

ELGIN COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES

January 14, 2020

Council Present: Warden Dave Mennill
Deputy Warden Duncan McPhail
Councillor Bob Purcell
Councillor Grant Jones
Councillor Sally Martyn
Councillor Tom Marks
Councillor Mary French
Councillor Dominique Giguère
Councillor Ed Ketchabaw

Staff Present: Julie Gonyou, Chief Administrative Officer
Jim Bundschuh, Director of Financial Services
Amy Thomson, Director of Human Resources
Michele Harris, Director of Homes and Seniors Services
Steve Gibson, County Solicitor
Steve Evans, Manager of Planning
Megan Shannon, Legislative Services Coordinator
Mike Hoogstra, Purchasing Coordinator (report only)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Elgin County Council met this 14th day of January, 2020 in the Council Chambers, at the County Administration Building, St. Thomas at 9:00 a.m. with Warden Mennill in the chair.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by: Councillor Jones
Seconded by: Councillor Martyn

Resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on December 10 & 12, 2019 be adopted.

- Motion Carried.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None.

Warden Mennill introduced the County of Elgin's new Communications and Public Engagement Coordinator, Melissa Schneider.

4. PRESENTING PETITIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

4.1 Elgin Unifor Local 302 – Shaun Taylor and Tyler McLellan

Shaun Taylor and Tyler McLellan, Elgin Unifor Local 302, provided a letter to Council detailing their group's concerns with respect to Elgin-St. Thomas Emergency Medical Services levels.

Moved by: Councillor Purcell
Seconded by: Councillor Ketchabaw

Resolved that the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to present a report to Elgin County Council at the January 28, 2020 meeting which utilizes quantitative data regarding current service levels to inform staff recommendations for Council's consideration with respect to Elgin-St. Thomas Emergency Medical Services.

- Motion Carried.

5. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by: Councillor Marks
Seconded by: Councillor Jones

Resolved that we do now move into Committee of the Whole Council.

- Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, OUTSIDE BOARDS AND STAFF

6.1 Exemption from Draft Plan Approval for a Standard Plan of Condominium for Escalade Property Corporation in the Town of Aylmer File No. 34 CD-AY1901 – Manager of Planning

The Manager of Planning provided Council with the information required in order to consider granting an exemption to draft plan approval to the above noted plan of condominium.

Moved by: Councillor Purcell
Seconded by: Councillor French

Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin in accordance with Section 9 of the Condominium Act, grants an exemption to draft plan approval for a Standard Plan of Condominium for Escalade Property Corporation in the Town of Aylmer File No. 34CD-AY1901; and, that staff be directed to provide a certificate of exemption, sign the final plans and submit them to the Land Registry Office in accordance with the Planning Act and the Condominium Act.

- Motion Carried.

6.2 **Final Approval for a Vacant Land Plan of Condominium (Robin Ridge Estates) – Manager of Planning**

The Manager of Planning advised Council that final approval was given for a plan of condominium in the Municipality of Central Elgin on November 18, 2019.

Moved by: Councillor Martyn
Seconded by: Councillor Jones

Resolved that the report titled “Final Approval for a Vacant Land Plan of Condominium (Robin Ridge Estates)” from the Manager of Planning, dated January 6, 2020, be received and filed.

- Motion Carried.

6.3 **Elgin County Official Plan Five (5) Year Review – Natural Heritage System Study – 2019 (June 5th Draft) – Manager of Planning**

The Manager of Planning presented the report recommending that the Elgin County Natural Heritage System Study 2019 (June 5th Draft) be used as a background document for the Elgin County Official Plan Five (5) Year Review. The Elgin Natural Heritage System Study is a technical document that is a legislative requirement included in the Provincial Policy Statement.

Moved by: Councillor McPhail
Seconded by: Councillor Ketchabaw

Resolved that the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to provide a report detailing the legislative requirements associated with conducting a Natural Heritage Systems Study, summarizing Elgin County Council’s feedback provided at their meeting on January 14, 2020, and recommending next steps including further action required, if any, by Council/Rural Initiatives/Planning Advisory Committee.

- Motion Carried.

Council recessed at 10:16 a.m. and reconvened at 10:27 a.m.

6.4 **Borrowing By-Law – Director of Financial Services**

The Director of Financial Services presented the report recommending that Council pass the annual by-law allowing the Warden, Treasurer, and Deputy Treasurer to borrow up to \$15 million for cash flow and emergency purposes.

Moved by: Councillor Jones
Seconded by: Councillor Ketchabaw

Resolved that up to \$15 million of borrowing in 2020 be authorized through the necessary by-law.

- Motion Carried.

6.5 **Homes – Infection Prevention and Control Policy and Procedure Manual Review and Revisions – Director of Homes and Seniors Services**

The Director of Homes and Seniors Services presented the report seeking approval for the revisions made to the County of Elgin Homes and Seniors Services Infection Prevention and Control Policy Manual.

Moved by: Councillor Marks
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

Resolved that Council approve the County of Elgin Homes and Seniors Services Infection Prevention and Control Policy Manual review and revisions for 2019; and, that the report titled “Homes – Infection Prevention and Control Policy and Procedure Manual Review and Revisions” from the Director of Homes and Seniors Services, dated December 27, 2019, be received and filed.

- Motion Carried.

6.6 **Community Safety and Well-Being Plan – Consultant Project Award – Chief Administrative Officer**

The Chief Administrative Officer provided details on the Request for Proposal (RFP) recently issued by the County for a consultant to assist with the development of a Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan in accordance with the *Police Services Act*.

Moved by: Councillor Purcell
Seconded by: Councillor Martyn

Resolved that the provision of consulting services associated with the development of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan be awarded to Mischevious Cat Productions Inc. in the amount of \$34,500 (excluding HST); and, that the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the supporting agreement.

- Motion Carried.

7. **COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 **Items for Consideration (Consent Agenda)**

1. Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario with a letter requesting answers regarding the increasing rate of growth of farm property tax bills.
2. Municipality of West Elgin requesting that the County of Elgin Engineering Department conduct a safety review of the intersection of Graham and Pioneer Line due to ongoing safety concerns.

Moved by: Councillor Jones
Seconded by: Councillor Martyn

Resolved that Correspondence Items #1-2 be received and filed.

- Motion Carried.

7.2 **Items for Information (Consent Agenda)**

1. 2019 Town Crier's Annual Report

Council consented to the Warden sending a letter to the Town Crier, Dave Phillips, thanking him for his services.

2. St. Thomas-Elgin Canadian Red Cross Year Two (2) Partnership Report

3. The Honourable Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services with a letter regarding Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy.

4. Melanie Knapp, Corporate Administrative & Accessibility Clerk, City of St. Thomas with a letter regarding the appointment of Mayor Preston to the Green Lane Community Trust Fund for 2020.

Moved by: Councillor Ketchabaw
Seconded by: Councillor French

Resolved that Correspondence Items #1-4 be received and filed.

- Motion Carried.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 **Statements/Inquiries by Members**

Councillor Purcell requested information with respect to the timing of the follow-up report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding Council's consideration of the donation of lands adjacent to Bobier Villa to the Dutton & District Lions Club for the proposed development of "affordable seniors apartments". The Chief Administrative Officer confirmed that a preliminary report will be prepared for the January 28, 2020 meeting of County Council, with a secondary report to be presented on February 11, 2020 if required.

8.2 **Notice of Motion**

None.

8.3 **Matters of Urgency**

Warden Mennill requested Council's support for his participation in the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) 2020 Annual Conference delegations with partner municipalities to include Ford Vacant Lands and former St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital Complex options for development.

Moved by: Councillor French
Seconded by: Councillor Jones

Resolved that the Warden proceed as directed.

- Motion Carried.

9. CLOSED MEETING ITEMS

Moved by: Councillor Jones
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

Resolved that we do now proceed into closed meeting session in accordance with the Municipal Act to discuss matters under Municipal Act Section 239 (2):

In-Camera Item #1

(k) 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 – Homes – Pharmacy Services – Amending Agreement

In-Camera Item #2

(d) labour relations or employee negotiations – Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Project Management

In-Camera Item #3

(k) 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 Agreement

- Motion Carried.

10. RECESS

None.

11. MOTION TO RISE AND REPORT

Moved by: Councillor McPhail
Seconded by: Councillor Jones

Resolved that we do now rise and report.

- Motion Carried.

In-Camera Item #1 – Homes – Pharmacy Services – Amending Agreement

Moved by: Councillor Purcell
Seconded by: Councillor Martyn

Resolved that the Warden and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign an amending agreement with SmartMeds Pharmacy Inc. for the ongoing provision of pharmacy services.

- Motion Carried.

In-Camera Item #2 – Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Project Management

Moved by: Councillor French
Seconded by: Councillor Jones

Resolved that the Director of Financial Services proceed as directed.

- Motion Carried.

In-Camera Item #3 – Funding Agreement

Moved by: Councillor Giguère
Seconded by: Councillor French

Resolved that the Chief Administrative Officer proceed as directed.

- Motion Carried.

12. MOTION TO ADOPT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by: Councillor Martyn
Seconded by: Councillor McPhail

Resolved that we do now adopt recommendations of the Committee Of The Whole.

- Motion Carried.

13. CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

13.1 By-law 20-01 – Borrowing

BEING a By-law to Authorize the Warden, Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer to Borrow Up to the Sum of Fifteen Million Dollars.

Moved by: Councillor McPhail
Seconded by: Councillor Purcell

Resolved that By-law No. 20-01 be now read a first, second and third time and finally passed.

- Motion Carried.

13.2 By-law 20-02 – Confirming all Actions and Proceedings

BEING a By-law to Confirm Proceedings of the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the County of Elgin at the January 14, 2020 Meeting.

Moved by: Councillor French
Seconded by: Councillor Purcell

Resolved that By-Law No. 20-02 be now read a first, second and third time and finally passed.

- Motion Carried.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor Marks
Seconded by: Councillor French

Resolved that we do now adjourn at 11:27 a.m. to meet again on January 28, 2020 at the County Administration Building Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m.

- Motion Carried.

Julie Gonyou,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Dave Mennill,
Warden.