

# 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, Brick, Davidson, Degier, 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 Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that the agenda for the February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as printed and circulated.

.Carried

## 4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

## 5. Adoption of Minutes

### a. February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Minutes of Council

### RESOLUTION #2

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

Be it hereby resolved that the minutes of the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 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, Committee of Adjustment

### RESOLUTION #3

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

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

### RESOLUTION #4

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Demarest

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

## 8. Delegations / Presentations

None.

## 9. Correspondence

- a. Specific

- i. Glen McNeil, Chair of Western Ontario Wardens Caucus, re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

### RESOLUTION #5

Moved by – Councillor Demarest  
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

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

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;

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

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

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;

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

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

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

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Blandford-Blenheim 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.'; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca); Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca); the Minister of Finance (minister.fin@ontario.ca); and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca).

.Carried

b. General

None.

## 10. Staff Reports

a. **Drew Davidson – Director of Protective Services**

i. FC-24-02 – Draft Fireworks By-law

**RESOLUTION #6**

Moved by – Councillor Demarest

Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

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

That Council directs staff to bring the final Fire Works By-Law, with any necessary revisions arising from the Draft By-Law, for consideration at the March 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

.Carried

- ii. FC-24-03 – Updated Emergency Response Plan By-law

**RESOLUTION #7**

Moved by – Councillor Demarest  
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-24-03 be received as information; and,  
That Council approve By-Law 2419-2024 with the updates to the Emergency Response Plan.

.Carried

- iii. FC-24-04 – Fire Department Establishing and Regulating By-law

**RESOLUTION #8**

Moved by – Councillor Demarest  
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-24-04 be received as information; and,  
That Council approve By-Law 2420-2024, being a By-Law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department for the Township of Blandford-Blenheim.

.Carried

- iv. FC-24-05 – January Monthly Report

**RESOLUTION #9**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

That Report FC-24-05 be received as information.

.Carried

**b. Ray Belanger – Chief Building Official**

- i. CBO-24-02 – Monthly Report

**RESOLUTION #10**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report CBO-24-02 be received as information.  
.Carried

**c. Jim Borton – Director of Protective Services**

- i. PW-24-04 – Township Road 12 Paving (RR Sand and Gravel)

**RESOLUTION #11**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report PW-24-04 be received as information;  
and,

That the Township grants permission to RR Sand and Gravel for the purpose of paving Township Road 12 from Oxford Road 22 to the East boundary of their property (Approximately 831 meters).

**RECORDED VOTE**

Member	Yes	No
Councillor Banbury	x	
Councillor Young	x	
Mayor Peterson	x	
Councillor Barnes		x
Councillor Demarest		x

.Carried

**11. Reports from Council Members**

Member Young expressed appreciation for the groups and individuals in the community that give back to the events and other causes within the township. Member Barnes and gave a shout out to the Drumbo Firefighters who hosted a breakfast this past weekend. Mayor Peterson reported on meetings held in Bright regarding water quality, and noted that a committee is being formed in order to lobby Oxford County to have municipal water from Plattsville brought to Bright. Peterson reported the group will likely attend the County Council meeting

in late March. Mayor Peterson further reported that Oxford MP, Arpan Khanna, was attending the Drumbo Pub 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on this day.

## **12. Unfinished Business**

None.

## **13. Motions and Notices of Motion**

None.

## **14. New Business**

None.

## **15. Closed Session**

- a. Report CAO-24-09 - Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees [s. 239 (2)(b)]

Re: Staff

- b. Report CAO-24-10 - Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose [s. 239 (2)(f)]

Re: Municipal Roads

### **RESOLUTION #12**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Council move into Closed Session under the authority of Section 239 (2. f.) of the Municipal Act at 4:54 p.m. to discuss:

- a. Report CAO-24-09 - Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees [s. 239 (2)(b)]

Re: Staff

- b. Report CAO-24-10 - Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose [s. 239 (2)(f)]

Re: Municipal Roads

.Carried

**RESOLUTION #13**

Moved by – Councillor Young  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Council does now adjourn from Closed Session and resume into Open Session at 5:48 p.m.

.Carried

**16. Other Business**

Mayor Peterson reported his absence from the country for the upcoming week. Member Barnes will be the acting Mayor in his absence.

**17. By-laws**

- a. 2419-2024, Being a bylaw to meet the various requirements of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and its related Ontario Regulation 380/04;
- b. 2420-2024, Being a By-law to establish and regulate the Fire Department;
- c. 2421-2024, Being a By-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required for 2024 for Township purposes; and,
- d. 2422-2024, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

**RESOLUTION #14**

Moved by – Councillor Young  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

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

- a. 2419-2024, Being a bylaw to meet the various requirements of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and its related Ontario Regulation 380/04;
- b. 2420-2024, Being a By-law to establish and regulate the Fire Department;
- c. 2421-2024, Being a By-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required for 2024 for Township purposes; and,
- d. 2422-2024, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

**RESOLUTION #15**

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. 2419-2024, Being a bylaw to meet the various requirements of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and its related Ontario Regulation 380/04;
- b. 2420-2024, Being a By-law to establish and regulate the Fire Department;
- c. 2421-2024, Being a By-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required for 2024 for Township purposes; and,
- d. 2422-2024, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

**18. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

**RESOLUTION #16**

Moved by – Councillor Young  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Whereas business before Council has been completed at 5:49 p.m.; and,

That Council adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

.Carried

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Mark Peterson, Mayor  
Township of Blandford-Blenheim

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Sarah Matheson, Clerk  
Township of Blandford-Blenheim