

The Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph Council Minutes

Present: Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson, Deputy Mayor D. Manders, Councillor D. Regan, Councillor P. Mastorakos and Councillor A. Westman

Also Present: R. Reymer-CAO/Clerk, T. Merner-Deputy Clerk, K. Langendyk-Treasurer, J. Little-Public Works Manager, P. Smith-Parks & Recreation Manager, L. deBoer-Economic Development Coordinator

Call To Order

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm. The meeting took place electronically.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & Nature Thereof

<u>a. Member</u>	<u>Item #</u>
Councillor P. Mastorakos	5 (a)

Nature of Conflict

Owns investment property that could potentially benefit from the Community Improvement Plan

1/ Closed Session

Moved by A. Westman

Seconded by D. Regan

Resolved that Council adjourn its regular meeting in order to conduct a closed session pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act for the purpose of a proposed or pending acquisition of land by the municipality.

CARRIED

2/ Rise from Closed Session

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded by A. Westman

Resolved that Council reconvene its regular meeting 6:10 p.m.

CARRIED

Report from Closed Session

Staff was given direction regarding a property matter.

Announcements

I hope you all enjoyed a long weekend that was celebrated appropriately and safely! My weekend consisted of receiving calls and emails from many residents and businesses across the Lucan Biddulph and the County confused and dismayed with the situation we find ourselves in today—imposed upon us last week by the Province. I'm at a loss. I feel incredibly disheartened that we can see the light at the end of tunnel, but here we go again...into some sort of shutdown and I will admit I am confused over some of the messaging. We have worked hard, we have sacrificed so much and yet we find ourselves in much the same spot we were a year ago. What has been learned? I've learned a lot...professionally and personally. I can only hope that my colleagues at higher levels of government have learned lessons as well and are looking to the future to implement changes so when we find ourselves in a similar crisis again (because we will)...the approach will be different and our safety nets will not be in the precarious position they are today.

What I am confident in, is the need to support our local small businesses as much as we are individually able to. If you have the resources, please commit to ordering take out from one of our restaurants in Lucan Biddulph. We are so fortunate to have the variety of choice that we do. Please buy a gift certificate to be used for a future date from a personal service provider. If you are on social media, share and tag the restaurant or business you are supporting. I would also encourage you to shop in our neighbouring communities including London. If you cannot readily purchase something in Lucan Biddulph purchase in our region. We have many options available to us, either through local delivery or curbside pick-up. Please, always choose to support our local stores and services rather than the impersonal online giants. Doing this will

ensure our local businesses will still be there supporting community and serving you when we get out of this at the end of the month. I would encourage you as well...if you know a local shop owner that has been affected again, reach out with words of encouragement and support. In speaking with some business owners, it is evident that their spirit is just about broken. It will go a long way for them to receive a text or a phone call from a client or friend.

With the announcement of vaccines now being open to those 65 years and older. I want to encourage our residents to book their appointment through the Middlesex London Health Unit's appointment booking page. Also announced today is the PRE-REGISTRATION of essential workers through workplaces. This includes agricultural and farm workers. Please go to the MLHU website for more information. We are fortunate to have a mass clinic in Mount Brydges. I understand that there is frustration to there is not a clinic directly in our community. Characteristics with the vaccine, staffing levels and many other considerations have been taken into account and this is what we have today. I can assure you that I am in constant communication with the MLHU to discuss how to make the vaccine more accessible to community. It is hopeful to see vaccines being distributed more through pharmacies...this will accessibility will only increase. In Middlesex County and Lucan Biddulph we are always quick to brag about our sense of and responsibility to community. Let's show that off; if you know of someone who has transportation issues, consider arranging safe transportation for a neighbour or friend. We need to get vaccines into the arms of those that are eligible. We are all in this together and we need to support those that may not have the resources available to them that they need.

As always...Remain physically distant, wash your hands, if you have COVID symptoms, get tested, stay home, keep your bubble tight, only go out for essential shopping, support local, wear a mask and when you are eligible...get the vaccine!

Public Meeting Under Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13

3/ Public Meeting

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded by A. Westman

Resolved that Council adjourn its regular meeting to hold a public meeting at 6:19 p.m. in accordance with Section 17(15)(d) of the Planning Act for the purpose of giving the public an opportunity to make representations in respect of the proposed Community Improvement Plan.

CARRIED

Community Improvement Plan

Paul Hicks and Jess McPhail from Public Urbanism presented a brief summary of the draft Lucan Biddulph Community Improvement Plan (CIP) and noted a CIP is a tool used by Ontario Municipalities to encourage incentives and improvements to buildings in specific areas of the community. They noted Lucan Biddulph's CIP will apply to both rural and urban areas of the entire Township. Mr. Hicks noted that great feedback from businesses and residents in the community was received throughout development of the CIP which was great to see. Discussion followed regarding the demographics of those that participated in the survey, financial support and how that is distributed and retroactive funds which will not be available. Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson reminded residents there is still a chance to provide any feedback or comments and same should be forwarded onto L. deBoer prior to the next regular scheduled Council Meeting date of April 20, 2021.

4/ Adjourn Public Meeting

Moved by A. Westman

Seconded by D. Regan

Resolved that Council adjourn the public meeting at 6:50 p.m. and reconvene its regular meeting to continue with its deliberations.

CARRIED

Mr. Hicks and Mr. McPhail exited the meeting at 6:51 pm.

Delegations

Renee Hornick, Regional Hub Manager – OCWA (Ontario Clean Water Agency)

Jackie Muller, Business Development Manager

Ms. Hornick reviewed the 2020 Annual Performance Reports for both the Granton and Lucan Wastewater Treatment Plants. A summary of each report highlighting specific information was provided with each report. Discussion followed regarding the available capacity at the Granton plant, the results of the treatment for fats, oils and grease and the significant increase in sludge haulage. Ms. Hornick then reviewed the 4th quarter operational reports for both the Grant and Lucan Wastewater Treatment Plants and no questions were received from Council.

5/ 2020 Annual Performance Reports and 2020 4th Quarter Operational Reports for WPCP

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded by P. Mastorakos

That Council accepts the 2020 Annual Performance Reports and the 2020 4th Quarter Operational Reports for the Lucan and Granton Wastewater Treatment Plants, as presented.

CARRIED

Ms. Hornick and Ms. Muller exited the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

6/ Minutes

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded by P. Mastorakos

That the regular council meeting minutes of March 16, 2021 and Special Council Minutes of March 30, 2021 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Business Arising

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson noted all items are ongoing at this time and staff will be adding the dog tag feasibility report request made at the last regular council meeting.

Councillor. D. Regan inquired regarding the sidewalk inspection report and J. Little advised the inspection has taken place and results of same will be available by the end of May with a report to follow.

Correspondence

K. Langendyk commented on item 9.1 and noted that if the Bill C-25 gets passed municipalities will see a top-up of federal gas tax funds in 2021.

K. Langendyk commented on item 9.3 and advised the Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure deadline has been extended by one year.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson commented on item 9.2 and noted the province wide property tax assessments are being postponed.

R. Reymer commented on item 9.4 and advised each OPP detachment will require a police services board with the exception of Strathroy-Caradoc.

T. Merner commented on item 9.5 and advised in response to an annual request from the Middlesex London Health Unit, a letter of support has been drafted regarding larvicide applications.

7/ Receive Correspondence

Moved by A. Westman

Seconded by P. Mastorakos

That Items 9.1 through 9.6 (Correspondence) be received for information.

CARRIED

Committee Reports

CEDC

L. deBoer reviewed report no. EDC-03-2021 and advised the Baconfest Committee has brought forward a recommendation to Council to cancel the 2021 Baconfest event due to ongoing restrictions and regulations in place regarding the pandemic.

8/ Baconfest 2021

Moved by A. Westman

Seconded by P. Mastorakos

That Council approve the motion from the CEDC to cancel the 2021 Baconfest event.

AND FURTHER that the proposed budget remains in order to organize small community events.

CARRIED

Bluewater Recycling Association

Deputy Mayor D. Manders gave a brief update of a recent meeting and noted commodities prices have remained even or above and the plant is still working on robotic sorting presently.

UTRCA and ABCA

Councillor A. Westman gave a brief update and advised both Conservation Authorities are preparing for the upcoming 2021 season. He also noted UTRCA has been focusing on mental health awareness and support.

Lake Huron

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson gave an update on a recent meeting and advised that the operator contract with OCWA was extended for the next 5 years. She further noted this will be the last extension permitted before a request for proposal process will have to be completed.

Staff Reports

CAO/Clerk

R. Reymer provided department updates including the recent ICIP funding announcement for Phase 2 of the Community Renovation project, details regarding the Transfer Payment agreement with the Minister of Infrastructure that will be coming forward, the start of construction for the future car wash at 273 Main Street and continued efforts towards assisting Dr. Viguera with future office space for her medical practice.

T. Merner reviewed the upcoming Special Council Meeting dates for the month of April and noted a revision to the Committee Appointment Bylaw is included for adoption. She advised the new Parks & Recreation Committee members have been added and Anne Langendyk will be removed as a member from the Baconfest Committee.

Finance

K. Langendyk advised water bills have been sent out and are due April 16th and the auditors will be attending the office later this week to start the 2020 year end audit.

Public Works

J. Little reviewed report no. PW-09-2021 regarding the Water Operator Contract. He discussed the advantages of renewing the current contract including stability and familiarity with our water system as we work towards expansion over the next few years. J. Little further recommended that coordination of contract renewals for both our water and waste water systems in the future would be beneficial.

9/ Water Operator Contract

Moved by

Seconded by

That Council direct staff to renew the current Water Operator Contract with Jacobs based on option #2 as presented in report no. PW-09-2021.

CARRIED

J. Little provided department updates including a recent presentation from OCWA regarding renewable natural gas extraction; construction projects underway including Saintsbury Line completion with traffic light installation to follow and Frank Street reconstruction beginning next week; recent review with BM Ross regarding coordinating upgrades at the Chestnut Pumping station with the future expansion; master servicing plan and draft report to be available later this month; traffic speed awareness sign pricing came in less than anticipated at \$3,400.00 per sign; green waste bins are in place at the public works facility; and small water leak on Princess Street was discovered and rectified.

Questions from Deputy Mayor D. Manders followed regarding sidewalk plans for Saintsbury Line and data collected from the traffic speed signs. J. Little advised sidewalks will be installed from Richmond Street to Wellington Street at this time.

Parks & Recreation

P. Smith provided a brief update and advised with the current lockdown measures activities are not permitted at the Community Centre. He further noted additional bookings for ice time in May have been received and he would suggest keeping the ice surface in at this time. P. Smith noted RFP's for playground equipment for the Community Centre and Granton Park have been advertised and pool staff applications were limited due to the uncertainty of the upcoming season however they will be reposted and staff is hopeful at this time for a pool season in 2021.

Economic Development

L. deBoer advised a recent newsletter has been circulated with upcoming community information including the e-waste date scheduled for April 17, 2021 at Market Street Park hosted by the Scouts club of Lucan.

Councillor's Comments

Councillor P. Mastorakos raised some questions regarding performance reviews and having a process in place that is approved by all of Council. Discussion followed regarding recent changes made to the performance review process for the CAO and if a CAO performance appraisal policy is a requirement under the Municipal Act.

Councillor P. Mastorakos inquired about the status of continued updates to existing policies.

Councillor P. Mastorakos raised some questions regarding recent discussions involving future ladder truck requirements for the Lucan Biddulph Fire Department. Discussion followed regarding increased height of future apartment buildings and requirements under the building code for fire suppression that would mitigate the need for a ladder truck.

Councillor D. Regan raised questions regarding the 60 km/h speed signs located near entrances of our community and if and when it would be appropriate to relocate them further out of town in order to reduce high speed traffic coming into Lucan.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson advised she and L. deBoer recently delivered the Mayor's Honor Roll awards to each deserving recipient.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson commented on fundraising efforts that are taking place for the new building at Craigwell Gardens in Ailsa Craig and the possibility of promoting that fundraising campaign on our social media in an effort to spread awareness for this worthy project.

Notices of Motion

R. Reymer presented the following Notice of Motion as forwarded to staff by Councillor P. Mastorakos:

10 a/ Respect in Workplace Policy No. 101-01-2020

Moved by Councillor P. Mastorakos

Seconded by D. Regan

That Council direct staff to re-open the Respect in Workplace Policy No. 101-01-2020 to address what steps are taken if a complaint is received by the Head of Council in regards to the CAO as follows:

- If a complaint comes forward to the head of council it needs to be investigated
- The head of council has a responsibility but only as a conduit
- The head of council should not be the investigator
- The head of council would contact the municipal legal counsel for direction
- The head of council after speaking with legal counsel, and with legal counsel assistance, would call a closed session of council
- Any further action would be at the direction of the legal counsel

Discussion followed regarding the complaint process as identified in the current Respect in Workplace policy and clarification on the process, should a complaint be received regarding the CAO.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson suggested an amendment to the Motion as presented by Councillor P. Mastorakos.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson stepped down as Chair to make the motion at 8:41 p.m. and D. Manders assumed the Chair.

10 b/ Amendment to Respect in Workplace Policy No. 101-01-2020

Moved by C. Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by D. Regan

That the aforesaid Motion **10 a/ Respect in Workplace Policy No. 101-01-2020** be amended to the following:

That Council direct staff to amend the Respect in Workplace Policy No. 101-01-2020 to address steps taken if a complaint is received by the Head of Council with regards to the CAO as follows:

If the complaint is regarding the CAO, it should be submitted to the Mayor or designate and forwarded to Council for appropriate direction and action.

CARRIED

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson resumed as Chair at 8:42 p.m.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson asked if there was any further discussion on the Notice of Motion, as amended. A further comment was made regarding possible deferral of the topic of discussion for a professional opinion from Nigel Bellchambers on the appropriate process to be identified in the policy.

For clarity, the Notice of Motion, as amended, was as follows:

That Council direct staff to amend the Respect in Workplace Policy No. 101-01-2020 to address steps taken if a complaint is received by the Head of Council with regards to the CAO as follows:

If the complaint is regarding the CAO it should be submitted to the Mayor or designate and forwarded to Council for appropriate direction and action.

CARRIED

Motions

11/ AMO Conference 2021

Moved by

Seconded by

That the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph authorize Dave Manders, Daniel Regan and Ron Reymer to attend the AMO Virtual Conference from August 15 - 18, 2021 at a registration cost of \$600.00 (plus HST) per person.

CARRIED

12/ AMCTO Conference 2021

Moved by

Seconded by

That the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph authorize Ron Reymer to attend the AMCTO Virtual Leader's Forum on April 27, 2021 at a registration cost of \$300.00 (plus HST) per person.

CARRIED

13/ Bylaws

Moved by

Seconded by

That if no one cares to speak to these By-laws on their First, Second and Third Reading, that they be considered to have been read a First time and Passed, read a Second time and Passed, read a Third time and Passed, that they be numbered:

- *22-2021 Committee Appointment Bylaw*
- *23-2021 Confirming Bylaw*

CARRIED

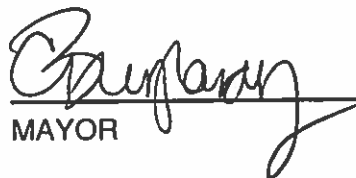
14/ Adjournment

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded A. Westman

Resolved that the Council meeting be adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

CARRIED


MAYOR


CLERK