

City of Port Colborne

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall
66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Members Present: M. Aquilina, Councillor
M. Bagu, Councillor
E. Beauregard, Deputy Mayor
R. Bodner, Councillor
G. Bruno, Councillor
F. Danch, Councillor
D. Elliott, Councillor
T. Hoyle, Councillor

Member(s) Absent: W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)

Staff Present: B. Boles, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer/Chief
Administrative Officer
S. Lawson, Fire Chief
S. Shypowskyj, Director of Public Works
S. Tufail, Acting City Clerk
J. Goulet, Interim Deputy Clerk (minutes)
J. Colasurdo, Manager of Infrastructure

Staff Absent: S. Luey, Chief Administrative Officer

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Beauregard called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. National Anthem

3. Land Acknowledgment

Councillor Bruno recited the Land Acknowledgement.

4. Proclamations

4.1 Rail Safety Week - September 18 to 24, 2023

Moved by Councillor F. Danch
Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That the week of September 18-24, 2023, be proclaimed as "Rail Safety Week" in the City of Port Colborne.

Carried

4.2 September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor T. Hoyle

That September 2023 be proclaimed as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" in the City of Port Colborne.

Carried

5. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor M. Aquilina
Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That the agenda dated September 12, 2023, be confirmed, as amended.

Carried

6. Disclosures of Interest

7. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor M. Aquilina

That items 7.1 to 7.4, be approved as presented.

Carried

7.1 Public Meeting - July 11, 2023

7.2 Regular Meeting of Council - August 15, 2023

7.3 Special Council Meeting (Closed Session) - August 22, 2023

7.4 Special Council Meeting - September 5, 2023

8. Staff Reports

Moved by Councillor F. Danch

Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That items 8.1 to 8.4 be approved, and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Carried

8.1 Rural Economic Development Program – Amending Agreement, 2023-181

Moved by Councillor F. Danch

Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report 2023-181 be received;

That Council approve the Amending Agreement in Appendix A between the City of Port Colborne and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for funding from the Rural Economic Development program; and

That a by-law to enter into the Amending Agreement with the provincial government be brought forward.

Carried

8.2 Chestnut Park Property – Right to Reconveyance Agreement, 2023-179

Moved by Councillor F. Danch

Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That Chief Administrative Office report 2023-179 be received for information.

That the City Solicitor be directed to delete the Right to Reconveyance Agreement on title for the Chestnut Park property, legally described as Lots 504-511, inclusive, Plan 836, being part of PIN 64151-0031; and,

That the Mayor and Acting City Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary legal documentation to facilitate the deletion of the Right to Reconveyance Agreement.

Carried

8.3 Downtown BIA – 2023 Harvest Festival, 2023-186

Moved by Councillor F. Danch

Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That Corporate Services Department – Recreation Division Report 2023-186 be received;

That Market Square parking lot be closed to vehicular traffic and parking from 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September 22, 2023, to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, 2023;

That Charlotte Street from Catharine Street to West Street be closed to vehicular traffic and street parking from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, 2023;

That a Noise By-law Variance be approved for Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 23, 2023; and

That Council approve waiving the fees as outlined in this report.

Carried

8.4 Appointment to the Port Colborne Seniors Advisory Committee, 2023-176

Moved by Councillor F. Danch

Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That Corporate Services Department Report 2023-176 be received; and

That Deanna Rudyk be appointed to the Port Colborne Seniors Advisory Committee to serve at the pleasure of Council for a term ending December 31, 2027.

Carried

9. Correspondence Items

Moved by Councillor F. Danch

Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That items 9.1 to 9.7 be received for information.

Carried

9.1 Niagara Region - Provision of Curbside Collection on behalf of Producers for Residential Blue Box Program

- 9.2 **Township of Emo - Black Ash Tree Classification as "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act**
- 9.3 **Township of Severn - Climate Emergency Just Transition Transfer (JTT)**
- 9.4 **Northumberland County - Use of Long Term Care Funding to Support Community Care Services**
- 9.5 **Town of Perry Sound in Response to Township of Archipelago - Ontario Bill 23**
- 9.6 **Response Letter from Justine Akman, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy Branch regarding City of Port Colborne's Support for the Right to Repair Movement**
- 9.7 **Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Proposal to Return Lands in Ajax to the Greenbelt**
- 10. **Presentations**
- 11. **Delegations**
- 12. **Mayor's Report**

There was no Mayor's Report.
- 13. **Regional Councillor's Report**

Regional Councillor Davies provided an update to City Council.
- 14. **Staff Remarks**
 - 14.1 **Discharge of Firearms Report (Boles)**

The acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Community Safety and Enforcement Department report regarding the proposed amendments to the By-Law to regulate discharge of firearms and bows in the City of Port Colborne has been deferred to the September 26, 2023, Council Meeting, at the request of staff.
 - 14.2 **Clean Community Day (Lawson)**

The Fire Chief advised the Clean Community Day is scheduled for September 16, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He further stated that additional information is available on the City's Website.

14.3 2024 Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment - Information Session (Lawson)

The Fire Chief advised that 2023 Volunteer firefighter recruitment process has begun. He further advised that an information session is scheduled for September 19, 2023, between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and additional information regarding the event is available on the City's website.

14.4 Hillcrest Road - Construction (Lawson)

The Fire Chief advised that the top end of Hillcrest Road needs to be reopened as there has been some completed development and emergency vehicles would require two ways to enter the subdivision.

15. Councillors' Remarks

15.1 Duplicated Services between the City of Port Colborne and the Niagara Region (Bruno)

In response to Councillor Bruno's inquiry regarding services being duplicated between the City of Port Colborne and the Niagara Region, the Regional Councillor advised there is some legislative and regulatory burdens that are shared between the City of Port Colborne and the Niagara Region and further advised the Niagara Region has been seeking clarity on duplicated services as well.

15.2 Regional Facilities Capacity (Beauregard)

In response to Deputy Mayor Beauregard's inquiry regarding capacity issues at Regional facilities located in the City of Port Colborne, the Regional Councillor advised that he is not aware of any specific capacity issues. He further advised there is a facility being planned for South Niagara Falls, which will service South Niagara Falls up to the Town of Fort Erie.

15.3 Thank you (Hoyle)

Councillor Hoyle expressed gratitude towards City staff for addressing various concerns.

15.4 Janet Street - Speeding (Hoyle)

Councillor Hoyle expressed concern with regarding speeding and cautioned Lakeshore Catholic High School students to reduce speed on Janet Street.

15.5 Fire Hydrant - Painting (Danch)

In response to Councillor Danch's inquiry, the Director of Public Works provided an overview and a progress of the project. He further stated that all fire hydrants across the City are expected to be painted red by the end of October.

15.6 Union Street - No Trespass Sign (Danch)

Councillor Danch requested that a no trespassing sign be erected in the alleyway on Union Street.

15.7 Ward Boundary Review (Bruno)

In response to Councillor Bruno's inquiry regarding a ward boundary review, the Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer advised that staff will be starting the Ward Boundary review process with the approved \$50,000 budget, and an update will be provided to Council within the next month.

15.8 City Hall News Flyer (Bagu)

In response to Councillor Bagu's inquiry regarding the City Hall News Flyer being transitioned to an online version, the acting Chief Administrative Officer provided statistics of individuals accessing the flyer through social media.

15.9 Port Colborne Highschool - 100th Anniversary (Bagu)

Councillor Bagu provided details regarding the Port Colborne High School 100th Anniversary event which is scheduled for September 23, 2023. Councillor Bagu expressed appreciation towards the Committee for coordinating the event and encouraged residents to attend.

15.10 Downtown Business Improvement Area - Harvest Fest (Elliott)

Councillor Elliott reminded residents that the Harvest Fest will take place on September 23, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. He further advised that there will be a free concert on September 22, 2023, at King George Park at 6:00 p.m. and encouraged residents to attend.

16. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

16.1 Museum & Culture Progress and Staff Report, 2023-180

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That the Department of Museum and Culture Report 2023-180 be received; and

That the increase to staffing budget for the Department of Museum and Culture to \$120,420 for full time and part time staff in 2024, be approved.

Amendment:

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno

Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That Department of Museum and Culture Report 2023-180 be referred to the Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer and a report be brought to a Regular Council Meeting on October 24th, 2023.

Carried

16.2 Traffic Calming Initiatives and Update, 2023-55

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno

Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That Public Works Department Report 2023-55 be received; and

That Council direct staff to implement traffic calming measures in the locations recommended within the report, and

That the following amendments to By-law 89-2000, being a By-law regulating traffic and parking on City roads, be approved:

That Schedule “P” Stop Sign Locations to By-Law 89-2000 as amended, be further amended by adding thereto the following:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Highway	At	Facing Traffic
Knoll St.	Highland Ave.	North, South, West and East Bound
Delhi St.	Catharine St.	North, South, West and East Bound
Omer Ave.	Queen St.	North, South, West and East Bound
Wellington St.	John St.	North, South, West and East Bound

Amendment:

Moved by Councillor M. Bagu

Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That Public Works Department Report 2023-55 be received; and

That Council direct staff to implement traffic calming measures in the locations recommended within the report, and

That the following amendments to By-law 89-2000, being a By-law regulating traffic and parking on City roads, be approved:

That Schedule “P” Stop Sign Locations to By-Law 89-2000 as amended, be further amended by adding thereto the following:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Highway	At	Facing Traffic
Knoll St.	Highland Ave.	North, South, West and East Bound
Omer Ave.	Queen St.	North, South, West and East Bound
Wellington St.	John St.	North, South, West and East Bound

That the Director of Public Works be directed to further study that intersection at Delhi Street and Catharine Street and a report be brought to Council at a future Council meeting.

Carried

16.3 Sign Variance Request 690-700 Elm Street, 2023-153

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno

Seconded by Councillor F. Danch

That Community Safety & Enforcement Department Report 2023-153 be received; and

That Community Safety and Enforcement Services recommend the Council grant a variance to exempt the proposed sign at 690-700 Elm Street from Section 3.2.7 (c) of By-law 4738/120/05.

Carried

17. Motions

18. Notice of Motions

19. Minutes of Boards & Committees

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner

Seconded by Councillor M. Aquilina

That item 19.1 be approved as presented.

Carried

19.1 Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes - June 19, 2023

20. Recommendations Arising from a Local Board

20.1 Port Colborne Public Library Board Memorandum - 2024 Budget Presentation

a. Port Colborne Public Library Board - 2024 Budget Presentation

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno

Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That the memorandum from the Port Colborne Public Library Board for 2024 budget estimates be received; and

That an addition of a part-time assistant management position through a shared-services agreement with the Thorold Public Library to reduce costs be approved.

Amendment:

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno

Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That Port Colborne Public Library Board Memorandum - 2024 Budget Presentation be referred to the Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer and a report be brought back at a Regular Council Meeting on October 24th, 2023.

Carried

21. By-laws

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner

Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That items 21.2 and 21.3 be enacted as passed.

Carried

21.2 By-Law to Authorize entering into an Amending Agreement for the Rural Economic Development (RED) Program

21.3 By-Law to Adopt, Ratify and Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne

21.1 By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 89-2000, as amended, Being a By-Law regulating Traffic and Parking on City Roads (Stop Sign Locations)

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner

Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That item 21.1, as amended, be enacted as passed.

Carried

22. Procedural Motions

23. Information items

24. Adjournment

Deputy Mayor Beauregard adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:51 p.m.

William C. Steele, Mayor

Saima Tufail, Acting City Clerk