

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

REPORT CL 1-2002

The Municipal Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara met in Closed Session in the Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Thursday, January 24, 2002, commencing at 6:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Council: Councillors Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Andreychuk, Badawey, Bailey, Beamer, Bentley, Brickell, Collins, Davidson, Eke, Forster, Gabriel, Harry, Hildreth, Konkle, Marshall, Martin, McMullan, Muir, Nicholson, Partington, Redekop, Rigby, Saracino, Smeaton, Timms, Trombetta.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Bacchus, Commissioner of Corporate Services; Cambray, Commissioner of Planning Services; Hollick, Regional Clerk; Payne, Director, Waste Management Services Division; Nicol, Commissioner of Human Resources; Ms. Reid, Commissioner of Community Services; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Public Health; Mr. Cunnane, Director of Public Safety; Ms. Gilroy, Assistant Clerk.

1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Beamer declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters related to the Land Ambulance Contract, as a family member is employed as a paramedic, and he therefore vacated the Council Chamber, and took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on these matters.

2. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Council do now meet in Closed Committee of the Whole for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to legal, personnel and property matters.

Carried

3. Land Ambulance

Mr. Cunnane, Director of Public Safety, provided an update on land ambulance. A further update will be provided at the next Council meeting.

4. CLOSED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, RISE AND REPORT

Moved by Councillor Konkle
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That this Council do now rise without report.

Carried.

Following Closed Committee of the Whole, Council met in regular session, commencing at 7:20 p.m. with an Invocation by Councillor Redekop and the singing of O' Canada.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Muir
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Council Agenda CL 1-2002, January 24, 2002, be adopted, as presented, with the presentations moved forward prior to the Regional Chair's 'State of the Region' address.

Carried.

6. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Beamer declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters related to the Land Ambulance Contract, as he has a niece that is employed as a paramedic, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on these matters.

Councillor Smeaton declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters related to Seniors Homes as he is employed by a Seniors Home and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on these matters.

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to all matters related to development charges as his family has interests in development companies, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on these matters.

7. CHAIR'S REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMARKS

Regional Chair Zimmerman advised that the flowers in front of the dais were a continuation of the commitment of the Greenhouse Floral Growers of Niagara to provide fresh flowers for every Council meeting. The yellow orchid was grown by Van Berkel Enterprises Limited and the willow basket by A. J. Hendriks and Sons Greenhouses Inc.

Regional Chair Zimmerman invited everyone to support 'Raising the Roof' and 'Toque Tuesday' on Tuesday, February 5, 2002. 'Raising the Roof' is a national charitable organization dedicated to developing practical solutions for Canada's homeless, raising funds and creating partnerships with community-based groups working with people who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless. Approximately 80% of the funds raised stays in Niagara going towards Social Housing support and services for the homeless.

Councillor Collins provided information on World Youth Day and Councillor Forster announced 700 new jobs in Welland.

Congratulations were extended to Councillor Muir beginning his second year as Chair of the Niagara Police Services Board, Councillor Harry, newly appointed as Chair of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, and Councillor Eke, newly appointed Chair of the Niagara Housing Corporation replacing Councillor Bailey, who chaired the Transition Committee.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

8. **Report 21-2001**

Moved by Councillor Partington
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report 21-2001, being the minutes of the Proceedings of Council of Thursday, December 20, 2001, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

9.

CORRESPONDENCE

Communications were received and dealt with as follows:

C4909 Copy of a letter to the Honourable Brad Clark, Minister of Transportation (January 7, 2002) from Regional Chair Zimmerman respecting Environmental Assessment to Determine the Route for the Mid-Peninsula Corridor.

Received.

C4910 Debbie M. Zimmerman, Regional Chair (January 18, 2002) respecting Resolutions from other Municipalities.

City of Kingston (December 6, 2001) resolution requesting the provincial government to halt passage of Bill 130 and to hold public consultations and committee hearings to receive public input into any plans for re-organizing long term health care.

Received.

Township of Chatsworth (December 20, 2001) resolution requesting the Ministry of the Environment reconsider the regulations for communal water systems.

Received.

Corporation of the County of Middlesex (January 10, 2002) resolution to petition the Province of Ontario to fund 50% of the salary increases of Land Ambulance Personnel.

Received.

C4911 City of Welland (December 11, 2001) resolution supporting Regional Council's resolution to contact the Minister of Health and Long-term Care to release the results and recommendations of the external audit/review and to transfer the operation of ambulance dispatch services

Received.

C4912 Kenneth R. Todd, Director of Corporate Support Services, City of St. Catharines (December 12, 2001) respecting resolution from the Regional Municipality of Niagara regarding Land Ambulance Services and that no further action be taken.

Received.

C4913 Town of Grimsby (December 5, 2001) resolution endorsing Regional Council's resolution requesting that the report and recommendations of the external audit/review of the Hamilton Dispatch be released and the operation of ambulance dispatch services be transferred to the Niagara Region.

Received.

C4914 City of Thorold (December 6, 2001) resolution endorsing Regional Council's resolution regarding Ambulance Dispatch Services.

Received.

C4915 Copy of a letter sent to the Honourable Chris Hodgson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (January 7, 2002) respecting the endorsement and approval by Regional Council to the direction of the new federal affordable rental housing program.
(This same letter was also sent to the Honourable Alfonso Gagliano, P.C., M.P., Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation).

Received.

C4916 Fred Skinner, Royal Canadian Naval Association, requesting support for his petition to the Government of Canada to give Canadian Veterans a \$5,000.00 income tax break.

Supported.

C4917 John Bice, Clerk, City of Thorold (January 3, 2002) resolution opposing the creating of a Ministry-mandated Smart Growth Management Council for Niagara.

Received.

C4918 Copy of a letter to The Honourable Chris Hodgson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing from Troy J. McHarg, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Town of Lincoln (January 8, 2002) opposing the creation of a Ministry-mandated Smart Growth Management Council for Niagara.

Received.

C4919 Town of Lincoln resolution (January 8, 2002) supporting the recommendations of the Region of Niagara that the operation of ambulance dispatch services be transferred to the Region as soon as possible.

Received.

C4920 Ron Nelson, President, The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (January 14, 2002) requesting the Council of the City of Timmins to withdraw resolution #01-440 regarding the Northern Medical School.

Received.

C4921 Card of thanks from Vito Brigantino, an employee at Gilmore Lodge (January 22, 2002) for the kind donation to the Ontario Deafness Research Foundation in memory of his mother Concetta Brigantino.

Received.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Communication C4909 to C4921 be received and dealt with as directed by this Council and noted in these minutes.

Carried.

PRESENTATIONS

10 Information Niagara

Rosanna Thoms, Executive Director of Information Niagara, presented a complimentary copy of the 2001/2002 Edition of The Directory of Community Services Work of Information Niagara to the Regional Chair. She noted the re-design of the directory, which is larger and hoped to be more user friendly. She provided information on the role Information Niagara plays in the community, the organization's plans for the future, and the development of a 211 line for community information access, which in the future will be Canada-wide.

11. Certificate of Appreciation

Catherine Habermebl, Manager, Solid Waste Collection and Diversion Operations, presented details of the activities held during Niagara's Public Works Week. Niagara celebrated the week by hosting a series of interactive and informative displays and activities at the Pen Centre. She noted that the success of this week would not have been recognized by the American Public Works Association (APWA) without the hard work and dedication of the organizing committee and staff who volunteered their time at the displays. The organizing Committee was made up of eleven Public Works staff: Nick Rosati, Russ Howell, Pam Ryan, Betty Staines, George Bis, Phil Bergen, Mike Ceci, Richard Henke, Dave McLeod, Sam Sidawi, and Catherine Habermebl. She presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the American Public Works Association to the Regional Chair and Councillor Redekop, Vice-Chair of the Public Works and Utilities Committee.

12. **CHAIR'S STATE OF THE REGION ADDRESS**

The Regional Chair presented her "State of the Region" address, which outlined Niagara's accomplishments in 2001, and the challenges and opportunities for 2002. Throughout the Chair's address, she extended appreciation to Councillors and staff for their dedication and commitment, and particularly noted the leading roles of Committee Chairs.

(State of the Region speech is attached to the minutes)

CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

13. Report 1-2002

Moved by Councillor Martin
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report 1-2002, being the minutes of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, January 16, 2002, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

14. JOINT MEETING OF THE CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Report CFS 2-2002/PW 2-2002

Moved by Councillor Martin
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report CFS 2-2002/PW 2-2002, Wednesday, January 16, 2002 being the minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee and the Public Works and Utilities Committee of Wednesday, January 16, 2002, be approved and adopted

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That Minute Item 2, Waste Management Division Operating and Capital Budgets, be referred to a further joint meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services and Public Works and Utilities Committee, on Wednesday, January 30, 2002, for further information; specifically, the history of the disposal rates, how they were developed and any alternatives to phasing options.

Carried.

Upon a vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the motion on Report CFS 2-2002/PW 2-2002, being the minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee and the Public Works and Utilities Committee meeting of Wednesday, January 16, 2002, with the deferral of Minute Item 2, as noted above, was carried.

15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 4, Appointment of a Niagara Regional Deputy Fire Co-ordinator, as he owns a fire restoration business, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

16. Report 1-2002

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report 1-2002, being the minutes of the Community and Health Services Committee meeting of Monday, January 14, 2002, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

17. Report 1-2002

Moved by Councillor Nicholson
Seconded by Councillor Andreychuk

That Report 1-2002, being the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of Tuesday, January 15, 2002, be approved and adopted.

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Minute Item 6, Employer Obligation to Post and Distribute Union Decertification Information, be lifted and dealt with separately by this Council at this time.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Minute Item 6, Employer Obligation to Post and Distribute Union Decertification Information, be deferred.

Lost.

Upon a vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the original motion on Minute Item 6, Employer Obligation to Post and Distribute Union Decertification Information, which reads as follows, was carried:

“That Report HR 03-2002, January 15, 2002, regarding the provincial legislative requirement to post and distribute union decertification information to unionized employees be received for information.”

Upon a vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the motion on Report 1-2002, being the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of Tuesday, January 15, 2002, was carried.

Please see Staff Directions.

PLANNING SERVICES COMMITTEE

18. Report 1-2002

Moved by Councillor Smeaton
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

That Report 1-2002, being the minutes of the Planning Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, January 16, 2002, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

19. Report 1-2002

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report 1-2002, being the minutes of the Public Works and Utilities Committee meeting of Tuesday, 15, 2002, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

CAO'S REPORT

20. **Report CAO 4-2002**

Mike Trojan, provided an overview of Report CAO 4-2002, highlighting the accomplishments of 2001.

Moved by Councillor Saracino
Seconded by Councillor Martin

That Report CAO 4-2002, CAO 2002 Year End Report, January 24, 2002, be received for information.

Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION

21. Councillor Saracino gave notice that he would move or cause to be moved, at the Regional Council meeting on February 7, 2002, a motion in opposition to the recommendations contained in the Strategic Plan of the Niagara Health System.

OTHER BUSINESS

22. **Municipal Representation on Committees**

Councillor Davidson expressed concerns about the meeting times for the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee. She explained that the City of Thorold Council was asked to appoint a representative, but the start time of 11:00 a.m. makes it impossible for any of her Councillors to attend. She requested that consideration be given to changing the time of the meetings to late afternoon or evening. She advised she has written a letter to this effect to the Region, and asked other municipalities with the same concerns, to also advise the Region, particularly if it means they will not be able to appoint a representative.

23. **Order of Canada**

Councillor Muir was pleased to announce that a resident of Welland, Dr. Jacque Dubois, will be honoured as a member of the Order of Canada, at the ceremonies in February, 2002.

24.

BY-LAWS

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That Bill 01 to Bill 04 be now read and do pass.

Bill 01

A by-law to establish part of Township Lot 67, in the City of Niagara Falls as part of Regional Road No. 57 (Thorold Stone Road)

Bill 02

A by-law to establish part of Lot 17, Concession 1, in the Town of Grimsby as part of Regional Road No. 40 (South Service Road)

Bill 03

A by-law to provide for the adoption of Amendment 157 to the Official Plan for the Niagara Planning Area to permit the establishment of a Golf Course and Driving Range in the Town of Pelham

Bill 04

A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of the Regional Council at its meeting held on the 24th day of January, 2002

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

Staff were directed to:

- provide additional information on the potential savings to be derived from the shared service agreement with the Niagara Police Services Board (Minute Item 5, Niagara Police Services Board Shared Service Agreement, in Report HR 1-2002)

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Debbie M. Zimmerman
Regional Chair

Pam Gilroy
Assistant Clerk and
Supervisor Council Support

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk