

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Hybrid Meeting  
January 10, 2024

The Council of the County of Huron met in a hybrid meeting setting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at the Council Chambers. All members of Council were present. Councillor Anderson departed at 11:00 AM. Councillor Ginn departed at 11:30 AM. Councillor Noel departed at 11:51 AM.

**1. Warden Glen McNeil called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.**

**2. Warden's Remarks:**

Warden McNeil expressed gratitude to Council and Senior Management Team for their generous donation baskets to the Women's Shelter at the last Council meeting. He conveyed the heartfelt thanks received on behalf of the Shelter.

**3. Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by: Councillor J. Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for January 10, 2024 be approved as amended:

- Add Beth Rumble, Director of Cultural Services, Sandra Weber, Director of Planning and Development and Erin Samuell, Senior Communications Specialist to Agenda item 16. Closed to the Public Session attendance.

CARRIED

**4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None.**

**5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

Moved by: Councillor D. Harding and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan

THAT:

The minutes of the Council Day 2 meeting of December 20, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**6. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations:**

**7. Councillor's Comments:**

Councillors J. Ginn and M. Anderson informed Council that they would need to leave the meeting earlier today, and further Councillor M. Anderson informed that she will be absent from the next meeting at which Councillor A. Lobb will be present as an alternate.

Councillor B. MacLellan inquired about the delegation with the Minister at the ROMA conference. CAO Wark stated that the presentation will be circulated to Council prior to the delegation.

**8. Consent Agenda – Items 8.1 through 8.7:**

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

Items 8.1 through 8.7 be approved with the actions as noted.

CARRIED

**9. Planning and Development:**

- 9.1. File C46-2023, Deb and Brian Molto (Owners), Con 12 Lot 30 & Part Lot 29, Township of Howick (presented by Laura Simpson)

The purpose of this application is for the creation of a new lot under the surplus farm residence severance policies. The proposed land to be severed is approximately 47.34 ha (117 acres) of vacant agricultural land. The proposed land to be retained is approximately 5.26 ha (13 acres) containing a house, storage barn, and shed. The application is being brought forward to County Council as a disputed Consent as the Department is recommending a condition for the proposed retained parcel to be reduced in size to 2.42 ha (6 acres). The Township of Howick has recommended approval subject to the conditions without including the condition to reduce the 5.26 ha (13 acre) retained parcel size. The Department is recommending approval with conditions, as the application meets the Provincial Policy Statement, County of Huron Official Plan and Howick Official Plan, subject to including Condition #10 to reduce the size of the retained parcel.

Moved by: Councillor J. Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor T. Bazinet

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves Consent application C46-2023 by Deb and Brian Molto requesting severance of a surplus residence, described as Concession 12, Lot 30 and Part Lot 29, Township of Howick; with conditions, excluding Condition #10 to reduce the size of the retained parcel.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor J. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

Consent application C46-2023 by Deb and Brian Molto requesting severance of a surplus residence, described as Concession 12, Lot 30 and Part Lot 29, Township of Howick. No public comments were received, so there was no effect on the decision. Concerns were received from agencies on the issue of the size of the severed parcel. Comments were thoroughly considered but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the application.

CARRIED

- 9.2. Official Plan Amendment No. 24, Municipality of South Huron (presented by Craig Metzger)

The purpose of Official Plan Amendment No. 24 to the South Huron Official Plan is to provide increased flexibility for new housing units at an increased density as well as implement recent changes to Provincial legislation (Bill 23, etc.). The Official Plan Amendment is considered disputed due to public comments that the Amendment not proceed and instead be considered as part of the upcoming Official Plan Review. South Huron Council adopted the Amendment on December 4, 2023. The Planning and Development Department recommends the amendment be approved.

Moved by: Councillor P. Klopp and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the recommendation of Craig Metzger, Senior Planner, that Official Plan Amendment No. 24 to the South Huron Official Plan, as adopted by the Council for the Municipality of South Huron, be approved;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Notice of Decision be circulated.

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CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich

THAT:

The Official Plan Amendment No. 24 to the South Huron Official Plan. Public comments were raised on the issues of process/scope (that the amendment should be part of a broader review of the Official Plan). The comments were thoroughly considered but the effect did not influence the decision of Council to approve the amendment. Agency comments were received in support of the application, the effect of which resulted in a decision to approve the amendment.

CARRIED

**10. Cultural Services:**

10.1. Cultural Services Partnerships (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor M. Anderson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Beth Rumble, Director of Cultural Services and County Librarian, dated January 10, 2024, titled Cultural Services Partnerships, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.2. Digitization Update (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron request a staff report on the digitization of the corporate records.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Jacob Smith, Special Projects Coordinator - Digitization, dated January 10, 2024, titled Digitization Update, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.3. Strategic Plan Updates (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor D. Harding and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Elizabeth French Gibson, Senior Curator and Karen Stewart, Cultural Development Officer, dated January 10, 2024, titled Strategic Plan Updates, as presented for information.

CARRIED

10.4. Strategic Planning Terms of Reference (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Beth Rumble, Director of Cultural Services, dated January 10, 2024, titled Strategic Planning Terms of Reference, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

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The Council of the County of Huron approves the development of a new Museum/Culture strategic plan.  
CARRIED

10.5. Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol Policy Review (presented by Elizabeth French-Gibson)

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan  
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Elizabeth French-Gibson, Senior Curator, dated January 10, 2024 titled Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol Policy Review for information,

AND FURTHER THAT

The Council of the County of Huron approve the attached policies including Volunteer Policy, Take Down Policy, and Education & Interpretation Policy, in order that they may be adopted and included with the Huron County Museum policies as part of the 5 year review process.

CARRIED

**11. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:**

11.1. Appointment to Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee (presented by Susan Cronin)

Moved by: Councillor M. Anderson and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel  
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve the citizen appointment of the following members to the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- Diane Blackall
- Fern Johnson
- Michelle Shepherd

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted for the appointment to be ratified on January 10, 2024.

CARRIED

Council recessed at 9:47 AM and resumed at 9:56 AM.

11.2. 2024 Draft County of Huron Budget Presentations

- Consolidated (presented by Michael Blumhagen)
- Corporate (presented by Michael Blumhagen)
- Human Resources (presented by Lara Vanstone)
- Planning and Development (presented by Sandra Weber)
- Library and Cultural Services (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer  
THAT:

The County of Huron receives the 2024 Draft County of Huron Budget Presentations, dated January 10, 2024, as presented for information.

CARRIED

**12. Correspondence:**

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch  
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The Council of the County of Huron accepts correspondence not specifically dealt with, for information.  
CARRIED

**13. New/Unfinished Business:**

In the interest of being accountable and transparent, where a member of Council or staff would like to present an item of business in this section, it is recommended that they contact the Chief Administrative Officer in advance so that the item can be placed on the published agenda.

**14. Notice of Motion:** None.

**15. By-laws:**

Moved by: Councillor J. Becker and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch  
THAT:

By-law No. 2024-001, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a Contribution Agreement for National Housing Co-Investment Fund between Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Huron County Housing Corporation.

By-law No. 2024-002, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize removing Boundary Bridge 23 (BB23) from the County Highway System and be transferred to the Municipality of Huron East.

By-law No. 2024-003, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to amend By-law 2022- 042 to adopt/amend a Policy on Procurement.

By-law No. 2024-004, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to amend By-law 2022- 086 to appoint members to various Committees and Boards.

Be introduced, be given a first, second and third reading, be passed, signed by the Warden and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto, in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-Law for the County of Huron.  
CARRIED

**16. Closed to the Public Session:**

Council recessed at 11:23 AM and resumed at 11:30 AM.

Moved by: Councillor J. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich  
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 11:23 AM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss an item that relates to:

1. a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board - Funding Support Request;

AND FURTHER THAT:

CAO Meighan Wark, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen, Director of Social and Property Services Barbara Hall and Director of Economic Development Vicki Lass,

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Director of Cultural Services Beth Rumble, Director of Planning and Development Sandra Weber, and Erin Samuell, Senior Communications Specialist remain in attendance.  
CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 11:58 AM.

CARRIED

CAO Wark reported that Council met in the Closed Session to receive an update on a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board-funding support request.

**17. Upcoming Meetings:**

Economic Development Board - Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Library Board - Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Workshop - Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Session

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich – Hybrid Meeting

Accessibility Advisory Committee - Monday, January 29, 2024 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Council Day 1- Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich – Hybrid Meeting

**18. Confirmatory By-law:**

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

By-law No. 2024-005, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron be introduced, be given a first, second and third reading, be passed, signed by the Warden and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto, in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-Law for the County of Huron.

CARRIED

**19. Adjournment:**

Moved by: Councillor J. Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor J. Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 12:00 PM to meet again on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

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Warden Glen McNeil

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Clerk Susan Cronin