



CITY OF Welland

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2026, COUNCIL MEETING CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS 60 EAST MAIN STREET

Council met in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:49 p.m. and in open session at 7:27 p.m. on the above date.

Vice Mayor Graham Speck in the Chair.

Members Present:

Councillors J. Chiocchio, T. DiMarco, B. Fokkens (virtual), B. Green (virtual), M.A. Grimaldi, J. Lee, D. McLeod, A. Moote, C. Richard, S. Setaram, 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

Chief Communications & Public Engagement Manager, M. MacDonald

Manager of Development Planning, T. Meadows (until 7:21 p.m.)

Manager of Parks, Forestry and Cemeteries, D. Steven

(Callum Shedden, Lawyer, Daniel & Partners LPP was present during Committee-of-the-Whole discussion on receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose and litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board).

2026 - 102

26-25 Moved by McLeod and Setaram

THAT Council meet, with the Mayor as Chair, in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:49 p.m. to consider:

- receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose and litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board.
- Legal Advice - OLT Appeal.

CARRIED

2026 - 103

26-25 Moved by McLeod and Richard

THAT Council arise from its closed Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 7:21 p.m. without report.

CARRIED

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS DELETED:

06-84 Sean Keays and Dennis Donnelly, Maison Richelieu Welland addressed Council regarding a grant request for refurbishment of Foyer Richelieu Welland (Maison Richelieu Welland).

DELEGATIONS

21-30 Cheryl Rowe, Resident addressed Council regarding a declaring State of Emergency on Mental Health, Homelessness and Addictions.

AGENCIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

99-90 Jesse D'Hulster, Chair and Morena Bertholds, Executive Director, Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area re: Amendments to the Constitution and nomination appointment.

2026 - 104

26-1 Moved by Richard and McLeod

THAT Council hereby approves and adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 12, 2026, as circulated.

CARRIED

2026 - 105**99-90**

Moved by Setaram and Moote

THAT Council receives and approves the amendments to the constitution from the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area; and further

THAT Council approves the request from the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area to appoint Lisa Mooney on the Board of Management effective June 9, 2026.

(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 pays levy to the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area).

(Councillor Chiocchio disclosed an interest in this matter and did not take part in the consideration and discussion of same, and refrained from voting thereon, as his nephew owns a business in the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area).

CARRIED**2026 - 106****21-30**

Moved by DiMarco and Richard

THAT Council receives for information the presentation regarding the importance of declaring a state of emergency related to mental health, homelessness, and addictions.

CARRIED**2026 - 107****21-30**

Moved by Lee and Setaram

WHEREAS, homelessness, mental health, and substance use Page 2 of 27 disorders continue to represent a growing public health and community safety crisis across Niagara, including within the City of Welland; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are increasingly managing the direct impacts of these crises through emergency response, by-law enforcement, community safety, shelter pressures, and local services, placing growing strain on municipal and healthcare resources; and

WHEREAS, individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, and addictions frequently require access to crisis stabilization, withdrawal management, complex care, recovery supports, and integrated health services; and

WHEREAS, gaps in local and regional treatment capacity contribute to increased emergency department utilization, hospital strain, EMS offload delays, and ongoing pressures on frontline services; and

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario has identified mental health and addictions as priority areas for investment and healthcare system transformation; and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Health Welland Hospital site is currently undergoing planning and redevelopment consideration through a provincially supported planning process; and

WHEREAS, meaningful collaboration between municipalities, healthcare partners, social service agencies, and individuals with lived and living experience can strengthen long-term community outcomes.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND formally declares homelessness, mental health, and substance use to

constitute a municipal and public health emergency requiring coordinated action across all levels of government; and

THAT the City of Welland calls upon the Ontario Ministry of Health and Niagara Health to ensure the ongoing planning and future redevelopment of the Welland Hospital site includes consideration for expanded:

- mental health and addictions treatment services;
- withdrawal management and stabilization capacity;
- complex continuing care and recovery beds;
- integrated community-based health supports; and

THAT the City of Welland requests that municipal perspectives, local service impacts, and community-based healthcare needs be incorporated into the ongoing planning and business case development process for the future of the Welland Hospital site; and further

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Health, local MPPs, Niagara Region, Niagara Health, and Niagara-area municipalities for their consideration.

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21-30 Moved by McLeod and Moote

THAT Council refers the matter back to staff with direction.

CARRIED

Action Items/Direction to Staff:

- Collaboration between staff and Niagara Health System (NHS), what our role can be and what they are working towards.
- Understanding NHS to advise what is expected with new hospital.

2026 - 108

23-107 Moved by Lee and McLeod

THAT Council approves the redline revision to a Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium for the Glenwood Parkway Condominium (file no. 26CD-14-20001), subject to the additional and modified conditions of approval, attached in Appendix I.

CARRIED

2026 - 109

24-83 Moved by Fokkens and McLeod

THAT Council considers the request to name the new community space located within the South Welland Elementary School in Dain City as the "Carrie Lynn Pinard Community Memorial Centre"; and further

THAT Council provides direction respecting the naming of the facility.

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24-83 Moved by Fokkens and Lee

THAT Council rename to be the "Carrie Lynn Pinard Memorial Community Centre".

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

2026 - 110

24-98 Moved by McLeod and Setaram

THAT Council approves an extension to Draft Plan Approval for the Southwoods Condominium (633 South Pelham) Plan of Vacant Land Condominium (File: 26CD-14-19003), for an additional two (2) years to July 6, 2028; and further

THAT Council approves a policy amendment to allow for the Southwoods Condominium to be provided with an Extension to Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium Approval for two (2) years which exceeds the one (1) year extension provided through Policy SER-012-0014.

CARRIED

2026 - 111

26-6 Moved by McLeod and Setaram (in block)

THAT Council declares May 17 to May 23, 2026, as "National Paramedic Week" in the City of Welland.

CARRIED

2026 - 112

26-19 Moved by Richard and Lee

THAT Council confirms its preferred approach to addressing the existing washroom at Rotary Park, based on the options outlined in this report; and further

THAT Council directs staff on the preferred approach:

- Installation of a new AODA-compliant washroom at Option A or B; OR
- Retention of the existing washroom in its current location with or without accessibility upgrades; and further

THAT Council selects the preferred implementation scope (Option 1, 2, or 3) as outlined in this report; and further

THAT Council directs staff to plan to include this project in the 2027 budget for implementation in early Spring 2027.

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26-19 Moved by Chiocchio and Setaram

THAT Council choose Option 1 with Option A.

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26-19 Moved by McLeod and Moote

THAT Council refers Report CS- to the 2027 Budget Deliberations.

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

NAYS: Chiocchio and DiMarco.

CARRIED

2026 - 113**26-22**

Moved by Green and Lee

THAT Council receives for information the petition by Welland residents regarding maintaining neighboring City properties by cutting grass and keeping sidewalks clean and refers the matter to staff for study and report.

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

26-22

Moved by Green and Lee

THAT Council receives for information the petition submitted by Welland residents regarding concerns related to By-law 2008-185 and the maintenance of City owned land properties including grass cutting and sidewalk upkeep by adjacent property owners.

CARRIED**26-22**

Moved by Green and Lee

THAT Council refers the matter to staff for study and report.

LOST**2026 - 114****02-160**

Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet

THAT Council challenge the Chair on the decision to allow Councillor DiMarco to submit his notice of motion.

YEAS: Chiocchio, DiMarco, Fokkens, Green, Lee and Richard.

NAYS: Grimaldi, McLeod, Moote, Setaram, Speck and Van Vliet.

LOST**BY-LAWS**

Moved by Chiocchio and Richard

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 - 20

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 9th day of June 2026.

CARRIED

Council adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 14th day of July 2026.