



**MINUTES OF**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 12, 2021**  
**CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**60 EAST MAIN STREET**

Council met in open session at 6:26 p.m. and in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 8:53 p.m. and on the above date.

His Worship Mayor Frank Campion in the Chair.

**Members Present:**

Councillors J. Chiochio, T. DiMarco (7:12 p.m.), B. Fokkens, B. Green, M.A. Grimaldi, J. Larouche (6:32 p.m. until 6:37 p.m. and again at 7:48 p.m.), J. Mastroianni, D. McLeod, A. Moote (6:32 p.m.), C. Richard, G. Speck, and L. Van Vliet.

**Members of Staff and Others Present:**

Chief Administrative Officer, S. Zorbas  
Deputy City Clerk, L. Bubanko  
Director of Finance/CFO/Treasurer, S. Fairweather  
Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator, A. Eckhart (until 8:53 p.m.)  
Director of Infrastructure Services, SM. Millar  
Director of Planning and Development Services, G. Munday (until 8:53 p.m.)  
Transit Manager, E. Zahra (until 8:53 p.m.)  
Manager of Budgets & Financial Reporting/Deputy Treasurer, E. Pankoff (until 8:23 p.m.)  
Revenue Service Manager, M. Lostracco (until 8:23 p.m.)

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**21-15** Adam Eckhart, Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator addressed Council regarding Fire Department Staffing.

**21-13** Steve Zorbas, Chief Administrative Officer addressed Council regarding Inter-Regional Transit Considerations - One Taxpayer.

### **2021 - 286**

**16-104** Moved by Fokkens and Larouche

1. THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves an increase to the maximum funding available under the SWAP program from \$4,000.00 to \$6,000.00; and
2. THAT Council approves an amendment to By-law 2017-18 being A BY-LAW TO REGULATE MANAGEMENT OF A SYSTEM OF SEWER WORKS AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN THE CITY OF WELLAND to increase Section 4.2.2 and Section 4.3.2 maximum reimbursements from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00 and \$4,000.00 to \$6,000.00, respectively; and further
3. THAT Council directs staff to develop a public information/education campaign for the proper operation and maintenance of residential backflow valves.

**CARRIED**

### **2021 - 287**

**21-4** Moved by Chiocchio and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND authorizes the following as requested by the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC):

1. THAT ROYAL BANK OF CANADA ("Royal Bank") is appointed banker for the Customer.
2. THAT for instrument/agreements/credits/borrows: The Mayor and Director of Finance/CFO/Treasurer to sign jointly or any one of the Mayor or Director of Finance/CFO/Treasurer to sign together with any one of the Manager of Budgets and Financial Reporting/Deputy Treasurer or Chief Administrative Officer or City Clerk are authorized on behalf of the Customer from time to time:
  - (a) to withdraw or order transfers of funds from the Customer's accounts by any means including the making, drawing, accepting, endorsing or signing of cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, other orders for the payment of money or other instruments or the giving of other instructions;
  - (b) to sign any agreements or other documents or instruments with or in favour of Royal Bank, including agreements and contracts relating to products or services provided by Royal Bank to the Customer; and
  - (c) to do, or to authorize any person or persons to do, any one or more of the following:
    - (i) to receive from Royal Bank any cash or any securities, instruments or other property of the Customer held by Royal Bank, whether for safekeeping or as security, or to give instructions to Royal Bank for the delivery or other transfer of any such cash, securities, instruments or other property to any person named in those instructions;
    - (ii) to deposit with or negotiate or transfer to Royal Bank, for the credit of the Customer, cash or any security, instrument or other property, and for those purposes to endorse (by rubber stamp or otherwise) the name of the Customer, or any other name under which the Customer carries on business, on any security or instrument;
    - (iii) to instruct Royal Bank, by any means, to debit the accounts of third parties for deposit to the credit of the Customer; and
    - (iv) to receive statements, instruments and other items (including paid cheques) and documents relating to the Customer's accounts with or any service of Royal Bank, and to settle and certify the Customer's accounts with Royal Bank.
3. That all instruments, instructions, agreements (including contracts relating to products or services provided by Royal Bank) and documents made, drawn, accepted, endorsed or signed (under the corporate seal or otherwise) as provided in this Resolution and delivered to Royal Bank by any person, shall be valid and binding on the Customer, and Royal Bank is hereby authorized to act on them and give effect to them.
4. That Royal Bank be furnished with:
  - (a) a copy of this Resolution; and

...continued...

**2021 - 287****21-4...cont'd.**

(b) a list of the names of the persons authorized by this Resolution to act on behalf of the Customer, and with written notice of any changes which may take place in such list from time to time, and with specimens of the signatures of all such persons; each certified by the (1) Mayor and (2) Director of Finance/CFO/Treasurer of the Customer; and

(c) in writing, any authorization made under paragraph 2(c) of this Resolution.

5. That any document furnished to Royal Bank as provided for in paragraph 4 of this Resolution shall be binding upon the Customer until a new document repealing or replacing the previous one has been received and duly acknowledged in writing by the branch or agency of Royal Bank where the Customer has its account.

**CARRIED****2021 - 288****21-13**

Moved by Fokkens and Moote

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the presentation by Steve Zorbas, Chief Administrative Officer regarding Inter-Regional Transit Considerations - One Taxpayer.

**CARRIED****2021 - 289****21-13**

Moved by McLeod and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information Report TRANS-2021-11 – Update # 2 Niagara Region Transit (NRT) Governance Strategy; and

THAT Welland City Council supports the current levels of Niagara Region Transit service in place and the emergence of on-demand services for smaller municipalities, which do not provide conventional and specialized services; and further

THAT The Triple Majority Vote does not occur until the following updates are forwarded to all municipalities;

- a) Update the financial model to reflect Welland, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Niagara Inter-Regional Transit operating costs based upon Council approved 2022 Transit Budgets including:
  - i Assumptions regarding PGT funding (OPTA has forecasted a reduction and Welland has assumed a 25% reduction for 2022 Transit Budget) and ridership levels forecasted to be reduced to 70% pre-COVID.
  - ii Assumptions regarding Safe Restart Funding.
  - iii Both items (PGT and SRA Funding) are currently being lobbied by Ontario Public Transit Association (OPTA)
  - iv Proposed annual lease payments to be made to the City of Niagara Falls for the WEGO Transit Facility
- b) Updated 5-year Transit Capital Budgets (2022-2026) for Welland, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Niagara Inter-Regional Transit. Transit capital costs and allocation percentages proposed to allocate these costs to lower-tiered Municipalities and further;
- c) Updated Capital assets schedules for Welland, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Niagara Region summarizing assets including but not limited to revenue fleet, non-revenue vehicles and facilities.

THAT Report TRANS-2021-15 – Second Update on Niagara Region Transit (NRT) Governance Strategy be circulated to all area municipalities.

**CARRIED****2021 - 290****21-15**

Moved by McLeod and Mastroianni

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the presentation by Adam Eckhart, Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator regarding Fire Department Staffing.

**CARRIED**

**2021 - 291****21-15**

Moved by McLeod and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends that, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, the staffing complement of the Fire Suppression Division to maintain a ratio of at least one (1) full-time suppression firefighter for every 950 residents of the City of Welland as the population is predicted by the Welland Planning Department; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, increasing the Suppression Division staffing to at least 52 full-time staff in January of 2022 and 60 in January of 2023, and 68 in January of 2024; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, increasing the full-time firefighter on-duty staffing minimum from the current eight (8) to nine (9) persons by the end of the year 2022, and eleven (11) by the end of 2023, and twelve (12) in 2024; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends that, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, authorize the Fire Chief to develop a policy and departmental system to increase the full-time firefighters that are called back to provide emergency response coverage across the Community, during active incidents from the current four (4) staff to a minimum of nine (9) staff at the discretion of the Fire Chief and to maintain a policy that ensures that the Fire Department can provide a timely emergency response to the Community while operating at multiple emergency scenes; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends that, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, authorize the Fire Chief in January of 2023 to increase the overall staffing complement of the Fire Prevention Division to five (5) full-time staff and six (6) full-time staff by the end of 2024; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends that, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, to create a new position of a Deputy Fire Chief to oversee the Fire Prevention primarily, Community Risk and Public Education responsibilities, share in the on-call responsibilities and complement the current Fire Department management team, the position created in February of 2022; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the Fire Department Staffing plan which recommends that, subject to future budget review and approval during the 2022- 2026 timelines, to create a new Administrative Assistant position for the Fire Department in 2023, working among the Training, Fire Prevention, and Management groups; and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs the Fire Chief, starting in 2023, provide an annual report to Council on the WFES response performance target of firefighter assembly times of 80 seconds or better and having the first arriving Pumper truck arrive at reported building fires within 240 seconds of drive time, 90% of the time; and further

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs the Fire Chief to provide an annual report to Council comparing the Community Risk to that of the service delivered by the Fire and Emergency Services Department throughout the year.

**CARRIED****2021 - 292****21-111**

Moved by Van Vliet and Green

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives the draft policy for a Compassionate Grant for Sewer Backup for residential properties as a result of significant rainfall; and further

THAT Welland City Council provides feedback to staff on the draft policy.

**(Councillor Fokkens disclosed an interest in this matter and did not take part in the consideration and discussion of same, and refrained from voting thereon, she is in the catchment area).**

**CARRIED****2021 - 293****21-131**

Moved by Fokkens and Larouche

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives Report ENG-2021-25: Commercial Street Area Sanitary Bypass - Pump Replacement for information.

**CARRIED**

**2021 - 294**

**21-132**

Moved by Grimaldi and Mastroianni

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to prepare a mandatory disconnection program for basement flooding prone areas with the City.

.....

**21-132**

Moved by Van Vliet and Mastroianni

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND refers Report ENG-2021-26 back to staff for more information regarding Stormwater Inflow Direct Connections into the Wastewater System.

**YEAS:** Councillors Green, Grimaldi, Mastroianni, Moote, Van Vliet and Mayor Campion.

**NAYS:** Councillors Larouche, Speck, Chiochio, McLeod, Richard and Fokkens.

**LOST**

**FOLLOWING THE LOST VOTE ON THE AMENDING MOTION, THE MAIN MOTION WAS PUT IN ITS ORIGINAL FORM AND .....**

**YEAS:** Councillors Green, McLeod, Mastroianni, Moote, Van Vliet and Mayor Campion.

**NAYS:** Councillors Larouche, Speck, Chiochio, Richard, Grimaldi and Fokkens.

**LOST**

**2021 - 295**

**21-25**

Moved by Mastroianni and Van Vliet

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND meet, with the Mayor as Chair, in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 8:53 p.m. to consider:

- For the purpose of educating or training members of council;
  - *Welland Hydro.*

**CARRIED**

**2021 - 296**

**21-25**

Moved by McLeod and Mastroianni

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 9:01 p.m. without report.

**CARRIED**

**BY-LAWS**

Moved by Larouche and Mastroianni

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND having given due consideration to the following By-law, as reproduced in this evening's Council Agenda, now read a first, second and third time and pass same, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign and seal same.

**16-104**

BYL 2021 - 165

A By-law to amend By-law 2017-18; being a By-law to Regulate Management of a System of Sewer Works and Drainage Works in the City of Welland.

**CARRIED**

Moved by Grimaldi and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND having given due consideration to the following By-law, as reproduced in this evening's Council Agenda, now read a first, second and third time and pass same, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign and seal same.

**21-1**

BYL 2021 - 166

A By-law to adopt, ratify and confirm proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Welland at its meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

**CARRIED**

Council adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY CLERK**