



Municipality of West Elgin

Minutes

Council Meeting

March 23, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

West Elgin Community Complex - Hybrid Meeting

160 Main St

West Lorne

Electronic Hybrid Meeting

Present: Deputy Mayor R. Leatham
Councillor T. Tellier
Councillor Navackas
Councillor Denning

Staff Present: M. Badura, CAO/ Treasurer
J. Nethercott, Clerk
L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services
Robert Brown, Planner

Also Present: Carolyn Krahn, Secretary EPSB
David Jenkins, Chair EPSB
Insp. Loucas, Elgin Area OPP Detachment Commander
Eleonore Schneider, ONE Investment
Keith Taylor, ONE Investment

**This Meeting was held in Hybrid format and the recording available at
www.westelgn.net**

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Leatham called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2023- 104

Moved: Councillor Navackas

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council hereby adopts the Agenda as presented.

Carried

3. Moment of Silence in Tribute to Mayor McPhail

Council held 2 minutes of Silence and viewed a slide show in memory of the passing of Mayor Duncan McPhail on March 11, 2023

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures

5. Delegations

5.1 Elgin Group Police Service Board - D. Jenkins and Inspector Loucas

Deputy Mayor Leatham welcomed David Jenkins, Chair of Elgin Group Police Services Board and Carolyn Krahn, Secretary of EGPS and Detachment Commander Insp. Loucas.

Inspector Loucas reviewed the Annual Elgin OPP Report.

Chair Jenkins went through the Elgin Group Police Services Board members and provided an overview of their current concerns.

Carolyn Krahn provided an update on the Community Safety and Policing Act and the next steps.

Council recessed at 10:06 a.m. and reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

5.2 Eleonore Schneider, ONE Investment - Presentation on Investing

Elenore Schneider provided an overview of ONE Investment and what services they provide to municipalities' across Ontario.

Keith Tayler provided an overview of the investing products and the governing legislation.

CAO/Treasurer Magda Badura requested Council direction to enter into an agreement with ONE Investment and to develop the required policies and procedures.

Council provided direction to staff to enter into an agreement with ONE Investment and develop policies and procedures for investing.

6. Committee of Adjustment

Resolution No. 2023- 105

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That Council hereby recess at 10:35 a.m. in order to proceed into a Committee of Adjustment Meeting under section 45 of *Planning Act*.

Carried

Council reconvened in Regular Meeting of Council at 10:43 a.m.

7. Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 2023- 106

Moved: Councillor Denning

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That the Minutes of the Council meeting on March 9, 2023 be adopted as circulated and printed.

Carried

8. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

9. Consent Agenda

Resolution No. 2023- 107

Moved: Councillor Navackas

Seconded: Councillor Denning

That the Consent Agenda for March 23, 2023 be received and filed, minus Item number 9.1.1.

Carried

9.1 Communications from Other Municipalities

9.1.2 Chatham-Kent - Support Bill 5 - Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act

- 9.1.3 Township of Malahide - Call to Action : Review of Cannabis Act**
- 9.1.4 Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh - Future Accuracy of the Permanent Register of Electors**
- 9.1.5 Town of Petrolia - Call to Provincial Government to End Homelessness in Ontario**
- 9.1.6 City of Cambridge - Barriers for Women in Politics**
- 9.1.7 Dutton Dunwich - Review of Provincial Policy Statement**
- 9.1.8 North Perth - School Bus Stop Arm Cameras**
- 9.1.9 Howick Township - School Board Elections**
- 9.1.10 Mayor Shelley Ann Bentley, Haldimand County - Condolences**
- 9.1.11 Darrin Caniff, Mayor Chatham-Kent - Condolences**
- 9.1.12 Jerry Acchione, Deputy Warden Oxford County - Heartfelt Sympathies**
- 9.1.13 Elgin County Council Highlights - March 14, 2023**

9.2 Other Items

- 9.2.1 Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Invitation to listening session on legacy oil and gas wells**
- 9.2.2 L360 Condolences**
- 9.2.3 MPAC Condolences**

9.3 Monthly Reports

- 9.3.1 Monthly Operations Update – February 2023**

10. Staff Reports

10.1 Operations & Community Services

- 10.1.1 L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - 2023 Dust Suppressant Tender**

Resolution No. 2023- 108
Moved: Councillor Tellier
Seconded: Councillor Denning

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services; and

That West Elgin Council hereby grants pre-budget approval in the amount of \$213,750.00 plus applicable taxes as submitted by Eastern Oilfield Services Ltd. for supply and application of dust suppressant.

Carried

10.1.2 L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services -
2023 Gravel Tender - 2023-11-Operations Community Services

Resolution No. 2023- 109
Moved: Councillor Navackas
Seconded: Councillor Denning

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services; and

That West Elgin Council hereby grants pre-budget approval in the amount of \$323,700.00 plus applicable taxes from Johnston Brothers Ltd. for supply & application of maintenance gravel.

Carried

10.2 Clerk's

10.2.1 J. Nethercott, Clerk - Vacancy of the Office of Mayor

Resolution No. 2023- 110

Moved: Councillor Denning

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from J. Nethercott Clerk, re: Vacancy of the Office of the Mayor for information purposes; and

That West Elgin Council direct staff to introduce a by-law to Declare the Office of the Mayor Vacant, during the by-law portion of the March 23, 2023 Agenda.

Carried

10.2.2 J. Nethercott, Clerk - Options for Filling a Vacancy on Council

Resolution No. 2023- 111

Moved: Councillor Denning

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jana Nethercott, Clerk re: Options for Filling a Vacancy on Council for information purposes.

Carried

10.2.3 J. Nethercott, Clerk - Council Meeting Start Time Survey Results

Council received the report and provided direction to staff to return with a report on options, once the composition of Council is decided.

10.3 Finance/Administration

10.3.1 M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer - Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval

Resolution No. 2023- 112

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer re: Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval (CLI-ECA), and That West Elgin Council approve Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) proposal to undertake the completion of Municipal Sewage Collection System (CLI-ECA) application for the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) in the amount not the exceed \$7,100.00 exclusive of HST.

Carried

10.3.2 M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer - Strategic Plan

Resolution No. 2023- 113

Moved: Councillor Navackas

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer re: Strategic Plan and approve the proposal from Jennifer Kirkham, Michevious Cat Productions in the amount of \$21,500.00 plus applicable taxes; and that West Elgin Council hereby chooses Option 2 and to include a mission/vision statement.

Carried

10.4 M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer - 2023 Compensation Review

Resolution No. 2023- 114

Moved: Councillor Denning

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer re: 2023 Compensation Review;

AND FURTHER, that West Elgin Council accepts the proposal by ML Consulting to undertake a Pay Equity and Compensation review at a cost of \$25,200.00 (excluding HST), plus travel and out of pocket expenses; and

That West Elgin Council hereby gives pre-budget approval for the Pay Equity and Compensation review.

Carried

11. Committee and Board Report

11.1 Councillor Reports from Committees

Councillor Denning reported that the West Elgin Community Centre Board of Management met on Wednesday March 22, with the focus of the meeting on the 2023 Kraft Hockeyville progress.

12. Accounts

Resolution No. 2023- 115

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Denning

THAT the Deputy Mayor and Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign Payment Voucher #3A amounting to \$245,443.73 in settlement of General, Road, Water and Arena Accounts including EFT#6448-6475, online Payments#1086-1128, cheque # 26144-26147 and Payroll PP05.

Carried

13. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion

13.1 J. Small - Kraft Hockeyville Request

Councillor Denning reported that West Elgin Community Centre Board of Management approved a \$2,000 grant for the West Lorne Kraft Hockeyville 2023 Committee.

13.2 Chatham-Kent - Reducing Municipal Insurance Costs

Councillor Tellier stated she wanted to discuss the insurance costs and enquired about how much West Elgin's has gone up. CAO/Treasurer Magda Badura reported that in the last 5 years West Elgin's insurance rates have doubled and further stated that the plan is to go to market for insurance later this year, to see if better rates can be obtained. Ms. Badura reported that the major issue with municipal insurance is the liability costs and that is set by the market not individual municipalities' claims.

Councillor Denning enquired if our deductibles are increased would this effect the rates? CAO/Treasurer stated she would look into this and report back to Council.

14. Council Inquires/Announcements

14.1 Notice of Motion

14.2 Statements/Inquires by Councillors

14.3 Matters of Urgency

Resolution No. 2023- 116

Moved: Councillor Navackas

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

Whereas West Elgin is undertaking a Pay Equity Study in 2023; and

Where as West Elgin, like other municipalities, is experiencing a significant employee turnover rate; and

Now Therefore West Elgin Council hereby direct the CAO to initiate an Organizational Review, that shall include reviews of the work place environment, recruitment and retention of employees process.

Carried

Resolution No. 2023- 117

Moved: Councillor Denning

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

Whereas West Lorne Arena is in the Top 4 for the 2023 Kraft Hockeyville competition; and

Whereas West Lorne Minor Hockey has done an amazing job of promoting community spirit; and

Now Therefore West Elgin Council hereby approves contributing up to \$150,000 from reserves to the proposed upgrades to the West Lorne Arena, should West Lorne win the Kraft Hockeyville 2023 Contest.

Carried

15. Upcoming Meetings

- Four Counties Transportation Advisory Committee - March 28 @ 9:30 a.m.
- Tri-County Water Board - March 28 @ 7 p.m.
- Committee of the Whole (Budget) - March 30 @ 9 a.m.
- Committee of the Whole (Budget) - April 6 @ 9 a.m.
- West Elgin Community Board of Management - April 12 @ 9 a.m.
- Council - April 13 @ 9:30 a.m.

16. By-Laws

Resolution No. 2023- 118

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Denning

That By-law 2023-23, being a By-law to declare the Office of the Mayor Vacant, be read a first, second and third and final time.

Carried

17. Confirming By-Law

Resolution No. 2023- 119

Moved: Councillor Navackas

Seconded: Councillor Denning

That By-law 2023-22 being a By-law to confirm the proceeding of the Regular Meeting of Council held on March 23, 2023, be read a first, second and third and final time.

Carried

18. Closed Session

Resolution No. 2023- 120

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That West Elgin Council hereby proceeds into a Closed Session at 1134 a.m. under Section 239 2(b) consideration will be given to items pertaining to personal matters about identifiable individual(s) including a municipal or local board employee(s).

Carried

Clerk and Manager of Operations & Community Services exited the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

19. Report out of Closed Session

Deputy Mayor Leatham reported out of Closed Session at 12:49 a.m.

Resolution No. 2023- 121

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Denning

That consideration was given to items pertaining to personal matters about identifiable individual(s) including municipal or local board employee(s) and direction to staff was provided.

Carried

20. Adjournment

Resolution No. 2023- 122

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Navackas

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin hereby adjourn at 12:51 p.m. to meet again at 9:30 a.m. on April 13, 2023 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Richard Leatham, Deputy Mayor

Jana Nethercott, Clerk