



REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

The following are the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held at 5:10 p.m. in the Regional Council Chamber, 150 Frederick Street, Kitchener, Ontario, with the following members present: Chair K. Seiling, L. Armstrong, T. Cowan, D. Craig, R. Deutschmann, T. Galloway, J. Haalboom, B. Halloran, R. Kelterborn, G. Lorentz, C. Millar, J. Mitchell, S. Strickland, J. Wideman, and C. Zehr.

Members Absent: J. Brewer

CLOSED SESSION

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by C. Millar

THAT a closed meeting of Regional Council be held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. in the Waterloo County Room, in accordance with Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, for the purposes of considering the following subject matters:

- a) proposed or pending acquisition of land in the City of Kitchener
- b) labour relations
- c) labour relations

CARRIED

MOVED by T. Galloway
SECONDED by J. Wideman

THAT Council reconvene in Open Session.

CARRIED

Chair Seiling opened the meeting with a moment of silence in memory of the families and the victims in Connecticut.

Chair Seiling referenced a media release issued today by the Provincial government related to improving child care in Waterloo Region. Staff will provide an update on this matter in January.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER *THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT*

None declared

PRESENTATIONS

- a) Alison Jackson and Bonnie Street, Friends of Waterloo Region Museum appeared before Council advising their organization has legally changed their name to encompass the entire site and they continue to fundraise to enhance the programming at the site, and educate the community about the history in this area. They were grateful to the

Region for their continued support and presented a cheque representing \$10,000 of the \$75,000 commitment to the new museum, along with \$5,000 to enhance the costume budget.

Chair Seiling thanked A. Jackson and B. Street, noting this is a very loyal group of volunteers.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MOVED by L. Armstrong
SECONDED by T. Cowan

THAT the following Minutes be approved:

- a) Closed Council – December 5, 2012
- b) Closed Budget – December 5, 2012
- c) Budget – December 5, 2012
- d) Budget Public Input – December 5, 2012
- e) Council – December 5, 2012
- f) Community Services - December 11, 2012
- g) Closed Committee – December 11, 2012
- h) Administration & Finance – December 11, 2012
- i) Planning & Works – December 11, 2012
- j) Licensing & Retail - December 11, 2012

CARRIED

MOVED by T. Cowan
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT Council go into Committee of the Whole to consider reports.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Services

The Summary of Recommendations of the Community Services Committee was presented by Sean Strickland, Chair of the Committee. J. Mitchell expressed concern with the reduction in the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program.

MOVED by S. Strickland
SECONDED by G. Lorentz

THAT the Summary of Recommendations of the Community Services Committee dated December 11, 2012, Items 1 and 2, and 1 report from closed session, Item 3, be adopted as follows:

1. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario for the purposes of implementing the Community Action Integration Leaders Project;

AND THAT the Regional Municipality enter into an agreement with the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation for the purposes of utilizing the Community Collaboration for Children funding as outlined in report SS-12-054, dated December 11, 2012.

2. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo endorse the Region of Waterloo's Comprehensive Approach to Poverty Reduction (Comprehensive Approach) outlined in report SS-12-056 and detailed in Appendix A;

AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo forward a copy to the Minister of Community and Social Services and local Members of Provincial Parliament, local Members of Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the participating community reference groups as outlined in report SS-12-056 dated December 11, 2012.

3. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the reduction of 2.4 full time equivalent positions in the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program and \$33,685 in operating costs in order to remain within the available funding allocation for this 100% provincially funded program in 2013, and that details of this report can be made public.

CARRIED

Planning and Works

The Summary of Recommendations of the Planning and Works Committee was presented by Jim Wideman, Chair of the Committee. He advised an additional item is being included regarding the amendment to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee terms of reference.

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by T. Galloway

THAT the Summary of Recommendations of the Planning and Works Committee, dated December 11, 2012, Items 1 to 7, and 2 reports from closed session, Items 8 and 9, plus one additional Item 10, be adopted as follows:

1. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following actions with respect to the Class Environmental Assessment Study for proposed improvements to Fischer-Hallman Road from Bleams Road to Ottawa Street in the City of Kitchener:
 - a) Approve the Recommended Design Alternative for Fischer-Hallman Road as outlined in Report E-12-121;
 - b) Direct staff to file the Notice of Completion for this Class Environmental Assessment Study by means of advertisements in local newspapers and mailings to adjacent property owners, tenants and agencies, and place the Environmental Study Report on the public record for a period of 30 days;
 - c) Approve full Region of Waterloo funding for the construction of a 3.0 metre wide multi-use trail on each side of Fischer-Hallman Road from Bleams Road to Ottawa Street; and,
 - d) Amend the Traffic and Parking By-law 06-072, as amended, upon completion of construction of the Recommended Design Alternative to:

- i) Remove from Schedule 24, Reserved Bicycle Lanes Monday to Friday on the east side of Fischer-Hallman Road (Regional Road 58) from 30 metres south of Ottawa Street (Regional Road 4) to 150 metres south of Ottawa Street (Regional Road 4);
 - ii) Remove from Schedule 24, Reserved Bicycle Lanes Anytime on the east side of Fischer-Hallman Road (Regional Road 58) from 150 metres south of Ottawa Street (Regional Road 4) to Bleams Road (Regional Road 56); and,
 - iii) Remove from Schedule 24, Reserved Bicycle Lanes Anytime on the west side of Fischer-Hallman Road (Regional Road 58) from Ottawa Street (Regional Road 4) to Bleams Road (Regional Road 56).
2. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following actions with respect to the proposed improvements of Church Street in Elmira:
 - a) approve the Recommended Design Alternative for Church Street from Barnswallow Drive to Herbert Street as outlined in Report E-12-125 and
 - b) amend Traffic and Parking By-law 06-072, as amended, upon completion of construction to accommodate the proposed improvements as follows:
 - i. Add to Schedule 1, No Parking Anytime on both sides of Church Street (Regional Road 86) from Barnswallow Drive to 125 metres East of Raising Mill Gate; and
 - ii. Add to Schedule 24, Reserved Lane Anytime on Both Sides of Church Street (Regional Road 86) from Barnswallow Drive to 125 metres East of Raising Mill Gate for Bicycles and Horse-Drawn Vehicles; [E-12-128]
3. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo receive the report entitled "West Montrose Class Environmental Assessment Project File Report" prepared by Aecom Canada Ltd., dated December 2012, according to Report E-12-124 dated December 11, 2012;

AND THAT Regional Municipality of Waterloo issue the Notice of Completion of Project File Report, and file the Project File Report for public review in accordance with Municipal Class Environmental Assessment requirements.
4. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo receive the report entitled "Ayr Wastewater Servicing Master Plan" prepared by XCG Consultants Inc. dated November 2012, according to Report E-12-125 dated December 11, 2012;

AND THAT Regional Municipality of Waterloo issue the Notice of Completion of the Ayr Wastewater Servicing Master Plan and file the Master Plan Report for public review in accordance with Municipal Engineers Association Master Planning requirements.
5. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo forward Report No. P-12-120, dated December 11, 2012, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing as Regional Council's formal response to the first draft of the revised Provincial Policy Statement.
6. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo convey to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) its' major concerns with the new highway alignment component of

the Greater Toronto Area West Corridor Transportation Development Strategy, as described in Report. P-12-131, dated December 11, 2012;

THAT the MTO be requested to work toward a different highway alignment during Stage 2 of the GTA West Corridor Environmental Assessment that will provide additional capacity than available on Highway 401;

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo continue working with MTO and its municipal partners on advancing the Waterloo-Wellington-Brant inter-regional transportation study;

AND THAT Regional staff initiate further discussions between the Region, the MTO and the City of Cambridge to consider the acceleration of construction timing and cost sharing of pedestrian and cyclist provisions for the Franklin Boulevard interchange.

7. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo re-appoint the Commissioner of Transportation and Environmental Services as Waterloo Region's member of the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee;

And that the Region of Waterloo forward this recommendation to Area Municipalities for their information.

8. THAT the Region of Waterloo approve the following with respect to the Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee, as described in P-12-133, dated December 11, 2012:

- a) re-appoint Ted Creese, Allison Featherstone, and Alge Merry to three-year terms expiring December 31, 2015;

- b) re-appoint Younus Muhammad to a fourth three-year term expiring December 31, 2015; and

- c) appoint Amy Woroch for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2015.

9. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the reappointment of Jane Schneider for a three-year term, ending December 31, 2015 to the Laurel Creek Headwaters Environmentally Sensitive Landscape Public Liaison Committee, as described in P-12-134, dated December 11, 2012.

10. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve a revision to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference, Section 3A, as follows:

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo will appoint fifteen members to the committee. The fifteen members will be composed of 2 Regional Councillors and thirteen members at large appointed on a four year staggered cycle. If possible, one (1) representative from the Grand River Accessibility Advisory Committee (GRAAC) with experience and expertise in active transportation, three (3) representatives from each of the three (3) urban Area Municipalities and three (3) representatives from the four (4) rural Area Municipalities should be chosen to provide a balanced regional perspective on cycling and pedestrian issues;

AND THAT Section 3C of the Terms of Reference also be amended as follows:

Membership should be drawn from residents with skills and demonstrated expertise in cycling and pedestrian areas of concern and not as a representative of particular agencies, organizations or interest groups, with the exception of the GRAAC member.

CARRIED

Licensing and Retail

The Summary of Recommendation of the Licensing and Retail Committee was presented by Geoff Lorentz, Chair of the Committee. A question was raised about inspections of the interior of taxis and Kris Fletcher, Director, Council & Administrative Services/Regional Clerk responded annual inspections of the interior and exterior of the vehicles are completed. If there are any concerns from the public, they should be directed through the Clerk's Office or directly to Licensing.

MOVED by G. Lorentz
SECONDED by J. Mitchell

THAT the Summary of Recommendations of the Licensing and Retail Committee dated December 11, 2012, Items 1 and 2, be adopted as follows:

1. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo amend the Taxi-Cab Meter By-law, to implement the following changes:
 - Incrementally increase the number of accessible taxi-cabs. For brokers that have 10 or more taxi-cabs, that a minimum of 7% of such fleets be comprised of accessible taxi-cabs by January 1, 2017 and that a minimum of 10% of such fleets be comprised of accessible taxi-cabs by January 1, 2022. For brokers that have less than 10 taxi-cabs, that such fleets have at least one accessible taxi-cab by January 1, 2017. [CR-CLK-LIC-12-006]
2. THAT the existing taxi ratio outlined in By-law 04-069, A By-law to Licence, Regulate and Govern Brokers, Owners and Drivers of Taxi-cabs be Equipped with Taxi-cab Meters within the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, as amended be maintained. [CR-CLK-LIC-12-006]

CARRIED

OTHER MATTERS UNDER COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- a) PH-12-054, Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program and Staffing Changes

Received for information.

- b) Memo: Ontario Works Caseload: November 2012

Received for information.

c) Memo: Elimination of the Provincial Community Start-up and Maintenance Benefit

Received for information.

S. Strickland stated it is important to send a message to the Province regarding this program. In response to a question regarding discretionary benefits, it was noted they have not been terminated but capped and a resolution as already sent with respect to that. A suggestion was made that the resolution have a stronger message and that the Province is putting the property taxpayers in a difficult position. No changes were made to the proposed resolution.

MOVED by S. Strickland
SECONDED by G. Lorentz

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo request the Province to reverse its decision to terminate the Community Start-up and Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB) or, at minimum provide transitional funding for at least two years during which time program and policy alternatives may be developed that will help address some of the difficulties that result from termination of the CSUMB.

CARRIED

MOVED by L. Armstrong
SECONDED by C. Zehr

THAT Committee of the Whole rise and Council resume.

CARRIED

MOVED by G. Lorentz
SECONDED by S. Strickland

THAT Council adopt the proceeding of the Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

R. Deutschmann referenced the budget proposal document he had circulated to all members of Council for their consideration in advance of the January 16, 2013 final budget meeting. T. Galloway thanked him for the proposal and welcomed other input from members of Council.

D. Craig requested staff to look at moving along the process for the two properties currently being proposed for redeveloped in the area of King and Fountain Streets in Cambridge.

T. Galloway commended staff on the opening of the Fairway Road bridge across the Grand River, stating it was a very successful project.

REGIONAL CHAIR YEAR END COMMENTS

[Chair Seiling](#) provided year end comments. A copy is appended to the original minutes.

ENACTMENT OF BY-LAWS – (FIRST, SECOND & THIRD READINGS)

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by B. Halloran

- a) THAT a By-law to Amend By-law 00-031, as amended, Being the Region's By-law Governing the Proceedings of Council and Committees be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 12-060 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
- b) THAT a By-law to Amend By-law 04-069, A By-law to Licence, Regulate and Govern Brokers, Owners and Drivers of Taxi-cabs Equipped with Taxi-cab Meters within the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, as amended be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 12-061 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
- c) THAT a By-law to Confirm the Actions of Council of December 19, 2012 be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 12-062 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.

CARRIED

ADJOURN

MOVED by T. Cowan
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT the meeting adjourn at 5:41 p.m.

CARRIED

REGIONAL CHAIR, *K. Seiling*

REGIONAL CLERK, *K. Fletcher*

**Regional Chair's Year End Comments to Regional Council
December 19, 2012**

The year 2012 has come and passed rather quickly as we now pass the mid point of this term of office. Much has happened during the past two years and there is much yet to do. Regional Council together with Regional staff have worked towards realizing our vision of an “inclusive, thriving, and sustainable community”. Through political input, internal reviews and audits, and public consultation, we have worked hard to serve the community and to provide value for money in the services we provide. I should also add that given all we have done and all that we are planning, we have maintained our AAA credit rating, a sign of confidence in our Region.

This past year saw the opening of two major infrastructure projects – the Fairway Bridge and the Delta railway grade separation. Both were major projects which will have major positive impacts on our communities. The first will provide new routes and accesses to Cambridge and Kitchener and adjoining areas while the second will see the permanent resolve of a major bottleneck along Hespeler Road. In future years, the now scheduled Provincial Highway 7 will also address major safety and transportation needs on our east side while the bottlenecks on Highway 7&8 on the west side will soon be resolved. Work on the Weber Street grade separation has begun and we will see much more in the coming year.

Continued investment in transit has seen a corresponding increase in ridership, and we fully expect to continue to see increasing numbers using Grand River Transit. We need to be careful not to waiver in our plans to increase investment to further expand public transit and to rework the system to tie effectively into the new rapid transit system. Rapid transit is moving along and the next year will see major decisions being made in the implementation of the plan.

Planning for the new transit hub will carry on into the new year as we further refine and shape the vision for this multi-modal hub. There is great public interest in and support for the project which has been reflected in the public participation to date. Although we have the start of GO rail service in addition to GO bus service, we will need to continue our efforts to press for greater GO service to both the south and the north of the Region as well as continue to fight for improved VIA service. I should also mention the beginning of American Airlines/American Eagle air service at the airport as another milestone this year.

While the finalization of the Grand River Source Water Protection Plan will occur next year, we will be carrying on with the multi million dollar upgrades to our wastewater treatment plants so that we can better protect the Grand River which flows through our Region. I believe that our commitment to good environmental practice can be seen in so much of what we do and these are just two prime examples.

During our mid term review of the strategic plan, there was much discussion about economic development and enhancing the roles we all play in this area. In the next few months we will see the report on economic development undertaken by the area municipalities and the Region. We will have an opportunity to look for ways to improve how this community provides the full range of economic development services – streamlining and clarifying who does what. One of the areas of concern has been the finalization of the plans for the east side lands and we must use our time next year to see that this is finalized and the lands can be more quickly available for development.

During the year, we took time to review our support for cultural services. The result was a stabilization of core funding together with the provision for providing a degree of certainty to these groups. Our support

allows them to leverage resources to ensure the health and sustainability of these organizations which are so critical to the cultural health of our community. I would hope that we are able to maintain such support in the years ahead given the importance of them in both our cultural life and the economic development of our Region.

Much discussion has taken place about improved emergency services dispatch in the Region. There is at this time a real sense of getting on with the job and we hope that this year will see the completion of an implementation plan and a start on a unified dispatch. This year also saw the start of a new call centre to be located jointly with the City of Kitchener for Regional services which will improve citizen contact with the Region.

There are a number of initiatives under way in our human services which are either completed or underway. Our planning for both poverty reduction and homelessness are well under way and Council will be dealing with them as the year unfolds. An expanded day program for those with Alzheimer's was opened in Cambridge. The Diversity and Inclusion Strategy approved earlier this year set out future directions for the Region.

Perhaps the most difficult challenge facing us this past year was the reshaping of Provincial support for social services supporting poor and needy people in this Region. The cutbacks in both the Community Start-Up and Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB) and the discretionary supports were particularly troubling and I salute Regional Council for continuing to support the discretionary social service spending during the latter part of the year through the use of reserves.

It would be easy to say that we spent too much or that others spent less and were hit less hard (with a few exceptions). However our approach to the discretionary grants was entirely consistent with the history of this Region and its long tradition of stewardship and looking after people in need.

It is no surprise that this Region was seen by many in the Province as a leader in social development. It had a grassroots tradition of helping people in need that long predates the Region. It is why there were and are so many grassroots organizations and church groups who sought to reach out to the poor and less fortunate. During my time on Regional Council, there were many opportunities, on its own or with outside groups, for Regional Council to leverage monies from the Province to pay for things such as food hampers, dental work, vision care, drugs, heat, baby supplies, interpreters, and other supports. The Province was a willing partner in this and it came as quite a surprise that they unilaterally withdrew their funding for a large portion of the support they provided to this Region.

I believe that maintaining these programs as much as possible is important, not only to the recipients of these funds but to the community which has always placed a high value on its care of the poor – something not shared to the same degree in many other communities. Perhaps it has religious roots but it was something embraced by others as they lived and grew in this Region.

Over the past few weeks, I, along with others, have given much thought to what we might do. We could simply cut back the programs. We could rob other programs to sustain the benefits. I would like to suggest something for you to consider over the next few weeks before we finalize our budget for next year.

In the past, when there was a special need in our community there were times we addressed them with a special levy. We added a special hospital levy to pay our share in the One Voice One Vision Campaign. When our road system was seen as falling further behind, we instituted a special levy to try to catch up.

I am suggesting that in 2013, we have a special levy - an anti-poverty or social support levy - I am not sure what the correct name should be - of approximately 1% or \$17 per average household to ensure a base budget to sustain these programs. This would be added to the Regional budget in 2013 and annualized thereafter so no new levy would be required in future years. It would be a one year adjustment.

Regional Council will of course need to decide what other steps and efficiencies it wishes to consider in dealing with the other budget issues to arrive at its base levy. However I am suggesting that cuts to other programs and services should be done carefully and not necessarily as a means to finance the levy as it would stand on its own at the end of the budget process just as the health care and roads levy did.

If the final budget increase ends up higher than some would like, the issue of accountability for these services can be directed to where the cuts originated and to those responsible for these cuts.

Such a move would be entirely consistent to the approach of Regional Council over the years and consistent with the many residents who have lived here and supported helping those in need. I would ask you to think about this over the next few weeks so that we are prepared to have good dialogue and discussion as we finalize our budget for 2013.

There is much more I might have touched on but will stop there. It will be an interesting, challenging, and exciting year ahead.

I want to wish you all the best of the season. I look forward to working with all of you in the latter half of our term.