



**MINUTES OF THE  
MAY 16, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING  
CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
60 EAST MAIN STREET**

Council met in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:47 p.m. and in open session at 7:20 p.m. on the above date.

His Worship Mayor Frank Campion in the Chair.

**Members Present:**

Councillors J. Chiochio, T. DiMarco (virtual 7:14 p.m.), B. Fokkens, B. Green, M.A. Grimaldi (virtual), J. Lee, D. McLeod, A. Moote, C. Richard, S. Setaram, G. Speck (virtual), and L. Van Vliet.

**Members of Staff and Others Present:**

Chief Administrative Officer, S. Zorbas

City Clerk, T. Stephens

Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator, A. Eckhart

Director of Infrastructure Services, SM. Millar

Director of Planning and Development Services, G. Munday

Director of Community Services, R. Axiak

Manager of Budgets & Financial Reporting/Deputy Treasurer, E. Pankoff

Policy Planning Supervisor, N. Aiello (until 9:09 p.m.)

Manager of Economic Development, L. DeChellis (until 7:33 p.m.)

Economic Development Officer, L. Allen (until 7:20 p.m.)

Manager of Business & Community Services, A. Degazio (until 8:20 p.m.)

Acting Manager of Parks and Open Spaces, D. Steven (7:04 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.)

**2023 - 272**

**23-25** Moved by Fokkens and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND meet, with the Mayor as Chair, in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:47 p.m. to consider:

- proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
  - 460 River Road – Agreement of purchase and Sale.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 273**

**23-25** Moved by Lee and Fokkens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 7:14 p.m. with report.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 274**

**99-43** Moved by Chiocchio and Fokkens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND, as Sole Shareholder of Welland Hydro Electric Holding Corp., requests and accepts excess funds of \$1,000,000 by way of a dividend from Welland Hydro-Electric Holding Corp.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 275**

**02-160** Moved by Setaram and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to arrange a customized training session, Human Rights and Equity: The Role and Obligations of Municipal Leaders offered by the Association of Municipalities not later than Q2 in 2024.

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**02-160** Moved by Moote and Fokkens

THAT Welland City Council refers back to staff a notice of motion to arrange a customized training session, Human Rights and Equity: The Role and Obligations of Municipal Leaders offered by the Association of Municipalities not later than Q2 in 2024.

**CARRIED**

**Action Items/Direction to Staff:**

- **Alternative resources and cost.**
- **Prepare a report for Council consideration.**

**2023 - 276**

**02-160** Moved by Setaram and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to arrange a customized training session regarding Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official offered by the Association of Municipalities in 2023, and further

THAT Council is provided the opportunity to submit additional conflict resolution related learning objectives to this session.

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**02-160** Moved by Fokkens and Lee

THAT Navigating Conflict Relationships training be included in the Council orientation following an elections.

**CARRIED**

**FOLLOWING THE VOTE ON THE AMENDING MOTION, THE MAIN MOTION WAS PUT AS AMENDED AND .....**

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 277****21-30**

Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information, Report CLK-2023-14: Stopping of Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act, 2022; and

THAT Welland City Council express support for Bill 5, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act, and further

THAT this resolution be forwarded to Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Jeff Burch, MPP for Welland, and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

**CARRIED****2023 - 278****21-30**

Moved by Fokkens and Richard

WHEREAS, individuals, families, and businesses in Welland are struggling because of nation and province-wide systemic gaps in addressing homelessness, mental health, and addiction; and

WHEREAS, the Canada Health Act's primary objective is to protect, promote and restore the physical and mental well-being of residents; and WHEREAS, Niagara Regional Council has adopted a motion to declare mental health, homelessness, and addiction as an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Welland has experienced a dramatic increase in individuals living rough throughout the community, both within public spaces as well as derelict and vacant private properties; and WHEREAS, Welland City Council fully funded a pilot emergency shelter in February and March 2023 – 8 weeks for three days a week where 89 overnight stays were recorded showing a need in Welland for additional emergency shelter accommodations; and

WHEREAS, Welland City Council approved a motion on March 27th, 2023 requesting the Provincial Government acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, and commit to ending homelessness in Ontario, in addition to working with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to Page 4 of 6 develop an action plan regarding homelessness; and

WHEREAS, City staff at various levels, from multiple departments, are often taken away from regular duties to coordinate and clean-up encampments and an increase in the number and size of encampments has led to concerns about the safety and well-being of individuals living rough as well as the impact of the surrounding community, and as encampments have created additional workload on City crews at the expense of other core service functions due to a shortage of funding and adequate intervention from other levels of government; and

WHEREAS, street outreach, emergency shelter, rent allowances, and affordable housing are not able to accommodate the increased number and acuity of clients presenting with significant mental health and addictions needs, and to successfully and sustainably support clients to exit from unsheltered homelessness without intensive health supports in the community or as part of a supportive housing program; and further

WHEREAS, the City of Welland lacks the jurisdiction and the financial and technical resources to meaningfully address systemic gaps in effective service delivery to those experiencing homelessness, mental health, and addiction.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND declares a mental health, homelessness and addiction crisis in the City of Welland; and

THAT Welland City Council calls on the federal and provincial governments to declare national and provincial state of emergencies on mental health, homelessness, and addiction that includes direct and culturally relevant support to Indigenous peoples; and

THAT Welland City Council reaffirms its call for the province to work with all levels of government to provide a comprehensive and long-term financial commitment to create more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, with wraparound services to address the specific needs of those with substance use and mental health needs; and

THAT Welland City Council condemns the discrimination of people living with mental illness, people who are unhoused homeless and / or people living with addiction, within the community; and further

THAT that this resolution be circulated to all Niagara area municipalities, the Office of the Premier of Ontario, the Federal Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion, Niagara Area MPPs and MPs, the Ontario Solicitor General, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and all Niagara Region Municipalities.

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**21-30** Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet  
THAT Welland City Council refers the Notice of Motion to the new Health Care Committee.

**LOST**

**FOLLOWING THE LOST MOTION TO AMEND, THE MAIN MOTION  
WAS PUT IN ITS ORIGINAL FORM AND .....**

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 279**

**23-15** Moved by Green and Lee  
THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND repeals By-law 2013-107, a By-law to authorize entering into an agreement with the Welland Professional Firefighters Association to locate a monument at the fire station (636 King St.) to honour past members; and  
THAT Welland City Council creates a By-law to authorize entering into an agreement with the Welland Professional Firefighters Association IAFF Local #481 and the United Steelworkers Local #1-1000 to locate a Monument, Memorial Stones, and similar benches in the South East Corner of the property at 400 East Main St. to honour past members; and further  
THAT Welland City Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute all necessary documents to execute this agreement.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 280**

**23-19** Moved by Fokkens and Chiocchio  
THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the City of Welland Community Services Department – LOVE MY PARK – Neighbourhood Park Improvement Campaign; and further  
That the Welland City Council members nominate one park in your ward and inform staff of their choice by May 19, 2023.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 281**

**23-19** Moved by McLeod and Moote  
THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the Memorandum provided by staff regarding the Notice of Motion concerning urban forestry.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 282**

**23-19** Moved by Fokkens and DiMarco  
THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to liaise with the Ontario Urban Forest Council and provide Page 3 of 6 a Tree Saving By-law to protect the Urban Canopy by July 11, 2023; and further  
THAT it also be submitted to the Green Advisory Committee if it is established, prior to July 11, 2023 for their comments.

**YEAS:** Lee, Green, DiMarco, Richard, Setaram and Fokkens.

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

**LOST**

**2023 - 283**

**23-22** Moved by Setaram and Lee  
THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives Report P&B-2023-15 for information; and further  
THAT Welland City Council directs staff to consult with the development community and public with regards to the Proposed Cash-in-Lieu of Parking By-law and return to Council with a final By-law for consideration; and further  
THAT Welland City Council directs staff to concurrently commence the process of amending the City's Zoning By-law 2017-117 and Official Plan to further amend the provisions for Cash-in-Lieu of Parking.

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**(Councillor McLeod disclosed an interest in this matter and did not take part in the consideration and discussion of same, and refrained from voting thereon, as he has an interest in a building that is within the Downtown Area).**

**2023 - 284**

**23-22**

Moved by Van Vliet and Moote

THAT Welland City Council refers back to staff Report P&B-2023-15: Cash In Lieu of Parking Policy.

**CARRIED**

**Actions Items/Direction to Staff:**

- **Options for different funding models.**
- **Clarify proposed fees for developer and residents.**

**2023 - 285**

**23-84**

Moved by Moote and Setaram (in block)

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information purposes Report P&B-2023-16 regarding key amendments to the land use planning system as put forth in the proposed new Provincial Planning Statement and Bill 97, the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023; and further

THAT Welland City Council requests the City Clerk forward a copy of this Report to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

**CARRIED**

**2023 - 286**

**23-86**

Moved by Moote and Setaram (in block)

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the letter from the National Chronic Pain Society; and further

THAT Welland City Council requests the Ontario Government maintain OHIP coverage for chronic pain treatments and continue to provide much-needed care for the people of Ontario.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE (IN-CAMERA)**

**2023 - 287**

**23-82**

Moved by Moote and Setaram

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND accepts the offer from Marc Gauvin, on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated to purchase the city owned lands located at 460 River Road; and further

THAT Welland City Council directs staff to prepare all the necessary documentation and By-laws relative to the transfer; and further

THAT the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute all the necessary documents relative to the transfer; and further

THAT Welland City Council directs staff to transfer the proceeds of the sale into the Economic Development Reserve Fund.

**CARRIED**

**BY-LAWS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE (IN-CAMERA)**

Moved by Moote and Setaram (in block)

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.

**23-84**

BYL 2023 - 79

A By-law to authorize acceptance of an offer to purchase from Marc Gauvin on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated to purchase city owned lands located at 460 River Road.

**CARRIED**

**BY-LAWS**

Moved by McLeod and Chiochio

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.

**23-15**

BYL 2023 - 80

A By-law to authorize entering into an agreement with the Welland Professional Firefighters Association and the United Steelworkers to locate a monument, memorial stones and similar benches in the south east corner of the property municipally known as 400 East Main Street to honour past members.

**CARRIED**

Moved by Moote and Setaram (in block)

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND having given due consideration to the following By-laws, 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.

**23-12**

BYL 2023 - 81

A By-law to appoint certain Members of Council as Vice Mayor for the period from July 1, 2023 to November 15, 2026.

**23-85**

BYL 2023 - 82

A By-law to exempt certain lands from Part-Lot Control - Parts 1-6 (inclusive) on Plan 59R17502, Block 2, Registered Plan 59M-500, (1048, 1052, 1056, 1060, 1064, 1070 Hansler Road), City of Welland.

**23-85**

BYL 2023 - 83

A By-law to exempt certain lands from Part-Lot Control - Parts 1-6 (inclusive) on Plan 59R17505, Block 1, Registered Plan 59M-500, (1084, 1090, 1094, 1098, 1102, 1106 Hansler Road), City of Welland.

**23-22**

BYL 2023 - 84

A By-law to appoint Traffic Enforcement Officers of The Corporation of the City of Welland to enforce the provisions of Traffic and Parking By-law 89-2000 at Seaway Mall and to repeal By-law 2022-113.

**CARRIED**

Moved by Van Vliet and Moote

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.

**23-1**

BYL 2023 - 85

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 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023.

**CARRIED**

Council adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

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**MAYOR**

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**CITY CLERK**