



COUNCIL MINUTES September 6, 2023 – 9:00 AM

Council Present: Mayor Horner, Deputy Mayor Hawkins, Councillor Clark and Cunningham, Lyon

Staff Present: Tracey Atkinson, CAO/Clerk/Planner, Heather Boston, Treasurer and Roseann Knechtel, Deputy Clerk, Daniella Waterfield, Treasury Assistant

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2.0 **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

3.0 **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Council approve the agenda.

CARRIED.

4.0 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

THAT the minutes of July 5, 2023 are approved.

CARRIED.

5.0 **DISCUSSION ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

Councillor Clark provided an update on the Jim Cuddy Jamboree in support of the Bruce Trail Conservancy.

6.0 **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS - NONE**

7.0 PRESENTATIONS

7.1 2023 Summer Sandwich Smackdown Winner (Burger Bus)

Mayor Horner and Council welcomed Brenda Beattie-Gray and Albert Luce of the Burger Bus presenting a certificate of achievement.

7.2 Long Standing Service Award (Deputy Mayor Earl Hawkins)

Council recognized Deputy Mayor Earl Hawkins for 25 Years of Service on Mulmur Council. Earl first joined Mulmur Council in 1991 as a Councillor and continued to serve as a Councillor for approximately 18.5 years. In 2016, Earl became the Deputy Mayor, a position that he has proudly held for the last seven years. With 25 years of Council experience, as well as his extensive committee memberships, Earl continues to show his dedication and loyalty to the residents of Mulmur. Throughout his time on Council, Earl has made a lasting impact on the community and The Township of Mulmur is grateful to have an experienced leader like Earl on Council.

8.0 PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Council received a question regarding ATV use on joint jurisdictions highways and whether discussions with neighbouring municipalities are taking place. Tracey Atkinson, CAO, responded that discussions with respect to signage have occurred and that a copy of the ATV Report will be shared with the Township of Clearview for continued conversations.

Council received concerns regarding the amount of salt and product used on County roads, along with address changes required as part of the County Road reclassifications. Mayor Horner responded that those concerns have yet to be addressed at a county level.

Council received concerns surrounding traffic and noise on River Road. Mayor Horner responded that Council has commenced discussions surrounding traffic calming, and a report is forthcoming. Residents are encouraged to contact the OPP with vehicle and traffic complaints.

Council received a question regarding the increased number of trucking and wrecking yard in Dufferin County and Mulmur's position on preserving its rural character. Mayor Horner responded that the County of Dufferin needs to be more active and that Mulmur is committed to preserving its landscape and ensuring responsible growth.

Council received concerns surrounding gravel pits and gravel trucks neighbouring Violet Hill in the Town of Mono. Mayor Horner spoke to the challenges of balancing the need for gravel, protection of farmland and provincial land use planning.

9.0 **PUBLIC MEETING**

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Council recess the regular meeting at 9:44 a.m. to hold a public meeting in accordance with the procedural by-law and pursuant to Section 17 and 26 of the Planning Act, as amended, to present and obtain public and agency input on Municipality's proposed Official Plan Amendment.

CARRIED.

Mayor Horner welcomed Mary Lou Tanner & Rob Fiedler from NPG Planning Solutions who presented a broad look at the Township's Official Plan, Provincial Policies, Dufferin County Official Plan, legislative updates and the draft Official Plan Amendment.

Tanner explained the Natural Heritage System and noted that very little changes were proposed to the Township's natural area designations, with policies balancing protection with reasonable judgement. The next steps in the Township's Official Plan Amendment including presenting a plan that addressed comments and concerns received at the public meeting for consideration.

Public Comments

Cheryl Russel expressed concerns with changes to wording in item 3 (fish), from 'shall maintain' to 'encourage to maintain'. Tanner confirmed with change was directed through the Provincial Policy Statement but will still allow Mulmur to continue their current levels of protection.

Taria Van Weesenbeek asked what residents should do when they see something happening that is questionable. Tanner explained that residents should first contact the Township, who can then direct the matter to the appropriate agency.

Leah Pressey noted that changes were listed in a table and requested the red-lined version be made available to the public. Pressey asked for the deadline to submit comments. Tanner encouraged comments to be submitted in the next 3-4 weeks.

Lisa Swinton sought clarification of NPG Planning Solutions' objectives and staff's role in guiding the amendment. Swinton sought confirmation on whether NPG considered the County's climate change ambitions within their recommendations. Tanner confirmed that looked at the Township's goals and previous work on the Garden Township with led to their suggestion on adding a section relating to rural and agricultural landscape. Tanner confirmed they spoke with Dufferin staff and examined Dufferin climate and had conversation with Dufferin staff. Swinton

provided comments on thermal assessment. Tanner responded that it would be further reviewed.

Council discussed classification of wetlands and the continued protection of local wetlands. Tanner confirmed that the Natural Heritage Designation retains the boundaries of local wetlands and that there are no proposed changes to the mapping.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Hawkins

THAT Council adjourns the public meeting and returns to the regular meeting at 10:07 a.m.

CARRIED.

Council recessed at 10:07 a.m. and returned at 10:30 a.m.

10.0 DEPUTATIONS

10.1 NVCA - Doug Hevenor and Chris Hibbert, NVCA Mandate (10:00 am)

Mayor Horner welcomed Doug Hevenor and Chris Hibbert from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority who provided an overview of the NVCA's wetlands and watersheds.

Hevenor provided an overview of Categories 1 to 3, overall budget, lands owned in Simcoe County and one property in Mulmur and environmental education with the Simcoe County School Board.

Discussion ensued on Bill 23, the NVCA budget for wages and education, slope stability studies, monitoring of surface water and changes in verbiage from 'options' to 'categories'.

Hevenor confirmed that the wages and workload remain unchanged due to continued growth in the watershed and that the Upper Grand District School Board utilizes the Grand River and Credit Valley Conservation Authorities.

Hevenor further confirmed that the NVCA will transfer funds collected from municipalities between Category 1 and Category 3 items to cover and maintain the costs of all Category options stating Category 3 work is required for the success of Category 1.

Council encouraged the NVCA to reach out to Primrose Elementary School and parent council directly as they neighbour the Boyne River and Boyne Valley Provincial Park.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

THAT Council receive the presentation from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority.

CARRIED.

11.0 REPORTS FOR DECISION

11.1 Cheque Signing Policy

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Hawkins

THAT Council receive the report of Heather Boston, Treasurer, Cheque Signing Policy;

AND THAT Council approve the amendments to the Township's cheque signing policy as presented.

CARRIED.

11.2 Administrative Roof Quote

Discussion ensued on the current roof conditions, life expectancy of metal and shingle rooves, pricing, environmental impacts and additions to the scope of work.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Council receive the report of Heather Boston, Treasurer, Roof Replacement;

AND THAT Council defer the replacement of the Administrative Office Roof pending an evaluation.

CARRIED.

11.3 Parkland Dedication

Discussion ensued on proposed provincial policies, restrictive zoning and the opportunity for future development.

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Hawkins

THAT Council receive the report of Tracey Atkinson, Planner;

AND THAT Council support the partial payment of the Township's Parkland Dedication Fee in the amount of \$5,000 for each consent application (B01- 2023 and B02-2023);

AND FURTHER THAT the full Parkland Dedication Fee minus the \$5,000 be payable upon further development in accordance with the Township's Parkland Dedication By-law.

CARRIED.

11.4 Honeywood Cemetery

Discussion ensued on ownership, surveys and legislated requirements.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Hawkins

THAT Council receive the report of Roseann Knechtel, Deputy Clerk, Honeywood Cemetery;

AND THAT Council approve the following recommendations:

1. THAT Council direct staff to incorporate the Honeywood Cemetery Price List into the 2024 Township's User Fees and Charges;
2. THAT Council encourage the Honeywood Cemetery Board to move forward with surveying the required lands of the Honeywood Cemetery to the BAO for approval;
3. THAT Council encourage the Honeywood Cemetery Board to pass a motion to support the legal transfer of title with all costs payable by the Honeywood Cemetery;
4. THAT Council request all original records and those moving forward be kept at the Township Office for safe record keeping, with copies being given to the Honeywood Cemetery Board to maintain daily operations;
5. THAT Council direct staff to move forward with appointing the Clerk and Deputy Clerk as the Registrar and Deputy Registrar for the Township of Mulmur.
6. THAT Council request the Honeywood Cemetery Board consult with the Township throughout the reconciliation process of the plot records to ensure all legislated requirements are being fulfilled;
7. AND FURTHER THAT the Council encourage staff and the members of the Honeywood Cemetery Board meet to develop a future transition/succession plan for the operations, care and maintenance of the Honeywood Cemetery.

CARRIED.

11.5 County of Dufferin Emergency Management Grant

Discussion ensued on the location of defibrillators and proposed purchases to be included as part of the 2024 budget.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Council approve the 2024 Emergency Management Expenditure;

AND FURTHER THAT Council supports the funding request and authorize the Mayor and CAO to sign the funding application.

CARRIED.

Council recessed at 12:27 p.m. and returned at 1:30 p.m.

12.0 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

- 12.1 Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Steering Group Minutes: June 8, 2023**
- 12.2 Ontario Climate Caucus Meeting Notes: June 21, 2023**
- 12.3 Joint Council Meeting Minutes: June 29, 2023**
- 12.4 Economic Development Committee Minutes: July 7, 2023**
- 12.5 Dufferin County Council Minutes: July 13, 2023**
- 12.6 Dufferin County Council Statuary Meeting Minutes: July 13, 2023**
- 12.7 Dufferin County Council Minutes: July 27, 2023**

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Clark

THAT Council receives the Committee Minutes and Reports as copied and circulated.

CARRIED.

13.0 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- 13.1 Mulmur Q2 Financials**
- 13.2 Dufferin County Bridges/Road Reclassification Maps**
- 13.3 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan: 2022 Annual Report**
- 13.4 Election Signage**
- 13.5 Mulmur: RED Grant**
- 13.6 Dufferin County Notice of Adoption: OPA No. 3**
- 13.7 ATVs on Roadways**
- 13.8 Bridge 21 – Notice**
- 13.9 EDC Breakfast**
- 13.10 NVCA August Highlights**
- 13.11 Build Faster Fund**
- 13.12 City of Hamilton: Greenbelt Letter**
- 13.13 Hills of Headwaters News Release: 2024-2029 Strategic Plan**

- 13.14 Town of Orangeville: Support for Shared and Combined Services**
- 13.15 Town of Caledon: Dufferin Part III Provincial Offences Resolution**
- 13.16 Draft NVCA Planning Fees**

Discussion ensued on items 13.2, 13.4, 13.7, and 13.11.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Mulmur Council support the uploading of 10 Sideroad to the County of Dufferin;

AND THAT Council request the County of Dufferin retain County Road 19 as a logical continuation of Highway 10 to County Road 17;

AND THAT Council request the County of Dufferin review and reconsider their practices and policies surrounding snow clearing and the environmental affects of salt levels used on County Road networks for the protection of water and natural heritage systems;

AND FURTHER THAT Dufferin residents affected by the uploading/downloading of County roads requiring address changes be compensated \$200.00 by the County of Dufferin to cover associated costs.

CARRIED.

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Mulmur Council request the Council of the Township of Clearview amend their Off-Road Vehicle By-law to prohibit Off-Road Vehicle use on the Mulmur-Nottawasaga Townline ensuring consistency with the requirements of the Municipal Act governing highways under joint jurisdiction of two or more municipalities.

CARRIED.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

THAT Council receives the information items as copied.

CARRIED.

14.0 ENDORSEABLE MOTIONS

- 14.1 Municipality of Chatham-Kent: MFIPPA**
- 14.2 Town of Grand Valley: The Women of Ontario Say No**
- 14.3 Township of the Archipelago: Housing and Protection of Water Resources**

- 14.4 Township of Melancthon: Support for the City of Quinte West Municipal Codes of Conduct
- 14.5 Town of Fort Erie: Short Term Rentals
- 14.6 Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Request for Municipal Support
- 14.7 City of Toronto: Comments of the Proposed Provincial Planning Statement
- 14.8 Village of Merrickville-Wolford: Proposed Provincial Planning Statement
- 14.9 Township of Severn: Climate Emergency Just Transition Transfer
- 14.10 City of Stratford: Strengthen Municipal Codes of Conduct
- 14.11 Town of Caledon: Illegal Land Use Enforcement

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

THAT Council endorse the following resolutions: 14.2, 14.4, 14.6, 14.8, 14.10, and 14.11

CARRIED.

Moved by Horner and Seconded by Clark

Whereas the Niagara Escarpment, from Queenston in the south to Tobermory in the north, has been recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a World Biosphere since 1990;

And whereas the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere (NEB) provides a range of very positive returns to Ontarians, including but not limited to promoting biodiversity of both flora and fauna, open landscape, productive agriculture and agri-tourism, traditional Indigenous knowledge and cultural history, eco-system services, a living laboratory for learning, carbon sequestration, climate change mitigation and adaptation;

And whereas the NEB is integral to the protection and enhancement agenda for the Great Lakes, especially since several of Ontario's major riverine systems have their headwaters within the NEB that in turn feed into each of Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay;

And whereas oversight of the NEB has successfully transitioned from the Ontario governmental agency, the Niagara Escarpment Commission to a citizen-centred, not-for-profit organization, namely the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network (NEBN);

And whereas the NEBN has been established as a Co-Leadership model between Indigenous and Non-indigenous leaders, with a key objective of establishing the future direction of the NEBN as a model of delivering on the worthy goals of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission as well as a demonstrated commitment to the United Nation's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

And whereas the NEBN has made and continues to demonstrate its commitment to partner engagement and collaboration across many sectors and interests, including municipal, environmental, tourism, educational, youth, economic, research, and more;

And whereas *the Township of Mulmur* has demonstrated its commitment to the integrity of the NEB through policy and action over many decades;

And whereas the NEBN is seeking continuation of the official UNESCO Biosphere designation for the NEB, with the support of those who call the NEB home for work, play and study;

Now therefore be it resolved that the *Township of Mulmur* strongly supports the continuation of the UNESCO Biosphere designation for the Niagara Escarpment and for the oversight model that has been established with the NEBN.

CARRIED.

15. CLOSED SESSION

15.1 Honeywood Cemetery

15.2 NVCA MOU

15.3 Summary of Outstanding Legal Matters

15.4 Organizational Structure

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Hawkins

THAT Council adjourn to closed session at 2:44 p.m. pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended for one (1) matter relating to litigation or potential litigation, two (2) matters relating to personal matters about an identifiable individual and one (1) matter related to a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations on behalf of the municipality under section 239(2)(b)(e)(k).

CARRIED.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

THAT Council do rise out of closed session and into open session at 4:18 p.m. with the following motions/directions:

THAT Council defer signing the NVCA MOU pending further information.

CARRIED.

16. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- 16.1 Arena Funding Formulas and User Fees (2024)**
- 16.2 5-year NDCC Capital Cost Projections**
- 16.3 Fireworks Education Results**
- 16.4 Mulmur Recreation Strategy**
- 16.5 2023 Strawberry Festival Report**
- 16.6 Terra Nova Traffic Calming**
- 16.7 2024 Budget Considerations and Meeting Dates**
- 16.8 Procedural By-law: Council Meeting Dates**
- 16.9 Mrs. Mitchell's Parking Area**

17. PASSING OF BY-LAWS

17.1 Confirmatory By-Law

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Hawkins

THAT By-law 17.1 be approved.

CARRIED.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

THAT Council adjourns the meeting at 4:34 p.m. to meet again on October 4, 2023, or at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED.