



Council Minutes
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

Council Present:

Mayor Dave Turton
Councillor Judy Dirksen
Deputy Mayor Jean Anderson
Councillor Ron Elliott
Councillor Ed Podniewicz
Councillor Paul Zimmerman

Council Regrets:

Councillor Geoff Gunson

Staff Present:

Annilene McRobb, Clerk
Chris Harrow, Interim CAO - Operations/Director of Fire Services
Mark Potter, Interim CAO - Administration/Deputy Treasurer
Terry Kuipers, Director of Building and Planning Services
Belinda Wick-Graham, Director of Economic and Community Development
Gordon Duff, Treasurer
Matt Lubbers, Director of Community Services
Mike McIsaac, Roads & Drainage Manager
Tawnya Robertson, Revenue Coordinator
Quinn Foerter, Deputy Clerk/Coordinator, Legislative & Human Resource Services

- 1. Call to Order at 6:30 p.m.**
- 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests Under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**

Mayor Turton declared a pecuniary interest for Item 12 b) 2) Structural Grant #H13 - McDonald Chiropractic, 12 Elora St S., Harriston as his daughter and son-in-law own the building.

- 3. Motion to Convene into Closed Session**

RESOLUTION: 2024-096

Moved By: Councillor Dirksen; Seconded By: Councillor Elliott

THAT the Council of the Town of Minto conduct a meeting Closed to the public to consider

the following:

- a. Closed Session Minutes of May 7, 2024
- b. A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality - Palmerston Industrial Land

Carried

4. Motion to Convene into Open Session

RESOLUTION: 2024-097

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Anderson; Seconded By: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT Council of the Town of Minto resume into open Council.

Carried

5. Reporting Out of Closed

RESOLUTION: 2024-098

Moved By: Councillor Podniewicz; Seconded By: Councillor Elliott

THAT Council receives the Closed Session report regarding a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land - Palmerston Industrial Park

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the confidential direction given to staff.

Carried

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Regular Council Minutes of May 7, 2024

b. Closed Session Minutes of May 7, 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024-099

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Anderson; Seconded By: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT minutes of the Town of Minto May 7, 2024 Regular Council meeting and May 7, 2024 Closed Session meeting be approved.

Carried

7. Resolution Moving Council into Committee of the Whole to Consider Public Meetings, Delegations, Public Question Period, Correspondence, Reports, Motions for Which Notice Has Been Previously Given and Other Business

RESOLUTION: 2024-100

Moved By: Councillor Podniewicz; Seconded By: Councillor Dirksen

THAT the Town of Minto Council convenes into Committee of the Whole.

Carried

8. Public Meeting-None.

9. Delegations

a. Sports Recognition

Mayor Turton and Councillor Elliott provided certificates to the following.

Leah Herrfort for winning the OUA championship with the University of Waterloo Warriors

Archie Wilson, coach of the Minto Select who won the 2024 FBAO (Federation of Broomball Association of Ontario) Elite Men's Provincials.

Blair Butchart, Denver Hill Ryan Litt, Stevie Grant and Riley Cribbin of the Minto-Mapleton 81's for winning, the inaugural OEHL (Ontario Elite Hockey League) championship.

b. Mayor's Golf Tournament Groups

Revenue Coordinator Tawyna Robertson introduced the groups for the upcoming Mayor's Golf Tournament.

Randy Ruetz and Trish Ruetz for the Clifford Rotary Club

Mariane Christy and Warren Grein for Big Brothers and Big Sisters

Bob Mac Eachern for the Palmerston Railway Heritage Museum

c. Katherine Noble, Wellington Federation of Agriculture-Wellington County Agri-Food System Study

Barkley Knapp President and Katherine Noble presented a video and key take aways from the study for Council.

d. Jim Dopfer and Debra Dennison, Further Delegation regarding Petition

Jim Dopfer noted that he is one of the organizers of the petition. Dopfer stated he was here to explain and clarify the meaning of the petition and neutrality:

- The request for a By-law for Neutrality in the Town of Minto in Public spaces has nothing to do with the draft policy being presented on the agenda.
- The petition has nothing to do with hate.
- The Supreme Court of Canada in 2015 ruled against prayer in Council meetings.
- Government of any level should not be involved in personal choice matters of individuals.

Debra Dennison noted that the petition states to make a By-law ensuring crosswalks and flags/banners on public property remain neutral, adhering to the following: crosswalks will only be painted in the standard white striped pattern (continental or ladder) between two parallel lines. Only the national flag of Canada, provincial flag of Ontario, or Town of Minto flags are raised on flagpoles on public property or facilities. There will be no decorations on Town crosswalks or displaying flags/banners supporting political, social or religious movements or commercial entities, save and except the Royal Canadian Legion banners which are considered grandfathered in.

Council asked questions of the delegates.

10. Public Question Period

Bonnie Hollinger asked Councillor Ron Elliott what is his definition of neutrality?

Dan Sinclair asked do you not think that these concerned taxpayers of Minto deserve to vote versus solely the members of Council on this matter and any other controversial matter in the Town of Minto?

Tom MacDonald asked do you feel that we elected you to display sexual messages to the public?

Meg Young asked for information on the cost of the DEI and Pride committees including Pride in the Park.

Stefon von Muhlenen asked how democracy in this town works?

Franny von Muhlenen asked do we not learn from history?

Irene Dooley asked is it considered a fair practice for a Town employee to inject their own opinions to others of this same petitions even before it had been presented to Council or been discussed with the organizers?

Irma DeVries asked if Council was concerned about the health of the people that participate in this (homosexuality)?

Joanne Belair of Palmerston asked how the group (Pride) we are speaking about requested the banners? Was there a lack of inclusiveness that led to this request? Is the problem with the word neutrality?

Tony Andrade asked why he just read about this in the paper, and shouldn't everyone get to know about this?

Debra Dennison noted the correspondence to raise a flag (Pride) on May 31st on the Council agenda and asked will it still be raised? How do we say we are not in favour of that flag?

County Councillor Anderson challenged the residents of Minto to get involved.

Dan Sinclair asked Deputy Mayor Anderson why do you feel personally that all Canadians cannot fly under the Canada flag?

11. Correspondence Received for Information or Requiring Direction of Council

- a. Multi-Municipal Energy Working Group, Unwilling Hosts for Wind Turbine Projects
- b. Township of North Glengarry, Request to the Province to Amend Blue Box Regulations for 'Ineligible' Sources
- c. Jokelee Vanderkop, LGBT+ letter
- d. Community Flag Pole Request
- e. Brian Vines, Email re Neutral Petition

MOTION: COW 2024-072

Moved By: Councillor Elliott; Seconded By: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT Council receives the correspondence as information.

Carried

12. Reports of Committees and Town Staff, Matters Tabled and Motions for Which Notice Has Been Previously Given

- a. Committee Minutes for Approval – None.
- b. Staff Reports
1. EC DEV 2024-008, Signage Grant P27 - Building Bridges Adult Day Program, 155 William St., Palmerston

MOTION: COW 2024-073

Moved By: Councillor Podniewicz; Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Anderson

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives the report EC DEV 2024-008 regarding Signage Grant P27 – Building Bridges Adult Day Program and approves Signage Grant P27 for \$216.57.

Carried

Having previously declaring a pecuniary interest Mayor Turton removed himself from discussions.

Deputy Mayor Anderson assumed the Chair

2. EC DEV 2024-009, Structural Grant #H13 - McDonald Chiropractic, 12 Elora St S., Harriston

MOTION: COW 2024-074

Moved By: Councillor Elliott; Seconded By: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives the report EC DEV 2024-009 regarding Structural Grant #H13- McDonald Chiropractic and approves Structural Grant #H13 for \$3,715.80.

Carried

Mayor Turton returned to his seat and resumed the Chair.

3. EC DEV 2024-010, Structural Grant #MT02 - Reroot Organic Farm, 5642 11th Line, Harriston

MOTION: COW 2024-075

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Anderson; Seconded By: Councillor Podniewicz

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives report EC DEV 2024-010 regarding Structural Grant #MT02- Reroot Organic Farm and approves Structural Grant #MT02 for \$957.00.

Carried

4. PLN 2024-021, Official Plan Amendment 123 – Designation of Future Development Lands

MOTION: COW 2024-076

Moved By: Councillor Zimmerman; Seconded By: Councillor Dirksen

THAT the Council of the Town of Minto receives report PLN 2024-021 regarding Official Plan Amendment 123 and directs staff to submit comments to the County of Wellington Planning Department.

Carried

5. County of Wellington Planning Report-84 Elora St. N, Clifford

MOTION: COW 2024-077

Moved By: Councillor Zimmerman; Seconded By: Councillor Podniewicz

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives the County of Wellington planning report regarding Zoning By-law amendment for 84 Elora St N, Clifford for information;

AND FURTHER that the Council of the Town of Minto considers passing a By-law in open session.

Carried

6. PW 2024-015, Tender Results – Reconstruction of Derby Street, Palmerston

MOTION: COW 2024-078

Moved By: Councillor Dirksen; Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Anderson

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives report PW 2024-015 regarding Tender Results – Reconstruction of Derby Street, Palmerston;

THAT the Town’s 2024 Capital Budget be amended by \$670,000 to include additional funding for the Derby Street Reconstruction project with funding provided from the Wastewater Capital Reserve, the Water Capital Reserve, and the OCIF Reserve; and

THAT Council of the Town of Minto awards Contract No. 6646-24 – Reconstruction of Derby Street, Palmerston to Steed and Evans Limited for a total tender price of \$2,449,000.00 excluding HST.

Carried

Councillor Dirksen assumed the Chair.

7. FIN 2024-007, 1st Quarter Financial Review

MOTION: COW 2024-079

Moved By: Councillor Zimmerman; Seconded By: Councillor Elliott

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives report FIN 2024-007 regarding the 2024 First Quarter Financial Review.

Carried

8. FIN 2024-008, Tax Rating Bylaw

MOTION: COW 2024-080

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Anderson; Seconded By: Councillor Elliott

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives report FIN 2024-008 regarding the 2024 Tax Rating By-law and consider passing By-law 2024-029 in open session.

Carried

Mayor Turton resumed the Chair.

9. CL 2024-005, Draft Commemorative Policy

MOTION: COW 2024-081

Moved By: Councillor Dirksen; Seconded By: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives report CL 2024-005 regarding the Draft Commemoration Policy;

THAT Council provide feedback to staff on the Draft Commemoration Policy; and

THAT staff bring back a Final Draft Commemoration Policy at a future meeting for Council consideration.

Carried

c. Announcements

Councillor Elliott noted The Palmerston Lions Club is holding a Walk for Dog Guides on June 8th. Party in the Park will be the same day.

Councillor Zimmerman stated on June 1st is the Harriston Firefighters annual pancake breakfast.

Deputy Mayor Anderson noted there the Annual Garden Festival on June 1st. Anderson also stated the SPARC Conference being held in Minto this coming weekend.

Mayor Turton stated five open houses and grand openings were held last Thursday.

Mayor Turton announced that May is Building Safety Month, Economic Development Week Clerk's Week and Public Works Week.

Mayor Turton noted that the flags at the Town of Minto Municipal Office will remain at half mast until Friday for the remainder of the week in honour of the former Minto and Palmerston Mayor David Burns.

13. Motion to Return To Regular Council

RESOLUTION: 2024-101

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Anderson; Seconded By: Councillor Podniewicz

THAT the Committee of the Whole convenes into Regular Council.

Carried

14. Notices of Motion – None.

15. Resolution Adopting Proceedings of Committee of the Whole

RESOLUTION: 2024-102

Moved By: Councillor Elliott; Seconded By: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT the Council of the Town of Minto ratifies the motions made in the Committee of the Whole.

Carried

16. By-laws

a. 2024-027, Municipal Drain Maintenance Assessments

b. 2024-028 Milne ZBA By-law

c. 2024-029, Tax Rating Bylaw

RESOLUTION: 2024-103

Moved By: Councillor Elliott; Seconded By: Councillor Podniewicz

THAT By-laws 2024-027, 2024-028, and 2024-029 be read a first, second, third time and passed in Open Council and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

d. 2024-030, Confirmatory

RESOLUTION: 2024-104

Moved By: Councillor Dirksen; Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Anderson

THAT By-law 2024-030, To confirm the actions of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Minto respecting a meeting held May 21, 2024; be read a first, second, third time and passed in open Council and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

17. Adjournment at 9:38 p.m.

RESOLUTION: 2024-105

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Anderson; Seconded By: Councillor Dirksen

THAT The Council of the Town of Minto adjourns to meet again at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

Mayor Dave Turton

Clerk Annilene McRobb