



**CITY OF
Welland**

**MINUTES OF THE
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING
VIRTUAL- ZOOM**

Council met in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 5:34 p.m. and in open session at 7:06 p.m. and again in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 9:04 p.m on the above date

His Worship Mayor Frank Campion in the Chair.

Members Present (virtual):

Councillors J. Chiochio, T. DiMarco, B. Fokkens, B. Green, M.A. Grimaldi, J. Lee, D. McLeod, A. Moote (5:42 p.m. - 7:06 p.m. and again at 7:40 p.m.), C. Richard (6:03 p.m.), S. Setaram, G. Speck and L. Van Vliet.

Members of Staff and Others Present:

Chief Administrative Officer, R. Axiak

Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk, T. Stephens

General Manager of Corporate & Enterprise Services/CFO, S. Nagel

Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator, A. Eckhart

Director of Community Services, J. Ruddell

Director of Infrastructure Services, SM. Millar

Director of Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development, L. DeChellis

Director of Planning and Development Services, G. Munday

2024 - 242**24-25** Moved by Grimaldi 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 5:34 p.m. to consider:

- Receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
 - 50 Bruce Street - OLT Update.
 - Encampments - Legal Opinion and Municipal Role.
- Proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
 - Property Matter - Update and Next Steps.
- A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person group of persons, or organization;
 - DSBN Partnership Opportunity.

CARRIED**2024 - 243****24-25** Moved by McLeod and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 7:04 p.m. without report.

CARRIED**DELEGATIONS**

24-78 Linda Crouch, Resident, addressed Council regarding support of Notice of Motion regarding Coyle Creek Park.

24-78 John Brinkman, Resident, addressed Council regarding Notice of Motion regarding Coyle Creek Park.

2024 - 244**24-1** Moved by McLeod and Grimaldi

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND hereby approves and adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of July 30, 2024 Resolution Number 2024-226 and Regular Council Meeting of August 13, 2024, as circulated.

CARRIED

2024 - 245**99-90** Moved by Speck and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves the request from the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area to appoint Archie Spagnolo on the Board of Management.

(Councillor McLeod disclosed an interest in a matter and did not take part in the consideration and discussion of same, as he has an interest in a property).

CARRIED**2024 - 246****02-160** Moved by Green and Fokkens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND hold an in-camera meeting with the Clerk and a legal representative present to discuss an identifiable individual. The purpose of this meeting will be to receive a follow-up from the December 19, 2023 in camera council direction and options to amend that council direction.

YEAS: Lee, Green, Speck, Chiochio, DiMarco, Richard, Setaram and Fokkens.

NAYS: McLeod, Grimaldi, Moote, Van Vliet and Mayor Campion.

CARRIED**2024 - 247****09-152** Moved by DiMarco and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves the request from the Town and Gown Committee of paying \$1,068.98 for one (1) off-duty police officer to patrol in the Niagara College area on move-in weekend from the 2024 Advisory Committee Activity Account.

CARRIED**2024 - 248****21-30** Moved by Mayor Campion and McLeod

Whereas, There's a homelessness and mental health crisis happening on our streets;
 Whereas, Ontario's cities cannot solve it alone;
 Whereas, At last count there were over 1,400 encampments in Ontario, and that figure is rising;
 Whereas, Ontario's cities have been left to deal with this crisis without adequate resources and support—even though mental health care, addiction treatment and housing are provincial responsibilities;
 Whereas, It's time for all levels of Governments to work together to take immediate action to solve the homelessness and mental health crisis gripping our communities;
 Whereas, Residents and businesses are being impacted, and people need to feel safe in our downtowns and public spaces;
 Whereas, There are programs that work, but they require all levels of government to step up and work with municipalities and community partners to prioritize these solutions.

I, Frank Campion, Mayor for the City of Welland, request Council to endorse and promote the Solve the Crisis Project put forward by the Big City Mayors of Ontario.

CARRIED

2024 - 249

24-14 Moved by Chiocchio and DiMarco

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves the reduction of the council size to six (6) councillors and Mayor effective (7 total) for the 2026 Municipal Election; and further

THAT Welland City Council subsequently directs staff to conduct a ward boundary review based on this reduced council composition, including options for a ward-based, or an at-large system.

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24-14 Moved by DiMarco and Chiocchio

THAT Welland City Council approves the reduction of the council size to eight (8) councillors and eight (8) wards.

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24-14 Moved by Green and McLeod

THAT Welland City Council refers back to staff to conduct a public engagement strategy for input from residents regarding a reduction of council size.

CARRIED

2024 - 250

24-26 Moved by Grimaldi and Moote

WHEREAS, there is a gap in sidewalks on the north and south sides of South Pelham Road from Foss Road to Thorold Road; and further

WHEREAS, interconnected continuous sidewalks are necessary for active transportation and an accessible and livable community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to engage with the Region of Niagara in order to have sidewalks installed on South Pelham Road between Foss and Thorold Roads.

CARRIED

2024 - 251

24-78 Moved by McLeod and Lee (in block)

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the petition from the residents of Coyle Creek Park regarding opposing implementing the buffer zone around the perimeter of the pond and forwards the matter to staff.

CARRIED

2024 - 252**24-78** Moved by Chiocchio and Setaram

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to provide a comprehensive report regarding the storm management pond at Coyle Creek. That the report detail the city's responsibility and history to the maintenance of the surrounding park like setting over the past 10 years. That any input from surrounding residents regarding this pond be included in the report and this report to be on an upcoming Council meeting.

CARRIED**2024 - 253****24-25** Moved by McLeod and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND meet, with the Mayor as Chair, in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 9:04 p.m. to consider:

- Proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
 - Property Matter - Update and Next Steps.
- A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person group of persons, or organization;
 - DSBN Partnership Opportunity.

CARRIED**2024 - 254****24-25** Moved by McLeod and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 9:53 p.m. without report.

CARRIED**BY-LAWS**

Moved by Richard and Grimaldi

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.

24-1

BYL 2024 - 90

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 3rd day of September, 2024.

CARRIED

Council adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 10th day of September, 2024.