

# MINUTES

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

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

Staff: Baer, Borton, Davidson, Harmer, Krug, Matheson, and Mordue.

Regrets: Councillor Demarest

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 Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that the agenda for the June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as printed and circulated.

.Carried

## 4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

## 5. Adoption of Minutes

### a. May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Minutes of Council

### RESOLUTION #2

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that the Minutes of the May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting of Council be adopted, as printed and circulated.

.Carried

### b. May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Minutes of Council

### RESOLUTION #3

Moved by – Councillor Barnes

Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that the Minutes of the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting of Council be adopted, as printed and circulated.

.Carried

## 6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

## 7. Public Meetings

None.

## 8. Delegations / Presentations

- a. Christene Scrimgeour, Auditor, re: 2022 Township of Blandford-Blenheim Draft Financial Statements

### RESOLUTION #4

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that the Draft 2022 Financial Statements as presented by Christene Scrimgeour of Scrimgeour & Associates be adopted as printed and circulated.

.Carried

- b. Tracy Litt, Great Lakes ATV Club – Request to use Township Roads

### RESOLUTION #5

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that delegation from Tracy Litt of the Great Lakes ATV Club be received as information.

.Carried

## 9. Correspondence

- a. Specific

- i. Tay Valley Township, Re: School Bus Stop Arm Cameras.

**RESOLUTION #6**

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim support the resolution of the Township of Tay Valley urging the Provincial Government to

- a) Require all school busses to have stop arm cameras installed and paid for by the province prior to the start of the 2023 – 2024 school year, and;
- b) Underwrite the costs for the implementation and on-going annual cost for administrative Monetary Penalties in small and rural municipalities.

.Carried

- ii. Ken Whytock, Re: Request to repaint the Rainbow Crosswalk in Drumbo.

**RESOLUTION #7**

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that permission be granted to Ken Whytock for a Rainbow Crosswalk to be painted on the road surface at the intersection of Centre Street and Pinkham Street for the month of June 2023.

.Carried

- iii. Safe & Well Oxford, Re: Call to end homelessness

**RESOLUTION #8**

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities and local social service providers are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and,

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the federal and provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim call on the federal and provincial governments to urgently:

- i. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- ii. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- iii. Work with Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health, the Minister of the Solicitor General, MPP Ernie Hardeman, Oxford MP; to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and to the County of Oxford.

.Carried

- iv. Safe & Well Oxford. Re: Opioid crisis in Ontario

**RESOLUTION #9**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that WHEREAS the Township of Blandford-Blenheim recognizes that challenges of mental health, addictions, specifically opioids, and homelessness are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the County of Oxford and surrounding areas within Ontario;

WHEREAS addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of municipal and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the County of Oxford and surrounding areas;

WHEREAS mental health, opioids and homelessness trends are, in recent years, at an all-time high and such prevalence is impacting the overall well-being of the people of the County of Oxford and surrounding areas;

WHEREAS Council acknowledges that approaches to addressing and responding must include diverse and inclusive approaches to these issues, and should not be viewed as a single solution response;

WHEREAS addressing and responding will require strategies and practices specific and uniquely designed for the County of Oxford and surrounding communities;

WHEREAS Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, residents, as well as federal and provincial governments and agencies;

WHEREAS challenges of mental health, addictions and homelessness are not unique to the County of Oxford and surrounding areas within Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council provide direction to staff to send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health, the Minister of the Solicitor

General, MPP Ernie Hardeman, Oxford MP; to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and to the County of Oxford advocating for additional resources to combat the opioid crisis in Ontario.

.Carried

v. Plattsville Community Fun Day Committee

**RESOLUTION #10**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that whereas Regulation 389/91 of the Liquor License Act was amended in 2011; and,

Whereas Regulations require that an applicant for a Special Occasion Permit for a Public Event request the municipality to designate the event as an event of municipal significance;

Be it hereby resolved that the Plattsville Community Fun Day at the Plattsville Park on June 17, 2023 be declared an event of municipal significance.

.Carried

b. General

- i. Safe & Well Oxford, April 20, 2023 steering committee meeting minutes
- ii. Safe & Well Oxford, May 23, 2023 steering Committee meeting minutes

**RESOLUTION #11**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

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

.Carried

**10. Staff Reports**

**a. Jim Harmer – Drainage Superintendent**

- i. DS-23-08 – Monthly Report

**RESOLUTION #12**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report DS-23-08 be received as information.  
.Carried

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

- i. FC-23-08 – ATV Club Noise By-law exemption

**RESOLUTION #13**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report FC-23-08 be received;

And further that Council directs staff to permit the Great Lakes ATV Club an exemption to the township Noise & Vibration By-Law between the hours of 7pm -11pm on August 29th, 2023 and September 16th, 2023 to permit their members to ride their ATV on a private trail within the township.

.Carried

**c. Jim Borton – Director of Public Works**

- i. PW-23-11 – Monthly Report

**RESOLUTION #14**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report PW-23-11 be received as information.

.Carried

**d. Trevor Baer – Manager of Community Services**

- i. CS-23-09 – Monthly Report

**RESOLUTION #15**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

That Report CS-23-09 be received as information.

.Carried

**e. Denise Krug – Director of Finance**

i. TR-23-10 – Appointment of Auditor 2023 – 2027

**RESOLUTION #16**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that TR-23-10 be received as information;

And further that Scrimgeour & Company CPA Professional Corporation be appointed as Auditor for the Township of Blandford-Blenheim for 2023 to 2027 at the rate of \$25,500 plus HST for 2023 with inflationary increases for the years 2024 to 2027, based on CPI.

.Carried

**f. Rodger Mordue – Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk**

i. CAO-23-09 – Employee Manual

**RESOLUTION #17**

Moved by – Councillor Banbury  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

Be it hereby resolved that Report CAO-23-09 be received; and,

That Council direct staff to prepare a by-law to adopt the comprehensive 2023 Employee Manual

.Carried

ii. CAO-23-10 – Animal Control By-law

**RESOLUTION #18**

Moved by – Councillor Young  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Report CAO-23-10 be received; and,

That no action be taken with the request to amend the Township's animal Control By-law to alter the list of animals prohibited from being kept in the Township of Blandford-Blenheim

.Carried

## 11. Reports from Council Members

Mayor Peterson reported that Bright Fire Department is having their annual breakfast and bottle drive Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. Mayor Peterson reports Oxford Rd 29 east of Oxford Road 3 is going to be closed from June 19<sup>th</sup> to October for road work. Mayor Peterson also discussed making a social media post to clarify the what the County and Township are responsible for, as new residents are coming from places that have signal tier government and are confused.

Councilor Banbury thanked the public works department for the work they did on 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession up to Blandford Road. Councilor Banbury Discussed fixing certain roads and intersection's that could be improved for safety, particularly the intersection on Oxford Road 29 is known to be unsafe.

## 12. Unfinished Business

None.

## 13. Motions and Notices of Motion

None.

## 14. New Business

None.

## 15. Closed Session

- a. Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Re: Staffing

### **RESOLUTION #19**

Moved by – Councillor Young  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that Council move into Closed Session under the authority of Section 239 of the Municipal Act at 5:12 p.m. to discuss:

- a. Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

i. Staffing

.Carried

**RESOLUTION #20**

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 5:36 p.m.

.Carried

**RESOLUTION #21**

Moved by – Councillor Barnes  
Seconded by – Councillor Young

That Council approves the elimination of the existing part-time (28 hours per week) Protective Services Administrative Assistant position and the creation of a full-time (35 hours per week) Deputy Director of Protective Services position; and,

That this position be included in the 2023 Pay Equity and Compensation review; and,

That the existing four Deputy Chief positions be changed to District Chief positions to better reflect the role and to be more consistent with industry practice.

.Carried

**16. By-laws**

- a. 2368-2023, Being a by-law to adopt the Employee Manual;
- b. 2369-2023, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

**RESOLUTION #22**

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: 2368-2023 & 2369-2023.

.Carried

**RESOLUTION #23**

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: 2368-2023 & 2369-2023.

.Carried

**17. Other Business**

None.

**18. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

**RESOLUTION #24**

Moved by – Councillor Young  
Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Whereas business before Council has been completed at 5:38 p.m.;

Be it hereby resolved that Council does now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

.Carried

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Mark Peterson, Mayor  
Township of Blandford-Blenheim

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Rodger Mordue CAO / Clerk  
Township of Blandford-Blenheim