

MINUTES

DATE: November 20, 2024

CLOSED MEETING: 10:05 A.M.

COUNCIL MEETING: 10:00 A.M.

The November 20, 2024 Council Meeting was held on the above date and called to order at 10:00 a.m. via electronic participation and in-person at 7404 Wellington Rd, Puslinch.

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Sara Bailey
Councillor Russel Hurst
Councillor Jessica Goyda
Councillor John Sepulis
Mayor James Seeley

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Courtenay Hoytfox, Interim CAO
2. Justine Brotherston, Interim Municipal Clerk
3. Sarah Huether, Interim Deputy Clerk
4. Mike Fowler, Director of Public Works, Parks and Facilities
5. Mary Hasan, Director of Finance/Treasurer
6. Glenn Schwendinger, CAO - absent

3. **MOMENT OF REFLECTION**

4. **CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA**

Resolution No. 2024-381:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That Council approves the November 6, 2024 Agenda as circulated; and

That Council approves the additions to the agenda as follows:

Consent Item 6.1.4 Questions received from Council seeking additional information and the corresponding responses provided by staff regarding the November 6, 2024 Council agenda.

CARRIED

5. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:**

None

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

6.1 Adoption and Receipt of the Minutes of the Previous Council and Committee Meetings:

6.1.1 October 23, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes (Circulated under separate cover)

6.1.2 October 17, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes (Circulated under separate cover)

6.1.3 October 9, 2024 Public Information Meeting Minutes - Proposed 2024 User Fees and Charges By-law

6.1.4 November 6, 2024 Council Questions and Staff Responses

6.2 Grand River Conservation Authority General Meeting Summary - October 2024

6.3 City of Guelph Notice of Public Meeting regarding Affordable Housing CIP

6.4 Association of Municipalities of Ontario - Policy Update – Advocacy on Transportation, Energy and Housing Policy

- 6.5 Association of Municipalities of Ontario - Policy Update - Province to Introduce Legislation Governing Bicycle Lanes
6.6 Town of Petawawa Council resolution regarding Ontario Provincial Police Costs 2025
6.7 Whitewater Region Council resolution regarding Ontario Provincial Police Costs 2025
6.8 Town of Tillsonburg Council resolution regarding Continued Funding Support Southwest Community Transit
6.9 Mill Creek Pit #5738 - Monthly Monitoring Report - September 2024

Resolution No. 2024-382:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda items with the exception of items 6.6 and 6.7 listed for NOVEMBER 6, 2024 Council meeting be received for information.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-383:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That the Consent Agenda items 6.6 and 6.7 listed for NOVEMBER 6, 2024 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas the Township of Puslinch is a second-tier small rural municipality that pays a disproportionate share of the upper tier policing costs; and

Whereas the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa supports Resolution No. 229 of the Municipality of Tweed and further calls on the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities;

Be it resolved that the Township of Puslinch supports the resolutions of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa and the Council of the Municipality of Tweed and requests that the Province also provide financial assistance to second tier small municipalities to offset their disproportionate share of policing costs; and

And that staff be directed to circulate this resolution to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, Speaker Arnott, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

7. DELEGATIONS:

7.1 Specific Interest (Items Listed on the Meeting Agenda)
None

7.2 General Interest (Items Not Previously Listed on the Meeting Agenda)

7.2.1 **10:30 AM** Delegation by Bruce Joy, President of Puslinch Minor Soccer regarding an update on soccer and facilities.

Resolution No. 2024-384:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Council receive the delegation by Bruce Joy, President of Puslinch Minor, regarding an update on soccer and facilities; and

That Council supports the construction of the new shed at the Badenoch field; and

Therefore, that Council directs staff to authorize pre-budget approval in the amount of \$18,000 for the construction of a new storage shed at the Badenoch field to be funded by the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Reserve; and

That Council direct staff to engage with the community to encourage both financial donations and in-kind donations for the construction of the new shed and report back at the November 27, 2024 budget meeting; and

That Council direct staff to include the new shed in the Township asset management plan.

CARRIED

8. PUBLIC MEETINGS:

8.1 November 27, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. Public Information Meeting held in-person at the Municipal Office (7404 Wellington Road 34) and by electronic participation through Zoom regarding the following:

- Zoning By-law Amendment Application D14-QUI (Quinnell) 1873 Townline Road
- Zoning By-law Amendment Application D14-JEF (Jefferson) 86 Farnham Road
- Zoning By-law Amendment Application D14-SCR (Scrivener) 4438 Watson Road

9. REPORTS:

9.1 Puslinch Fire and Rescue Services

9.1.1 None

9.2 Finance Department

9.2.1 Report FIN-2024-028 - 2025 User Fees and Charges By-law

Resolution No. 2024-385:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That Report FIN-2024-028 entitled 2025 User Fees and Charges By-law be received; and

That Council give 3 readings to By-law No. 2024-067 being a by-law to adopt the User Fees and Charges By-law; and

That Council direct staff to incorporate questions in the budget survey going forward regarding how property tax is allocated between the Township and the County and clearly identify Township services from County services within the survey.

CARRIED

9.3 Administration Department

9.3.1 Report ADM-2024-052 Senior Advisory Committee

Resolution No. 2024-386:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report ADM-2024-052 entitled Seniors Advisory Committee be received; and

That Council proceed with Option 1 as outlined in the report; and

That Council direct staff to review TORs for all Advisory Committees and bring back recommended changes to Council; and

That staff report back during the 2025 budget process regarding the financial impacts of adding 0.5 FTE in the 2025 budget and another 0.5 FTE in the 2026 budget.

CARRIED

9.3.2 Report ADM-2024-053 Boreham Park Tree Planting



Resolution No. 2024-387:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report ADM-2024-053 entitled Boreham Park Tree Planting Update be received for information; and,

That Council direct staff to order 100 trees from Wellington County Green Legacy Programme for planting in the Spring of 2025; and,

That Council approve trees to be planted on areas #1, #3, #5 and #8 as indicated on the site plan in Schedule A to this report; and,

That Council direct staff to reach out and organize a Tree Planting Ceremony with the Aberfoyle Public School and Township's Youth Advisory Committee; and

That Council direct staff to report back on potential options to water the newly planted trees in the spring/summer of 2025; and

That Council request that staff determine if shade trees can be planted near the benches in the park.

CARRIED

9.3.3 Report ADM-2024-054 Heritage Plaque Program

Resolution No. 2024-388:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Report ADM-2024-054 entitled Puslinch Heritage Plaque Program be received for information; and,

That Council direct staff to draft a Heritage Plaque Program Policy to establish a Puslinch Heritage Plaque Program for Council's consideration and approval to be included in the 2025 Corporate Work Plan; and,

That Council direct staff to proceed with Option 2 as outlined in the report; and,

That staff be directed to submit an operating base budget increase request for the proposed 2026 budget based on Option 2; and,

That Council direct staff to include a limit of 10 plaques to be issued through the plaque program per year in the initial draft of the policy as outlined in the report.

CARRIED

Council recessed from 12:39pm to 1:00pm

Roll Call

**Councillor Goyda
Councillor Sepulis
Councillor Bailey
Councillor Hurst
Mayor Seeley**

9.4 Planning and Building Department

9.4.1 None

9.5 Emergency Management

9.5.1 None

9.6 Roads and Parks Department

9.6.1 None

9.7 Recreation Department

9.7.1 None

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 10:05 A.M. Presentation by Chandra Sharma, CEO and Criag Machan, Director of Parks & Operations, Conservation Halton, regarding Conservation Halton Conservation Strategy

Resolution No. 2024-389:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That correspondence item 10.1 regarding the Presentation by Chandra Sharma, CEO and Criag Machan, Director of Parks & Operations, Conservation Halton, regarding Conservation Halton Conservation Strategy be received for information.

CARRIED

10.2 ERO Posting 019-9196 Enabling greater beneficial reuse excess soil

Resolution No. 2024-390:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That Council defer this item to the November 20, 2024 Council meeting for consideration.

CARRIED

10.3 Grand River Conservation Authority 2025 Draft Budget

Resolution No. 2024-391:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That correspondence item 10.3 regarding the 10.3 Grand River Conservation Authority 2025 Draft Budget be received for information.

CARRIED

11. COUNCIL REPORTS:

11.1 Mayor' Updates

11.1.1 Mayor Seeley provided an update on the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Wellington Museum and Archives. Councillor Bailey requested that the County send out information related to upcoming events to member municipalities in order for Council member or staff to participate.

11.1.2 Mayor Seeley update Council on an upcoming meeting with Minister of Finance.

11.1.3 Mayor Seeley update Council on the upcoming TAPMO update.

11.2 Council Member Reports

- 11.2.1 Councillor Hurst provided an update on upcoming Heritage Designation Open Houses.
11.2.2 Councillor Bailey requested that Chief MacNeil provide an update on upcoming food drive events.

Resolution No. 2024-392:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That Council receive the Mayors and Council member updates for information.

CARRIED

12. BY-LAWS:

- 12.1.1 BL2024-067 – Being a By-law to permit the Municipality to impose fees or charges with respect to services or activities provided, related costs payable, and for the use of its property, and to repeal By-law 042-2023.

Resolution No. 2024-393:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the following By-law be taken as read three times and finally passed in open Council:

- 12.1.1 BL2024-067 – Being a By-law to permit the Municipality to impose fees or charges with respect to services or activities provided, related costs payable, and for the use of its property, and to repeal By-law 042-2023.**

CARRIED

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 13.1 None

14. CLOSED SESSION:

Council was in closed session from 1:04 p.m. to 2:19 p.m.

The Clerk stopped the recording and removed all public attendees from the webinar. The webinar was then 'locked' so no new participants are able to join.

Resolution No. 2024-394:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Goyda

That Council shall go into closed session under Section 239 of the Municipal Act for the purpose of:

14.1 Confidential verbal report regarding litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board – Ongoing litigation update

14.2 Confidential verbal report regarding the security of the property of the municipality or local board – Municipal Property.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-395:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

THAT Council moves into open session at 2:19 pm

CARRIED

Council resumed into open session at 2:19 p.m.

Resolution No. 2024-396:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Goyda



That Council receives the:

14.1 Confidential verbal report regarding litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board – Ongoing litigation update

14.2 Confidential verbal report regarding the security of the property of the municipality or local board – Municipal Property; and

That staff proceed as directed.

CARRIED

15. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION:
None

16. NOTICE OF MOTION:
None

17. NEW BUSINESS:
None

18. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW:

(a) By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch

Resolution No. 2024-397: Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the following By-law be taken as read three times and finally passed in open Council:

By-Law 2024-068 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch at its meeting held on the 6 day of November 2024.

CARRIED

19. ADJOURNMENT:

Resolution No. 2024-398: Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That Council hereby adjourns at 2:34 p.m.

CARRIED

James Seeley, Mayor

Courtenay Hoytfox, Clerk