



**CITY OF
Welland**

**MINUTES OF THE
JANUARY 16, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING
CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
60 EAST MAIN STREET**

Council met in open session at 7:00 p.m. on the above date.

His Worship Mayor Frank Campion in the Chair.

Members Present:

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

Members of Staff and Others Present:

Chief Administrative Officer, R. Axiak

City Clerk, T. Stephens

Interim Director of Finance/Chief Finance Officer/Treasurer, E. Pankoff

Director of Planning and Development Services, G. Munday

Manager of Engineering, L. McEachern

Manager of Business & Community Services, A. Degazio

Revenue Service Manager, M. Lostracco (until 8:30 p.m.)

Acting Manager of Budgets and Financial Reporting/Deputy Treasurer, A. Vuksan Scott
(7:14 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

PRESENTATION**99-99**

Tammy Morden, Club President and Vic Kerschl, Board Member, The Rotary Club of Welland regarding the 100th Anniversary Legacy Project and Rotary Club of Welland Park Update.

2024 - 16

24-1 Moved by McLeod and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND hereby approves and adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 9, 2024, as circulated.

CARRIED**2024 - 17**

24-1 Moved by Chiocchio and Fokkens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the Budget Review Minutes of October 2, 2023.

CARRIED**2024 - 18**

02-160 Moved by Chiocchio and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND suspend the rules to move up a Notice of Motion.

YEAS: Lee, Green, Speck, Chiocchio, DiMarco, Richard, Setaram and Mayor Champion.

NAYS: McLeod, Grimaldi, Fokkens, Moote and Van Vliet.

LOST
(2/3 majority is required)

2024 - 19

99-99 Moved by Setaram and Chiocchio

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the presentation by Tammy Morden, Club President and Vic Kerschl, Board Member, The Rotary Club of Welland regarding the 100th Anniversary Legacy Project and Rotary Club of Welland Park Update.

CARRIED

2024 - 20**21-30** Moved by Chiocchio and Van Vliet

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND supports a brief information update be provided by an Affordable Housing Advisory Committee Council Representative to Welland City Council regarding a proposed nonprofit Affordable Housing Project at 662 Deere Street; and further

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND requests the City Clerk bring submitted applications forward to Welland City Council as they are submitted to fill vacant Affordable Housing Advisory Committee positions at our earliest convenience.

CARRIED**2024 - 21****21-30** Moved by Fokkens and Richard

WHEREAS the Region has increased the number of available beds to support homelessness in Welland by 8 beds from November 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024 which at 2 persons per room, would support approximately 50 individuals and that Welland Council received for information, and appreciates the Long Term plans as set out in Report CS-2023-26 on October 24, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Council has not had a report from the Homeless Working Group on the plans for short term homeless solutions; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, calls to place persons in the shelter have been met with unavailable room in the Welland location; and

WHEREAS, per the most recent Homeless by name list date from the Region, it lists that 134 persons identify Welland as their home community (which represents 11% of the total list of 1,177 persons) of this, 96 persons had been recently housed in a shelter and 21 were unsheltered and may or may not be residing in Welland and 17 persons were accommodated by friends, 54 persons were identified as chronically homeless.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to partner with local groups and agencies to open and fund a temporary 8 bed shelter for the months of February and March 2024 and to allocate \$35,000 from the Operating Surplus Account in order to maximize the available days that the shelter would be open.

YEAS: Lee, Green, Speck, Chiocchio, McLeod, DiMarco, Richard, Grimaldi, Setaram, Fokkens, Moote, Van Vliet and Mayor Campion.

NAYS: None.

CARRIED**2024 - 22****22-112** Moved by Fokkens and Richard (in block)

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to apply for Electric Vehicle Charging Grant by January 31, 2024, for additional Electric Vehicle charging stations in Municipal parking lot(s).

CARRIED

2024 - 23**24-4** Moved by Fokkens and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the Capital Project Close-out report listed in Appendix A as attached to Report FIN-2024-02; and further

THAT Welland City Council approves the recommended transfers to/from the respective reserves and recommended projects as outlined in Appendix A as attached to Report FIN-2024-02.

CARRIED**2024 - 24****24-4** Moved by Fokkens and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND receives for information the 2024 Q3 Year-to-Date Budget Variance Report and Capital Progress report (FIN-2024-01; and further

THAT Welland City Council approves the 2023 Tax Supported Budget forecasted surplus of \$1,101,490 (estimated and unaudited) to be allocated to the Operating Surplus Reserve Fund; and further

THAT Welland City Council approves the 2023 Water/Wastewater Budget forecasted deficit of \$811,698 (estimated and unaudited) to be funded either by the Water/Wastewater Reserve Fund, further reducing the interdepartmental charge backs, or a combination of the of the two; and further

THAT Welland City Council approves any 2023 unallocated Incentive Program surplus to be accrued to the Brownfield Downtown Reserve fund; and further

THAT Welland City Council approves any 2023 Building Sustainability surplus to be allocated to the Building Sustainability Reserve Fund and committed for future use; and further

THAT Welland City Council approves the 2023 Youngs Sportsplex (YSP) deficit to be funded by the YSP Sustainability Reserve Fund.

(Councillor DiMarco asked to be recorded as opposed to the motion).

CARRIED**2024 - 25****24-13** Moved by Speck and Chiocchio

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND nominates Councillor Sharmila Setaram to the Niagara Region Transportation Strategy Committee.

LOST**2024 - 26****24-13** Moved by DiMarco and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND nominates Councillor Adam Moote to the Niagara Region Transportation Strategy Committee.

CARRIED

BY-LAWS

Moved by Fokkens and Richard (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.

24-4

BYL 2024 - 2

A By-law to provide an Interim Tax Levy for year 2024.

24-4

BYL 2024 - 3

A By-law to establish tax rates and to levy taxes for the year 2024.

24-37

BYL 2024 - 4

A By-law to establish the 2024 water and wastewater rate structure and fees & charges for the year 2024.

CARRIED

Moved by Grimaldi 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.

24-1

BYL 2024 - 5

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 16th day of January, 2024.

CARRIED

Council adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 30th day of January, 2024.