

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, Brick, Davidson, Degier, Krug, and Matheson and VanWyk.

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 June 19th, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted, with the addition of items 9. a. i., 10. a. iv., and 16. a.

.Carried

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

5. Adoption of Minutes

a. June 5th, 2024 Minutes of Council

RESOLUTION #2

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the minutes of the June 5th, 2024 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, Zone Change

- i. Application for Zone Change – ZN1-24-06 (Township of Blandford-Blenheim, Housekeeping)

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:

ZN1-24-06 (Township of Blandford-Blenheim, Housekeeping);

And that Mayor Peterson Chair the Public Meeting.

.Carried

Robson, Planner, presented the report, recommending Council approve-in-principle the application. Councillor Demarest asked a question regarding changes to the by-law affecting legal non-conforming properties. Robson responded. Mayor Peterson asked a question regarding the temporary use of buildings. Robson responded that the provisions in the by-law allow for temporary uses. Mayor Peterson further asked a question regarding restricting the height of buildings in certain areas. Robson responded that the height maximum in the by-law is standard across Oxford County.

RESOLUTION #6

Moved by – Councillor Young
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 proposed Zoning By-law amendment (File No.: ZN1-24-06) to introduce “housekeeping” amendments to Township of Blandford-Blenheim Zoning By-Law Number 1306-2002.

.Carried

8. Delegations / Presentations

a. **Christene Scrimgeour, Auditor with Scrimgeour & Company, re: 2023 Township Financial Statements**

Scrimgeour, Auditor presented the Draft 2023 Township Financial Statements, highlighting particular portions of the report. Council did not have any questions. Mayor Peterson made comment.

RESOLUTION #3

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that the Draft 2023 Financial Statements as presented by Christene Scrimgeour of Scrimgeour & Company be adopted as printed and circulated.

.Carried

b. **Carol Coombs, Plattsville and District Heritage Society, re: Plattsville Park Memorial Gates Restoration**

Coombs, Member of Plattsville and District Heritage Society presented a request for Council to allow the Society to collect donations and fundraise to restore the historical Memorial Gates, now located in the Plattsville Park. Council did not have any questions. Mayor Peterson made comment.

RESOLUTION #4

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

That the delegation from Carol Coombs be received as information; and further,

That the Township of Blandford-Blenheim Council sanctions the Plattsville & District Heritage Society to fundraise for the restoration and repairs of the Plattsville Memorial Gates located in the Plattsville Park.

9. Correspondence

a. Specific

- i. Sean-Michael Stephen, Partner, Watson & Associates, re: D.C. By-law Amendment Memorandum

RESOLUTION #3

Moved by – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Council receive the correspondence from Watson & Associates as information; and further,

That Council intends to include the growth-related costs of studies, pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 6 of subsection 5(3) of the Act, within the development charge calculation.

.Carried

b. General

None.

10. Staff Reports

a. Drew Davidson – Director of Protective Services

- i. FC-24-11 – Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #9

Moved by – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-24-11 be received as information.

.Carried

- ii. FC-24-12 – Lithium-Ion Batteries

RESOLUTION #10

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-24-12 be received as information.

.Carried

- iii. FC-24-13 – Drumbo Station Renovations

RESOLUTION #11

Moved by – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-24-13 is received as information; and,

That Council approves utilization of remaining funds from the Plattsville Station Capital gear room renovation for the Drumbo Station gear room renovation; and further,

That Council approves funds previously allocated in the 2025 Capital Budget for Drumbo Station Renovations to be used in 2024 to complete the renovation in its entirety in 2024.

.Carried

iv. FC-24-14 – Firefighter Peer Support

RESOLUTION #12

Moved by – Councillor Demarest
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-24-14 be received as information; and,

That Council authorizes Township of Blandford-Blenheim involvement in the joint development of a trained Peer Support Team and Peer Connect App, as outlined in Report FC-24-14.

.Carried

b. Ray Belanger – Chief Building Official

i. CBO-24-06 – Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #13

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report CBO-24-05 be received as information.

.Carried

c. Trevor Baer – Director of Community Services

i. CS-24-08 – Request for Drumbo Canteen

RESOLUTION #14

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report CS-24-08 be received as information; and further,

That Council direct staff to enter into a rental agreement with the for-profit group for the Drumbo Park Canteen, with 5% of sales being the rental fee to the Township of Blandford Blenheim.

.Carried

d. Sarah Matheson – Clerk

- i. DC-24-02 – Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Board (Police Service Board)

RESOLUTION #15

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that Report DC-24-02 be received as information; and,

Whereas, the Province of Ontario passed the Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019 (Bill 68), which established the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (CSPA, 2019), on March 26, 2019; and

Whereas, the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (CSPA, 2019), was proclaimed on April 1, 2024; and

Whereas the Ministry of the Solicitor General has approved the creation of a joint, Oxford Rural Police Services Detachment Board, governing the Township of Blandford-Blenheim, the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock, the Township of Norwich, the Township of South West Oxford and Zorra Township; and

Whereas the Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Board must be established and formalized; and

Whereas the Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Board will be composed of an elected official of all participating municipalities, one jointly appointed Community Member and one Provincial Appointee;

Now Therefore, Council hereby appoints Mayor Mark Peterson to represent the Township of Blandford-Blenheim on the Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Board; and

That an ad-hoc selection committee, herein known as the Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Police Services Board Community Appointee Selection Committee, be formed to select and appoint the required community

representative to the Joint Board for a two-year period to rotate through the area municipalities in alphabetical order;

That the same Member of Council appointed to the Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Board be appointed to the Oxford Rural Detachment Joint Board Community Appointee Selection Committee; and

Further, that Council supports the Township of Blandford-Blenheim advertising for one Community Appointee.

.Carried

e. Denise Krug – Director of Finance

- i. TR-24-08 – Replacement of Air Conditioning Unit

RESOLUTION #16

Moved by – Councillor Demarest

Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report TR-24-08 be received as information; and,

That Council authorizes the Treasurer to transfer the amount of \$4,502.88 from the Office Property Reserve to fund the purchase of the air conditioning unit.

11. Reports from Council Members

Councillor Demarest reported that the ROEDC Networking Event at Gunns Hill was successful and that the next event will be happening in July at the Lavendar Farm, and to check online for more information. Councillor Young commended the Bright Fire Department for their annual Breakfast Event as well as the volunteers who put on the Community Day in Plattsville. Councillor Banbury commended the efforts of the volunteers in Plattsville as well. Councillor Barnes noted the Car Show portion of the Community Day was successful. Mayor Peterson reported that there was also a Firefighters Ball Tournament on the Saturday.

12. Unfinished Business

None.

13. Motions and Notices of Motion

Councillor Young read the following motion to call for legislative amendments to improve municipal codes of conduct and enforcement:

Whereas, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace;

Whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse;

Whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils;

Whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments;

Whereas, municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour;

Whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

Now Therefore be it resolved that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments; and,

Be It Resolved that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment;
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario;
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province;
- Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner; and,
- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.

14. New Business

None.

15. Closed Session

None.

16. Other Business

None.

17. By-laws

- a. 2440-2024, Being a By-law to amend Development Charges By-law 2436-2024; and,
- b. 2439-2024, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

RESOLUTION #17

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:

2440-2024, Being a by-law to Amend Development Charges By-law 2436-2024; and,

2439-2024, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

RESOLUTION #18

Moved by – Councillor Barnes
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

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

2440-2024, Being a by-law to Amend Development Charges By-law 2436-2024; and,

2439-2024, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

18. Adjournment and Next Meeting

RESOLUTION #19

Moved by – Councillor Young
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Whereas business before Council has been completed at 5:25 p.m.;

Be it hereby resolved that Council adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, July 3rd, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

.Carried

Mark Peterson, Mayor
Township of Blandford-Blenheim

Sarah Matheson, Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim