of Blandford-Blenheim are to be rezoned from 'General Agricultural Zone (A2)' to 'Special Rural Residential Zone (RR-sp)' and 'Special General Agricultural Zone (A2-sp).'

.Carried

RESOLUTION #8

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim approve-in-principle the zone change application submitted by Heeg Dairy Inc. (File No. ZN 1-24-24) whereby the lands described as Part Lot 3 and 4, Concession 14 (Blandford), Township of Blandford-Blenheim are to be rezoned from 'General Agricultural Zone (A2)' to 'Rural Residential Zone (RR)' and 'Special General Agricultural Zone (A2-sp).'

.Carried

8. Delegations / Presentations

None.

9. Correspondence

a. Specific

- i. Janice (Peat) Zarzycki & Shirley Peat, Residents, re: Road Improvement Request of Township Road 12 Gravel to Pavement Resurface
- ii. Cheryl Haskett, Udderly Ridiculous Inc, Resident, re: Road Improvements to Township Road 12

RESOLUTION #9

Moved by – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the correspondence items regarding Township Road 12 be received as information; and,

That Council direct staff to bring a report to subsequent meeting regarding the feasibility of improvements to Township Road 12.

.Carried

b. General

- i. Oxford O.P.P. Detachment Board 2, re: November 2024 Meeting Minutes, and approved Procedural By-law & Terms of Reference
- ii. Laura Hamulecki, Administrative Assistant, Public Works, Oxford County, re: Curbside Collection Contract Award
- iii. Frank Gross, Acting Director of Public Works, Oxford County, re: Amendments to Bill 212, Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024, Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting 019-9266

RESOLUTION #10

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the general correspondence item be received as information.

.Carried

10. Staff Reports

a. Josh Brick – Chief Administrative Officer

- i. CAO-25-02 – 2025 Budget – Amendments Following Public Meeting

RESOLUTION #11

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report CAO-25-02 be received as information;
and,

That Council approve the commencement of the recruitment process for
the summer students, as outlined in the 2025 Budget; and further,

That Council directs staff to draft a by-law to adopt the estimates of all
sums required for 2025 for Township purposes, as presented.

.Carried

b. Drew Davidson – Director of Protective Services

- i. FC-25-01 – Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #12

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

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

.Carried

c. Ray Belanger – Chief Building Official

- i. CBO-25-01 – Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #13

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Young

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

.Carried

d. Denise Krug – Director of Finance

- i. TR-25-01 – Temporary Borrowing

RESOLUTION #14

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Young

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

That Council pass By-law 2478-2025 authorizing the temporary borrowing for the Township of Blandford-Blenheim in 2025 at \$3,000,000.00.

.Carried

e. Dustin Robson – Planner

- i. CP2024-387 – Year End 2024 Overview of Planning Applications, Activity and Initiatives in the Township of Blandford-Blenheim

RESOLUTION #15

Moved by – Councillor Young

Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report CP2024-387 be received as information.

.Carried

11. Reports from Council Members

Councillor Young reported regarding her attending at the ROMA Conference, citing excellent sessions, for example a session regarding healthy democracies, particularly regarding voter turnout and engagement with community members. Councillor Young reported that she will share further information at a future meeting.

Mayor Peterson also reported regarding his attendance at the ROMA Conference, discussing a session regarding cyber security. Mayor Peterson reported that the former Mayor of Stratford spoke to their breach of cyber security, and that it was an eye-opening discussion. Mayor Peterson reported that planning for a cyber-security event is critical and that it is possible that personal phones are subject to an infection possibly as well. Mayor Peterson noted that all devices, in use or not, must be accounted for in the case of a cyber-security event. Mayor Peterson reported that Information Technology services were discussed, especially in the area of security and that the Township may benefit from our own IT staff-person. Mayor Peterson reported that he listened to an address from Doug Ford who presented regarding happenings internationally. Mayor Peterson spoke to the difficulty of taking in all the information he preferred to as there is so much going on at once at ROMA. Mayor Peterson asked Director of Community Services Baer to report on the upcoming events in the Township. Baer noted that the Blenheim and District School Dance will be held on February 8th and that the Lions Club Elimination Draw is upcoming.

12. Unfinished Business

None.

13. Motions and Notices of Motion

None.

14. New Business

None.

15. Closed Session

None.

16. By-laws

RESOLUTION #16

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

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

- a. 2477-2025, Being a By-law to establish an Interim Tax Levy for the year 2025;
- b. 2478-2025, Being a By-law to authorize the temporary borrowing of money to meet the current expenditures of the Corporation of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim; and,
- c. 2479-2025, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

RESOLUTION #17

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

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

- a. 2477-2025, Being a By-law to establish an Interim Tax Levy for the year 2025;
- b. 2478-2025, Being a By-law to authorize the temporary borrowing of money to meet the current expenditures of the Corporation of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim; and,
- c. 2479-2025, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

17. Other Business

None.

18. Adjournment and Next Meeting

RESOLUTION #18

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

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 5th, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

.Carried

Mark Peterson, Mayor
Township of Blandford-Blenheim

Sarah Matheson, Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim