

# The Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph Council Minutes

**Present:** Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson, Deputy Mayor D. Manders, Councillors D. Regan, P. Mastorakos and 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 Officer

## **Call To Order**

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson mentioned all of the Remembrance Day services that are taking place in our community on November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> and encouraged council and residents to participate where possible.

## **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & Nature Thereof**

None.

## **1/ Minutes**

*Moved by D. Regan*

*Seconded by P. Mastorakos*

*That the regular council minutes of October 1, 2019 be approved as amended.*

**CARRIED**

## **Business Arising**

T. Merner advised that a draft of the revised Animal Control Bylaw has been prepared and bylaw enforcement department is currently reviewing prior to presenting the final draft to council.

R. Reymer advised that a Strategic Plan update exercise will be scheduled in the coming weeks with John Hack from Sierra Planning and Management.

## **Communications Reports**

R. Reymer reviewed the letter received from the Ministry of Finance regarding the 2020 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF). He advised there was an increase to our allocated amount from \$449,900 in 2019 to \$455,500 in 2020. He further noted Lucan Biddulph is fortunate to be receiving an increase as some of our neighbours unfortunately suffered a decrease.

R. Reymer commented on the letter received from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) which summarized a number of recent announcements. He advised the most significant announcement made was that after review and consideration of feedback received through the course of the regional government review, no forced amalgamations will be taking place. Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson advised that the government is however going to be encouraging and offering incentives for municipalities to share in services and increase collective agreements. R. Reymer further mentioned the change noted to the municipal fiscal year end which will fall in line with the provincial government fiscal year of March 1<sup>st</sup> – Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, implementation date of which is to be determined.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson advised an agreement has been signed between the MTO and County of Middlesex for the traffic signal light project in Lucan Biddulph which will take place in 2020, however likely not until after Baconfest weekend.

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Bluewater Recycling*

Deputy Mayor D. Manders reported on the recent meeting and the 2020 Budget which will see an increase to residents for their garbage and recycling charges due to the costs of recycling and operating. D. Manders further advised that changes initiated by China in 2018 and an oversupply of commodities worldwide has had a significant impact on the Bluewater Recycling budget. R. Reymer added that although residents will see an increase on their tax bill, garbage and recycling costs are a separate line item therefore the increase will not be part of the tax levy, however the line item charges specifically.

#### *Fire Boards*

R. Reymer commented on the topics of discussion at the recent Fire Board area meeting for the Lucan Biddulph department, including financial year end, new back-up generator installation, two volunteers have completed the NFPA 1001 Course, a silo rescue training session held at Dietrich Commodities, service agreement with North Middlesex renewed and County of Middlesex Association mutual aid disbanded in Lucan Biddulph.

#### *ABCA and UTRCA*

Councillor A. Westman advised both Conservation Authorities are continuing to work on 2020 budgets and trying to keep the levy as low as possible. He further commented on the recent Owl Prowl event held at the Morrison Dam Conservation area, noting the importance of these educational events that conservation authorities have been providing.

### **Staff Reports**

#### *CAO/Clerk*

T. Merner reviewed her report regarding the updated retention bylaw and implementation of a records management and electronic signatures policy. She advised that as per Section 255 of the Municipal Act, municipalities are required to preserve its records and establish retention and destruction periods. She further noted that our current retention bylaw is from 2004 therefore is due for review and also necessary in preparing for electronic storage of documents with the Laserfiche software program. R. Reymer further added that at a recent CAO meeting with the County of Middlesex shared services discussions took place including the possibility of sharing an employee between municipalities for the laserfiche process and training in the beginning. Other shared services discussed included payroll and taxation.

T. Merner advised that the County IT department is working at scheduling cyber security awareness training for all lower-tier council and staff members and possible dates will be coming in the next couple weeks.

R. Reymer advised the Township is currently looking to replace two crossing guards. Discussion took place about the need for all three existing crosswalks that the Township currently provides and whether the numbers warrant the need for both locations on Main Street. R. Reymer noted it is difficult to find people to fill these positions and that Bryan Smith and Marty Van Pret are temporarily filling these rolls. He further advised the postings have been advertised on our website and social media as we continue to try and replace these positions.

#### *Planning*

R. Reymer reviewed the report provided by M. Bancroft regarding the request to remove the

Holding symbol from the property located at 159 Kent Street. M. Bancroft's report recommended approval of the request in order to allow the applicant to construct a single detached dwelling. Deputy Mayor D. Manders asked why the holding symbol was put on these lots and R. Reymer advised it likely stems back to when Kent Street was built and the lots having outstanding items at that time, such as connection to municipal services.

#### *Public Works*

J. Little gave some updates from his department regarding projects that have been completed recently including the Beech Street and the Granton firehall paving, line painting on Coursey Line as well as Crosswalks and the Clandeboye sidewalk project. He added that unfortunately some intentional damage was done to the Clandeboye sidewalks however the contractor was able to correct it. J. Little further advised that the Lake Huron Water plant will be shut down on November 13<sup>th</sup> for some maintenance and repairs.

J. Little advised that over 140 resumes were submitted for the labour/operator position, interviews have been completed and they are hoping to secure a candidate for the position by the end of this week.

#### *Economic Development*

L. deBoer advised that the Mayor's Breakfast is coming up on November 13<sup>th</sup> and will be taking place in the Senior Centre location of the community centre.

#### *Parks & Recreation*

P. Smith commended Abby Vandermuren on the organization of yet another successful Christmas Craft show event which once again had increased attendance.

P. Smith advised that Russia's National Junior Hockey team will be practicing at the Lucan Community Memorial Centre this coming weekend in preparation for the World Junior Hockey Championship game taking place at Budweiser Gardens on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Practice times in Lucan will be Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm and Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm.

P. Smith advised the draft ICIP grant application for been distributed to council for review and comment. R. Reymer added that we have been in contact with our advisor at the Ministry and that having plans in place for the project puts our application in a favorable position.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson noted that communication was one of the key points made during the feasibility study presentation at the last meeting and that council and staff should consider a public meeting and/or information session for the public in the months ahead. D. Manders suggested that the information session be combined with another event in order to increase attendance. P. Smith advised that many of the residents interviewed during the feasibility study would like a chance for their opinions to be heard, therefore a public meeting is likely also necessary. P. Smith further advised that he will have a report and recommendation regarding the feasibility study available at the next meeting.

#### Correction as per November 19, 2019 Motion to adopt minutes

P. Smith advised that a report and recommendation regarding the feasibility study will follow after discussion with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC).

#### Councillor's Comments

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson advised that Abby Vandermuren, Parks & Recreation coordinator was featured recently on the Invest in Middlesex website and it was great recognition for her and our community. She further added that new promotional videos for Middlesex County

businesses will be released tomorrow on Invest in Middlesex website, one of which will feature a local business in Lucan Biddulph.

Councillor D. Regan advised he attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> community meeting at the library regarding mental health awareness. He noted they are beginning to form a committee to keep the conversation going.

**2/ ICIP Grant Application**

*Moved by D. Regan*

*Seconded by A. Westman*

*Resolved that the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph authorize staff to submit the formal application under the ICIP - Community, Culture and Recreation stream program for the Lucan Community Memorial Centre upgrade/renovation project as per staff's submission dated November 5, 2019.*

**CARRIED**

**3/ Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms**

*Moved by D. Manders*

*Seconded by D. Regan*

*WHEREAS agriculture is the second largest industry in Ontario, contributing*

*\$13.7 billion annually to Ontario's GDP and is essential for putting food on the tables of millions of people here and around the world;*

*AND WHEREAS in recent months there has been a steady increase in harassment of farmers and livestock transporters by activists opposed to animal agriculture and the consumption of animals;*

*AND WHEREAS the protests have become blatantly illegal in nature with extremist groups trespassing onto private property, unlawfully entering into buildings and removing animals without fear of prosecution and even promoting and publishing their crimes on social media;*

*AND WHEREAS maintaining proper biosecurity is essential to ensure the health and well-being of the animals cared for on these agricultural operations;*

*AND WHEREAS the recent attacks on farmers' homes and businesses have resulted in no criminal charges laid, leaving farmers feeling unprotected by the Ontario legal system and afraid for the welfare of themselves, their families, their employees and the animals they care for;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph requests that Hon. Doug Downey work with his fellow MPP's and agricultural leaders to find a better way forward to ensure stronger enforcement of existing laws - or new legislation - to ensure the safety of Ontario's farm families, employees and animals;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be circulated to Hon. Doug Downey, Ministry of the Attorney General, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General and Hon. Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and all Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, AMO, and ROMA.*

**4/ Adopt Policies**

*Moved by P. Mastorakos*

*Seconded by A. Westman*

*That the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph adopt the following corporate policies:*

- Policy No. 102-01-2019 (Records Management Policy)*
- Policy No. 102-02-2019 (Electronic Signature Policy)*

**CARRIED**

**5/ By-Laws**

*Moved by A. Westman*

*Seconded by D. Regan*

*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:*

- *56-2019 Temporary Road Closure By-law (Santa Claus Parade)*
- *57-2019 Appointment By-law (Committee)*
- *58-2019 Records Retention By-law*
- *206-2019 Removal of H Symbol By-law (Lawrence)*
- *59-2019 Confirming By-law*

**CARRIED**

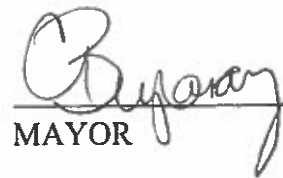
**6/ Adjournment**

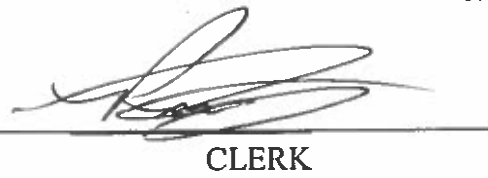
*Moved by D. Manders*

*Seconded D. Regan*

*Resolved that the Council meeting be adjourned at 7:58 p.m.*

**CARRIED**

  
MAYOR

  
CLERK