

Township of Woolwich
Committee of the Whole Minutes

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
24 Church Street West, Elmira

Present: Mayor Shantz
Councillor Martin
Councillor McMillan
Councillor Merlihan
Councillor Redekop
Councillor Shantz (Chairperson)

Present from Staff: David Brenneman, Chief Administrative Officer;
Val Hummel, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk;
Mark Pomponi, Director of Development Services;
Jared Puppe, Director of Infrastructure Services;
Richard Petherick, Director of Finance/Treasurer;
Ann McArthur, Director of Recreation and Facilities Services;
Jeremy Vink, Acting Manager of Planning;
Ryan Tucker, Engineering Project Supervisor
Sarah Goldrup, Council and Committee Coordinator.

Public Resolution to Move into Closed Session (6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers)

Moved by Councillor Shantz

Seconded by Councillor Merlihan

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich convenes in closed session on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, in the Councillors' Office in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, section 239 (2) (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; section 239 (2) (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board; and (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board (Organizational Review, Proposed Acquisition of Land & Legal Matter).

...Carried

Resolution to Reconvene in Open Session (7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers)

Moved by Councillor Martin

Seconded by Councillor Merlihan

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich reconvenes in open session.

...Carried

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Planning Public Meeting

Councillor Shantz read the following statement to open the meeting:

This meeting constitutes a formal public meeting required under Section 34 of the Planning Act. This meeting is for information purposes only, and no decisions will be made at this time. The application will be brought forward at a future meeting of the Committee of the Whole when staff has had an opportunity to review all submissions and prepare a recommendation. All those in attendance will be allowed to speak. Interested parties are invited to sign the appropriate sign-up sheets in the lobby if they wish further notification concerning the applications. Individuals are requested to submit a written outline of any oral submissions made at the Public Meeting to the Meeting Coordinator.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or written submissions to the Township of Woolwich prior to approval or refusal of the proposal, that party is not entitled to appeal the decision or be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

DS04-2019: Planning Public - Zone Change 9/2019 - Cyril Zinger (Estate) and Douglas and Sandra Zinger - 148 and 170 St Charles Street West

Councillor Shantz declared the Public Planning Meeting to be open and asked staff to review the application. Jeremy Vink, Acting Manager of Planning, reviewed the report and stated that a future report with staff's recommendation would be prepared for the Council.

Sam Head

Mr. Head spoke on behalf of the applicant and reviewed the application.

No one else in the gallery requested to speak regarding the application. Councillor Shantz declared the Planning Public Meeting to be closed.

Presentations

IS01-2019: Glasgow Street South Bridge Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Ryan Tucker, Engineering Project Supervisor, reviewed the report and highlighted challenges associated with the bridge, public consultation and notice, the history of the bridge, the bridge's expected lifespan, costs of rehabilitation, traffic implications, the grant received for rehabilitation, and the ultimate conversion of the bridge into a monument.

In response to inquiry from Council, Mr. Tucker clarified that the bridge would be a one-way structure and discussed the removal of the left-turn restriction, cost of maintenance and conversion to a pedestrian structure, concerns about traffic, the process of converting the bridge into a monument, and increasing the load limit on the bridge to extend its useful life.

Jack Turner, GM BluePlan

Mr. Turner spoke as a representative of GM BluePlan and provided an overview of the Environmental Assessment process, study objectives, challenges and opportunities, public consultation and feedback, existing conditions, alternative solutions, evaluation of the potential solutions, the recommended solution, and next steps.

In response to an inquiry from Council, staff confirmed they are investigating ways to support horse and buggy traffic and discussed engineering considerations for pedestrian and vehicular use, the future of the bridge, concerns about traffic control, height bars and restricting commercial vehicles, and investigating another crossing of the Grand River near the Crowsfoot Road intersection.

Delegations

Glasgow Street South Bridge Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Roseann Toronchuk

Ms. Toronchuk stated her desire for the bridge to remain, expressed her belief that closing the bridge would affect local traffic and shared concerns about multi-vehicle use of the bridge, potential impact to local farmers, and the history of water going over the bridge.

Mr. Tucker stated that removal of the left-turn restriction would support local farmers and discussed the traffic studies which suggest that closing the bridge would have minimal impact on local traffic.

Moved by Councillor Martin

Seconded by Councillor McMillan

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering Report IS01-2019 respecting Glasgow Street South Bridge Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Project:

1. Authorizes the Director of Infrastructure to issue the notice of completion for the Glasgow Street South Bridge Class Environmental Assessment Project and file the Environmental Assessment Project File Report with the Municipal Clerk for a minimum 30 day public review period;
2. Upon final approval of the 2020 Capital Budget, the Director of Infrastructure, be authorized and directed to proceed with the implementation of the preferred alternative;
3. Council waives the purchasing by-law (By-law 71-2015), in this instance, and awards GM BluePlan the detailed design and tendering project for the rehabilitation of the Glasgow Street South bridge and required work on Glasgow Street South/Millennium Boulevard.

...Carried

Proposed Resolution Regarding Declaring a Climate Emergency and Implementation of a Corporate Carbon Budget

Council discussed the effects of climate change and the need to reduce harms for future generations.

Kai Reimer-Watts & Andres Fuentes

Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Reimer-Watts spoke to their work in Waterloo Region, extreme climate events and the state of emergency, the impact of climate change in Waterloo Region, and the growing climate movement. Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Reimer-Watts also shared examples of other municipalities declaring a climate emergency, the burden of extreme climate events on municipalities. They also noted the need for additional Federal resources, carbon budgeting, accelerating the local green economy, and the importance of acknowledging and prioritizing this issue.

Council discussed the Townships environmental sustainability activities, including membership with Sustainable Waterloo Region and efforts to identify a greenhouse gases reduction target, the Greening Levy, the work of the Township's Environmental Enhancement Committee, as well as lighting refurbishments and other sustainability projects. The members of Council spoke to the need for conversation with the farming community, the cost of change and a concern that sustainable activities do not come at the expense of vulnerable residents, and individual responsibility. Staff discussed researching best practices and the successful implementation of carbon budgeting in other organizations, setting emission reduction targets, and the vital support of Sustainable Waterloo Region.

Moved by Councillor Merlihan

Seconded by Mayor Shantz

Whereas the Canadian government has committed to limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees as per the COP21 Paris Agreement;

Whereas Canada's temperature is rising more than double the rate of the rest of the world;

Whereas municipalities are significant contributors to climate change, consuming more than two thirds of the world's energy and accounting for more than 70% of its carbon emissions;

Whereas the Township of Woolwich is committed to climate action and understand our role as a global citizen and the need to be prepared for the effects of climate change;

Whereas the Township of Woolwich is a member of Sustainable Waterloo Region (SWR) and is actively working with SWR staff to establish a corporate greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;

Whereas the Township of Woolwich established a special Greening levy as part of the 2019 Budget to implement the recommendations outlined in the Greening Initiative report;

Whereas the Township of Woolwich is part of a collaborative effort with the Region of Waterloo and the other Area Municipalities concerning the implementation of the Regional Community Energy Investment Strategy;

Whereas effective accountability is a key element of meeting targets;

Whereas the City of Oslo established a Climate Budget that allows them to be accountable for their emissions on a yearly basis and to spread the responsibility of emission reductions across the organization;

Therefore be it resolved that the Township of Woolwich does hereby declare a climate emergency with the directive to provide continued support to corporate and community climate action at the Township and work over time towards improved targets where possible;

Be it further resolved that staff be directed to outline a process to evaluate the implementation of a corporate carbon budget as part of the municipalities long-term commitment to reduce carbon emissions as per the ClimateActionWR target using baseline carbon emissions data compiled through our partnership with the Regional Sustainability Initiative;

And be it further resolved that the Township of Woolwich advocate for senior level government funding, and investigate alternative funding, with respect to the implementation of a potential Carbon Budget.

...Carried

Unfinished Business

None.

Consent Items

Items for Approval and for Information

Moved by Councillor Martin

Seconded by Councillor McMillan

That the following items be approved:

- DS03-2019: Communication Tower 658 Sawmill Road

And that the following item be received for information:

- Downtown Elmira BIA Minutes - July 29, 2019
- St. Jacobs BIA Minutes - August 6, 2019

...Carried

Staff Reports and Memos

A11-2019: Phased Implementation of Organizational Review - HR Generalist Position

David Brenneman, Chief Administrative Officer, reviewed the report and discussed North Dumfries interim arrangement for Human Resources (HR) support with the Region, the impact of coordinating HR on management, the HR generalist position, and ongoing collaboration with the Region for specific expertise.

Moved by Councillor McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering Report A11-2019 respecting the recruitment of a HR Generalist Position, confirms the target start date for the position as early January 2020 as-per the already approved Organizational Review report (A04-2019).

...Carried

Memo – Allocation of Municipal (Water and Sanitary) Services

Mr. Vink reviewed the memo and discussed the handling for future capacity issues.

Other Business**Verbal Update: 2019 AMO Conference**

Council heard an overview of the activities and advocacy at the 2019 AMO Conference including stable funding and reducing the reporting burden, as well as discussions on developing a strategy for transportation, cannabis retail, impacts of Bill 108, and childcare services. The group noted the important opportunity to connect with other levels of government.

Breslau Connector Road EA Public Consultation Centre

Mr. Tucker noted that the Breslau Connector Road EA Public Consultation Centre would take place on Thursday, September 26, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Empire Room, Breslau Community Centre, 100 Andover Drive, Breslau.

Survey Regarding Heidelberg Lighting Improvements

Jared Puppe, Director of Infrastructure Services, reported that a survey would be circulated regarding improvements to street lighting for a subdivision in Heidelberg and the feedback regarding the standard or decorative lighting would inform the 2020 Capital Budget. Mr. Puppe discussed the costs of standard versus decorative lighting, combining the work with tree trimming services, and potential partnership with Wellesley.

Outstanding Activity List as of September 20, 2019

None.

Correspondence

The Council of the Township of Woolwich received the following correspondence:

- Township of Larder Lake Resolution Regarding Electronic Participation
- Municipality of Mississippi Mills Resolution Regarding Reducing Litter & Waste in Our Communities

Public Notice

None.

Notice of Closed Meetings

None.

Notice of Motion

None.

Reconvene in Closed Session (9:30 P.M.)

Moved by Councillor McMillan

Seconded by Mayor Shantz

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich reconvenes in Closed Session.

...Carried

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Shantz

That the meeting be adjourned.

...Carried

Sandy Shantz

Sandy Shantz, Mayor

Val Hummel

Val Hummel, Clerk