



Municipality of West Elgin

Minutes

Council Meeting

June 25, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

Electronic Participation Meeting via Zoom

Present: Mayor D. McPhail
Councillor T. Tellier
Councillor A. Cammaert
Councillor B. Rowe

Regrets: Deputy Mayor R. Leatham

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

Also Present: Brian Lima, Elgin County Engineer

2. Call to Order

Mayor Duncan McPhail called the Open Session of Council to order at 9:34 a.m.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2020-200

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That West Elgin Council hereby adopts the Agenda as presented.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures.

6. Delegations

6.1 Brian Lima, Elgin County Engineer - Proposed Renovation of Municipal Offices

County Engineer Brian Lima presented a power point presentation with drawings of an addition and redevelopment of the municipal office at 22413 Hoskins line as well as projected costs. The design allows for more separation of staff to meet COVID-19 protocols as well as gives separation for Service Ontario and Council Chambers.

Clerk Jana Nethercott reported that along with the County Accessibility Coordinator the municipality would be applying for a grant of up to \$100,000 to assist with the construction of the two new accessible washrooms and other costs.

This addition and renovation will be part of the 2021 budget deliberations.

7. Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 2020-201

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

That the Minutes of the Council meetings on June 11 and June 18, 2020 be adopted with typo correction to Section 8.2.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

8. Business Arising from Minutes

Councillor Tellier reported that the Rodney Aldborough Agricultural Society is doing a bottle drive.

Councillor Cammaert reported that West Lorne Legion also just announced a bottle drive.

Council directed staff to respond to Ridgetown Kiwanis that we are not able to provide them with a location for their containers.

9. Staff Reports

9.1 Planning

9.1.1 H. James, Planner - Xplornet Communications Inc. Request for Letter of Concurrence

Resolution No. 2020-202

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Heather James regarding a request from Xplornet Communications Inc. c/o Forbes Bros Ltd. to permit new telecommunications tower located at 13990 Colley Road;

That West Elgin Council approves of the proposed telecommunications tower located at 13990 Colley Road; and,

That West Elgin Council directs the CAO/Treasurer to sign the attached letter of concurrence.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

9.2 Operations & Community Services

Heather James exited the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

9.2.1 L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - Municipal Office Septic System Redesign and Upgrade

Resolution No. 2020-203

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services re: Municipal Office Septic System Redesign and Upgrade; and

That West Elgin Council hereby approves the single source quote from McColl Limited of \$14,560 plus applicable taxes for the redesign and installation of the Municipal Septic System; and

That West Elgin Council hereby approves staff to spend up to an additional \$10,000 on associated permits, electrical and boring costs.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

9.2.2 L. Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services - West Elgin Pool Update

Resolution No. 2020-204

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

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

That West Elgin Council hereby agrees to reduce pool fees at \$2.00 per person for Open Swim and \$5.00 per family due to shortened swim times; and

That West Elgin Council hereby authorizes staff to open the West Elgin Pool based on the procedures outlined in this report, and after all Southwest Public Health inspection conditions have been met.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

9.3 Clerks

Council recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

9.3.1 Additional Meeting in July

Resolution No. 2020-205

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council hereby approve the addition of a Regular Council Meeting on July 30, 2020 at 9:30 a.m., if needed.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

9.3.2 J. Nethercott, Clerk - Request to Waive Fees for Pavilion Use

Resolution No. 2020-206

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jana Nethercott, Clerk re: Request to Waive Fees for Miller Park Pavilion and Port Glasgow Pavilion; and

That West Elgin Council hereby approves the waiver of all rental fees for the Miller Park and Port Glasgow Pavilion until September 30, 2020 as a way to promote getting outside and being active during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

9.4 Finance

9.4.1 M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer - Waver of Penalty & Interest on Water/Sewage Billings.

Resolution No. 2020-207

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from M. Badura, CAO/Treasurer; and

That West Elgin Council hereby approves the waving of interest on all unpaid water/sewage bills with the due date of June 25, 2020; and

That West Elgin Council authorize no water service disconnection happen until August 1, 2020.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

10. Committee and Board Report

Councillor Tellier reported that she attended a Youth Task Force meeting and they held discussions on how to assist the local youth during the pandemic. Currently the task force is doing porch drop offs and doing out reach to identify at risk youth.

10.1 Four Counties Transit Board

Councillor Rowe reported that a virtual meeting was held on Monday June 22, 2020 to bring the partner municipalities up to date on the service suspension. Ms. Rowe also stated that Brooke Alvinston is interested in joining the Four Counties Transit System and that staff would be working on a draft agreement for all member municipalities as there currently isn't an agreement in place.

10.3 Port Glasgow Yacht Club Board of Directors Meeting

Mayor McPhail reported that a meeting was held on June 22, 2020 at the Yacht Club and there were a few items that Council needs to be made aware of.

Mayor would like Council's blessing to work with the local MP & MPP to bring together all relevant agencies and groups to ensure that everyone is comfortable with water calming measures, prior to applying for approvals. Council agreed with this.

Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services reported that the West Piers at the Marina will require additional materials to build them up do to high water levels. Mr. Gosnell is looking into permits and costs and will report back to Council with his findings.

Mr. Gosnell reported that as Council is aware there has been substantial flooding of sixteen mile creek and through discussions with the Yacht Club the idea of installing an overflow pipe that would outlet into the dock basin to prevent the back up of the creek has been agreed upon and the

information has been sent to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority for approval.

Councillor Cammaert requested an update on the erosion control work that has taken place previously at the Marina. Mr. Gosnell stated that all the rebar that was exposed has been removed and clay has been placed to assist with coverage. Once the rough water calms down seeding will take place.

11. Accounts

Resolution No. 2020-208

Moved: Councillor Tellier

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That the Mayor and Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign Payment Voucher #6A amounting to \$432,081.26 in settlement of General, Road, Water and Arena Accounts (including EFT#2721-2771 Cheque# 25360-25370, online Payments# 452-461 and Payroll PP13).

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

12. Other Business

12.1 Statements/Inquires by Councillors

Councillor Tellier reported that West Elgin Community Health Centre is looking for community members to join their board of directors.

Councillor Cammaert reported that she received concerns from a local principal regarding access to internet for students. Mayor McPhail stated there is a task force being set up at the County level.

12.2 Notice of Motion

None.

12.3 Matters of Urgency

Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operation & Community Services requested permission to gather quotes to repair the roof of the municipal building on the East side, due to leakage. Mr. Gosnell will report back to Council with quotes at a future meeting.

13. Correspondence

13.2 D. Mennill, Elgin County Warden - Request for assistance in recruiting Terrace Lodge Fundraising Committee Members

13.3 Grey County - Letter to Premier Ford regarding broadband access

Resolution No. 2020-209

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

Whereas West Elgin Council wishes to support resolution number CW93-20 from Grey County; and

Whereas West Elgin recognizes that the need for reliable access to affordable broadband is required for education and business purposes to ensure continuity and success; and

Whereas reliable broadband will continue to play an essential role in economic and social recovery across Ontario post-pandemic; and

Whereas not all residents of West Elgin are within a connectivity coverage area and that rural areas often receive inadequate or disproportionately low levels of service; and

Where as while it is important for the Provincial Government to look at both the number of people and the number of businesses that can be serviced by broadband expansion, it is essential, as well, that the Province provide broadband service to areas that have a small number of people, yet cover a vast geographical area; and

Whereas the need for broadband infrastructure improvement is now;

Now Therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of West Elgin representing our residents and business owners alike, call to action Premier Ford, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honorable Jeff Yurek to champion the implementation of broadband in the under-serviced areas of West Elgin;

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe
Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

13.4 Grey Highlands - Universal Basic Income Resolution

Resolution No. 2020-210

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

Whereas West Elgin received a resolution from the Municipality of Grey Highlands with regard to the creation of a Universal Basic Income for citizens; and

Whereas the Council of West Elgin agrees that the creation of a Universal Basic Income would assist in reducing the financial strain on its citizens and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Where a basic income ensures everyone an income sufficient to meet basic needs and live with dignity, regardless of work status and has the potential to improve individual physical and mental health, labour market participation, food security, housing stability, financial status and social relationships and generally raise the standard of living for vulnerable members of society; and

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin urges the Ontario Provincial government and the Federal government work together to investigate the feasibility of implementing a universal basic income program.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe
Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

13.5 West Lorne Legion - Request for support of opening of patio

Resolution No. 2020-211

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Cammaert

That West Elgin Council hereby issue a letter of support for the West Lorne Legion in support of re-opening of the patio.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe
Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

15. Confirming By-Law

Resolution No. 2020-212

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That By-law 2020-47, being a by-law to confirm the proceeding of the Regular Council Meeting on June 25, 2020, be read a first, second and third and final time.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

16. Adjournment

Resolution No. 2020-213

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin hereby adjourn at 11:39 a.m. to meet again at 9:30 a.m. on 16th of July, 2020 or at the call of the Chair.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe

Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

Duncan McPhail, Mayor

Jana Nethercott, Clerk