

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HURON**

Hybrid Meeting  
April 3, 2024

The Council of the County of Huron met in a hybrid meeting setting on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at the Council Chambers. All members of Council were present.

**1. Warden Glen McNeil called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.**

**2. Warden's Remarks:**

Warden McNeil opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to all Council, staff and participants.

Warden McNeil reported attending following events:

- Civic classes in South Huron, Central Huron and Goderich,
- Lambton County Banquet,
- Visitation for Larry Adams, former CAO of Huron County.

**3. Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer

THAT:

The Council Day 1 agenda for April 3, 2024 be approved as amended:

- That Sandra Weber, Director of Planning and Development be added to the Closed to the Public Session.

CARRIED

**4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:**

Councillor L. Noel declared a conflict of interest with the following item:

- By-law No. 2024-028, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a contract HC24-503 Engineering Services for Bridge and Culvert OSIM Inspections with B.M. Ross and Associated Ltd. due to her daughter being employed by B.M. Ross.

**5. Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

Moved by: Councillor A. McLellan and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

The minutes of Council Day 2 meeting of March 20, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**6. Delegations/Petitions/Presentations:**

6.1. Huron County Soil and Crop Improvement Association and the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority - Annual Update Report

Joint presentation by Huron County Soil and Crop Improvement Association and the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority was given to provide Council with an update on the Annual Report.

Moved by: Councillor L. Noel and Seconded by: Councillor M. Anderson

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the presentation by Wim Feddes, Chair and Rick Kootstra, Farm Manager, with the Huron County Soil and Crop Improvement Association, and Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Manager with the Ausable Bayfield

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Conservation Authority, titled Annual Update Report, dated April 3, 2024, as presented for information.

CARRIED

**7. Councillor's Comments:**

Councillor J. Becker expressed gratitude to both Council and staff for acknowledging the 50 years of dedicated service as firefighters.

Councillor P. Heffer thanked County of Huron for sharing Chad Kregar as an Interim Fire Chief for the Township of North Huron.

Councillor J. Ginn extended an invitation to attend the Sculpture Garden event hosted by high school students at Millennium Park in Clinton on April 4, 2024, at 2 PM. He encouraged everyone to join and offer recognition to the talented students.

**8. Consent Agenda – Items 8.1 through 8.8:**

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor D. Harding

THAT:

Items 8.1 through 8.8 be approved with the actions as noted.

CARRIED

**9. Planning and Development:**

9.1. Forest Conservation Update (presented by David Pullen)

Moved by: Councillor J. Ginn and Seconded by: Councillor J. Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron request a staff report on options for improving the usage of good forestry practices.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor J. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report from Dave Pullen, Forest Conservation Officer titled Forest Conservation Update dated April 3, 2024, as presented for information.

CARRIED

**10. Cultural Services:**

10.1. Huron Tract Commemoration Terms of Reference (presented by Karen Stewart)

Moved by: Councillor T. Bazinet and Seconded by: Councillor L. Noel

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts the report by Beth Rumble, Director of Cultural Services, dated April 3, 2024, titled Huron Tract Commemoration Terms of Reference, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the project as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

**11. Administration, Policies and Other Issues:**

11.1. Delegation of Authority for Execution of Government Agreements (presented by Susan Cronin)

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor D. Harding

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receive the report from Susan Cronin, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk dated April 3, 2024 titled Delegation of Authority for Execution Government Agreements as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approve a by-law be drafted delegating the authority to the CAO and/or Warden for the execution of agreements/contracts from the province and federal governments when there is no financial cost to the County that is outside the approved budget and/or for the extension to agreements when the deadlines for approval can not be obtained at regularly scheduled County Council meetings.

CARRIED

11.2. Strategic Priorities Chart - March 2024 (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor P. Heffer and Seconded by: Councillor B. Vanstone

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by CAO Meighan Wark, dated April 3, 2024, titled Strategic Priorities - March 2024, as presented for information.

CARRIED

11.3. 2023 Annual Report (presented by Meighan Wark)

Moved by: Councillor B. MacLellan and Seconded by: Councillor T. Bazinet

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron request a staff report outlining options for the distribution of the 2023 Annual Report to the broader public.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor L. Noel and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Meighan Wark, Chief Administrative Officer, dated April 3, 2024, titled 2023 Annual Report, as presented for information.

CARRIED

**12. Correspondence:**

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor A. McLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron support correspondence item 12.10 from Loyalist Township - Resolution Regarding Request to the Province to Amend Blue Box Regulation for 'Ineligible' Sources, and item 12.18 from Township of Puslinch - Resolution Regarding Enbridge Gas Follow-Up.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor B. Vanstone and Seconded by: Councillor D. Harding

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron support correspondence item 12.8 from Municipality of Wawa - Resolution Regarding Increase Funding to Libraries and Museums.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor M. Anderson and Seconded by: Councillor J. Becker

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron accepts correspondence not specifically dealt with, for information.

CARRIED

**13. New/Unfinished Business:**

In the interest of being accountable and transparent, where a member of Council or staff would like to present an item of business in this section, it is recommended that they contact the Chief Administrative Officer in advance so that the item can be placed on the published agenda.

13.1. Notice and Extension of Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement - Multi-Home "Extending Letter" (presented by Connie Townsend)

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Connie Townsend, Director of Homes for the Aged, dated April 3, 2024, titled Notice and Extension of Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement - Multi-Home ("Extending Letter"), as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A By-law be prepared authorizing the Warden and the Clerk to execute the Notice and Extension of Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement - Multi-Home ("Extending Letter") and all other required documents;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The signed Notice and Extension of Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement - Multi-Home ("Extending Letter") dated March 13, 2024 be forwarded to OHWest- Reports@ontariohealth.ca.

CARRIED

13.2. 2024 Multi-Sector Accountability Agreement Community Paramedic Expanded Program Extension (presented by Jeff Horseman)

Moved by: Councillor J. Becker and Seconded by: Councillor B. MacLellan

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron receives the report by Jeff Horseman, Director of Emergency Services, dated April 3rd, 2024, titled "Community Paramedic Expanded Program Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement (MSAA) Notice of Extension" as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron approves the Notice and Extension of the Multi-Sector Accountability Agreement (MSAA) agreement with Ontario Health and all other required documents reflective of 2024-2025 funding for the Huron County Community Paramedicine Expanded programming;

AND FURTHER THAT:

A by-law be drafted authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute the agreement and all other required documents.

CARRIED

**14. Notice of Motion:** None.

**15. By-laws:**

Moved by: Councillor G. Finch and Seconded by: Councillor P. Heffer

THAT:

By-law No. 2024-024, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a contract with Demers Ambulances for the purchase of two (2) 2024 GM Ambulances and delegate the authority to Director of Emergency Services.

By-law No. 2024-025, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a contract with Sherwin Williams for purchase of Traffic Paint for a two year period (2024 and 2025).

By-law No. 2024-026, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to

authorize entering into a contract with Lavis Contracting Co. Ltd for HC24-301: Cold In-Place Recycling Hot Mix Paving, Removal of Asphalt Pavement, Partial-Depth Open Cut Culvert Replacements with Lavis Contracting Co. Ltd.

By-law No. 2024-027, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a contract HC 24-501: Rehabilitation of Fitch's Bridge (07-04.8) with VanDriel Excavating Inc.

By-law No. 2024-028, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a contract HC24-503 Engineering Services for Bridge and Culvert OSIM Inspections with B.M. Ross and Associated Ltd.

By-law No. 2024-029, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a contract for Main Street Reconstruction Project in Exeter with Lavis Contracting Co. Ltd.

By-law No. 2024-030, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a Notice and Extension of Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement - Multi-Home ("Extending Letter") with Ontario Health.

By-law No. 2024-031, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to authorize entering into a Notice and Extension of Multi-Sector Accountability Agreement ("Extending Letter") – Community Paramedicine with Ontario Health.

Be introduced, be given a first, second and third reading, be passed, signed by the Warden and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto, in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-Law for the County of Huron.  
CARRIED

Council recessed at 10:14 AM and resumed at 10:20 AM.

**16. Closed to the Public Session:**

Moved by: Councillor M. Anderson and Seconded by: Councillor B. Vanstone  
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron do now go into a Closed to the Public Session at 10:20 AM under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss an item that relates to:

1. labour relations and employee negotiations:

- Ontario Nurses' Association, Local 021 (ONA) Huronview and Huronlea Homes for the Aged,
- Service Employees' International Union, Local 1 Canada (SEIU- Huronview and Huronlea Homes for the Aged.

AND FURTHER THAT:

CAO Meighan Wark, Director of Planning and Development Sandra Weber, Director of Legislative Services/County Clerk Susan Cronin, Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Michael Blumhagen, Director of Human Resources Lara Vanstone, Manager of Human Resources Jane Anderson and Director of Homes for the Aged Connie Townsend remain in attendance.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor M. Anderson and Seconded by: Councillor B. Vanstone  
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron rise from the Closed to the Public Session at 10:52 AM.

CARRIED

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Reporting Out: Director of Planning and Development Sandra Weber reported that Council received updates and gave direction on the Homes for aged ONA and SEIU contract negotiations.

Moved by: Councillor D. Harding and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron direct staff to proceed as per direction given in Closed to Public Session of April 3, 2024.

CARRIED

**17. Upcoming Meetings:**

Library Board Meeting - Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Special Council Meeting - Huron County Bus Tour - Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM

Council Day 2 - Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Cybersecurity and AI In Municipal Government Education/Orientation Session - Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM - Virtual Meeting

Economic Development Board Meeting - Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 9:00 AM at 57 Napier Street, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

Council Day 1 - Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Goderich - Hybrid Meeting

**18. Confirmatory By-law:**

Moved by: Councillor J. Becker and Seconded by: Councillor G. Finch

THAT:

By-law No. 2024-032, being a By-law of the Corporation of the County of Huron to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron be introduced, be given a first, second and third reading, be passed, signed by the Warden and Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto, in accordance with Part 14 of the Procedural By-Law for the County of Huron.

CARRIED

**19. Adjournment:**

Moved by: Councillor J. Dietrich and Seconded by: Councillor J. Heffer

THAT:

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Huron do hereby adjourn at 10:55 AM to meet again on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM or at the call of the Warden and the Clerk.

CARRIED

  
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Warden Glen McNeil

  
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Clerk Susan Cronin