



**CITY OF
Welland**

MINUTES OF THE

APRIL 14, 2026, COUNCIL MEETING

**CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
60 EAST MAIN STREET**

Council met in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:02 p.m. and in open session at 7:08 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, J. Lee, D. McLeod, A. Moote, C. Richard (6:48 p.m.), S. Setaram, G. Speck, and L. Van Vliet.

Members of Staff and Others Present:

Chief Administrative Officer, J. Ruddell

Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk, T. Stephens

Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy City Clerk, S. Conidi

Director of Community Services, J. McPetrie

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

Acting Fire Chief, M. Richardson

Director of Infrastructure Services, SM. Millar

Director of Planning and Development Services, G. Munday

Director of Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development, L. DeChellis

Chief Communications & Public Engagement Manager, M. MacDonald (7:08 p.m.)

City Treasurer, M. Steele

Manager of Business and Community Services, A. Degazio (virtual)

Manager of Economic Development, L. Allen (virtual until 7:08 p.m.)

Supervisor of Parking & By-law Enforcement, J. Cronshaw (7:08 p.m. - 9:42 p.m.)

Manager of Facility Operations & Development, F. Pearson (7:08 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

2026 - 68

26-25 Moved by McLeod and Grimaldi

THAT Council meet, with the Mayor as Chair, in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:02 p.m. to consider:

- proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board:
 - Property Matter.
- 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: and
 - Youngs Sportsplex Operating Agreement Extension.
- Educational or training session:
 - Update on City Actions following December 19, 2025, incident.

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

NAYS: Speck.

CARRIED

2026 - 69

26-25 Moved by McLeod and Setaram

THAT Council arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 7:02 p.m. without report.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

12-96 Rebecca Hines, Senior Associate, Hunter Legal LLP addressed Council regarding Investigation Report Complaint No. 2026-01.

2026 - 70

26-1 Moved by McLeod and Moote

THAT Council hereby approves and adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 7, 2026, as circulated.

CARRIED

2026 - 71

99-43 Moved by McLeod and Lee

THAT Council, 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

2026 - 72

05-51 Moved by Fokkens and Lee (in block)

THAT Council receives for information competitive purchase results as per the Procurement Policy & By-Law 2025-110.

CARRIED

2026 - 73

08-48 Moved by Grimaldi and Moote

THAT Council approves Report BYL-2026-04 Response to Referral: Proposed Vital Services By-law; and further

THAT Council approves the Vital Services By-law attached as Appendix I; and further THAT Council directs the City Clerk to amend By-law 2009-108 and By-law 2019-134 as set out in Appendix II.

CARRIED

2026 - 74

12-96 Moved by Moote and Grimaldi

THAT Council receives for information the presentation by Rebecca Hines, Integrity Commissioner, regarding Investigation Report Complaint No. 2026-01; and THAT Council, pursuant to subsection 223.4(5) of the Municipal Act, 2001, hereby issue a formal reprimand to the Councillor identified in Investigation Report Complaint No. 2026-01; and

THAT Council requests Councillor Chiocchio to provide a written apology to Council acknowledging:

- the misleading characterizations made in his public communications, including social media posts and responses, regarding the reasons for his removal from the meeting; and
- his obligation under the Code of Conduct to respect Council’s governance and decision making processes when communicating publicly; and further

THAT Council determines that no suspension of remuneration be imposed in this matter.

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(Council requested the final motion be separated for voting).

12-96 Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet

THAT the recommendation be amended to that “the remuneration for Councillor Chiocchio be suspended for 2 weeks”.

YEAS: Grimaldi, McLeod, Moote, Setaram and Van Vliet.

NAYS: Mayor Campion, DiMarco, Fokkens, Green, Lee, Richard and Speck.

LOST

12-96 Moved by Moote and Grimaldi
 THAT Council receives for information the presentation by Rebecca Hines, Integrity Commissioner, regarding Investigation Report Complaint No. 2026-01.

CARRIED

12-96 Moved by Moote and Grimaldi
 THAT Council, pursuant to subsection 223.4(5) of the Municipal Act, 2001, hereby issue a formal reprimand to the Councillor identifies in Investigation Report Complaint No. 2026-01.

CARRIED

12-96 Moved by Moote and Grimaldi
 THAT Council requests Councillor Chiocchio to provide a written apology to Council acknowledging:

- the misleading characterizations made in his public communications, including social media posts and responses, regarding the reasons for his removal from the meeting; and
- his obligation under the Code of Conduct to respect Council's governance and decision making processes when communicating publicly.

YEAS: Mayor Campion, Fokkens, Green, Grimaldi, Lee, McLeod, Moote, and Setaram.

NAYS: DiMarco, Speck and Van Vliet.

(Councillor Richard did not vote).

CARRIED

12-96 Moved by Moote and Grimaldi
 THAT Council determines that no suspension of remuneration be imposed in this matter.

CARRIED

2026 - 75

25-22 Moved by Moote and Lee
 THAT Council receives Report BYL-2026-05: Response to Council's Referral Motion – Parking on Kaywood Court for information; and further
 THAT Council directs staff to amend the Traffic and Parking By-law 89-2000 as outlined in Appendix I.

CARRIED

2026 - 76

25-124 Moved by Moote and McLeod
 THAT Council receives Report P&B 2026-09 for information in reference to the Motion regarding enacting sunset clauses in planning approvals.

CARRIED

2026 - 77**26-3**

Moved by Green and Moote

THAT Council approves a full-time unionized cGaming Compliance & Community Liaison position, funded through Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) municipal contributions.

CARRIED**2026 - 78****26-4**

Moved by McLeod and Moote

THAT Council authorizes the City Treasurer to request the Regional Municipality of Niagara to issue debentures in the amount of \$7,419,000 in accordance with the terms of the various authorizing By-laws outlined in Appendix I; and further

THAT Council directs the City Treasurer to make available certified copies of all applicable By-laws and Ministry of Environment Certificates, if applicable and all other information required in connection thereto to ensure the authorization of the issuance of the debentures in the amount of \$7,419,000 for the projects outlined in Appendix I; and further

THAT Council directs the City Clerk to prepare all the necessary and appropriate By-laws for debenture financing arrangements.

CARRIED**2026 - 79****26-19**

Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet

THAT Council approves the Welland Arenas Feasibility Study prepared by CS&P Architects dated September 17, 2025 (Appendix I); and further

THAT Council authorizes staff to apply for federal and provincial funding programs, including the federal Build Communities Strong Fund and Ontario's Sport and Recreation Infrastructure funding program, and any other relevant funding opportunities that may become available.

CARRIED**BY-LAWS**

Moved by McLeod and Grimaldi

THAT Council 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.

26-4

BYL 2026 - 13

A By-law to authorize application to the Regional Municipality of Niagara for the issue of debentures for year 2026.

26-22

BYL 2026 - 14

A By-law to amend By-law 89-2000, being a By-law Regulating Traffic and Parking with the City of Welland (Schedule V).

08-48

BYL 2026 - 15

A By-law to require adequate and suitable vital services for rental units.

CARRIED**2026 - 80****26-25** Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet

THAT Council meet, with the Mayor as Chair, in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 9:40 p.m. to consider:

- 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: and
 - Youngs Sportsplex Operating Agreement Extension.
- Educational or training session:
 - Update on City Actions following December 19, 2025, incident.

CARRIED**2026 - 81****26-25** Moved by Lee and Fokkens

THAT Council arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 10:00 p.m. without report.

CARRIED

Moved by Grimaldi and Van Vliet

THAT Council 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.

26-1

BYL 2026 - 16

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 14th day of April 2026.**CARRIED**

Council adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 12th day of May 2026.