

City of Port Colborne

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025
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, Councillor
R. Bodner, Councillor
G. Bruno, Councillor
D. Elliott, Councillor
T. Hoyle, Councillor
W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)

Member(s) Absent: F. Danch, Councillor

Staff Present: E. Acs, Chief Planner
B. Boles, Chief Administrative Officer
J. Beaupre, Deputy Clerk
C. Dray, Road and Park Operations Manager
S. Double, Fire Chief
C. Madden, City Clerk
G. Long, Director of Development and Government Relations
S. Shypowskyj, Director of Public Works
G. Zwiep, Manager of Recreation and Tourism

Others Present: V. Badawey, Regional Councillor

1. Call to Order

Mayor Steele called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. National Anthem

Everyone stood for the national anthem.

3. Land Acknowledgement

The Land Acknowledgement was read:

The Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The City of Port Colborne stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

4. Adoption of Agenda

An addendum was issued to the agenda to include report 2025-187, Veterans Crosswalk.

C-25- 179

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

That the Council agenda dated September 9, 2025, be confirmed, as amended.

Carried

5. Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

6. Proclamations

6.1 September is Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) Disease

C-25- 180

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

WHEREAS September is Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) Disease Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS CMT Disease, is named after the three doctors who first described the disease in 1886. Doctors Jean-Martin Charcot, Pierre Marie, and Howard Henry Tooth. Today, CMT refers to any peripheral neuropathy with a genetic cause, whether or not the specific genetic mutation is known; and

WHEREAS CMT is a rare multisystem, multiorgan disease that causes lifelong, progressive symptoms, including muscle weakness and atrophy in the arms and legs, sensory loss, and other complications. These symptoms often lead to challenges with balance, walking, hand use, and other daily activities; and

WHEREAS CMT affects 1 in 2,500 people, CMT is a rare disease but also the most common inheritable peripheral neuropathy. It is inheritable because the genetic mutations that cause CMT can be passed from parents to children.

NOW THEREFORE I, Mayor William C. Steele, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2025 as “Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT)” awareness month in the City of Port Colborne.

Carried

7. Presentations

7.1 Isadore Sponder Award Presentation

Mayor Steele, Frank Horvath, Coach Jennifer Laur presented the Isadore Sponder Trophy to recipient Evanny Fairchild.

7.2 Grant Award Presentation

Mayor Steele, Councillor Aquilina, and Councillor Hoyle presented the grant awards to the following organizations:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters Niagara
- Birchway
- Community Connect
- Friends of Roselawn Centre
- Port Colborne and District Conservation Club
- Port Colborne Operatic Society

7.3 Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan Update

Tracy McQueen, McQueen Golloway Associates, presented an update to Council on the Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan.

8. Delegations

There were no delegations.

9. Mayor's Report

A copy of the Mayor's report is attached.

10. Regional Councillor's Report

Regional Councillor Badawey provided a report to Council.

11. Consent Agenda

Item 11.3 d, Report 2025-187 Veterans Crosswalk, was lifted and considered as item 12.1 under Items Requiring Separate Discussion.

C-25- 181

Moved by Councillor D. Elliott

Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That Council hereby approves the listed consent items on the September 9, 2025, Council agenda; and

That the consent items be approved on the recommendations as contained therein.

Carried

11.1 Approval of Minutes

11.2 Receipt of Minutes of Boards & Committees

- a. **Grant Allocation Advisory Committee - February 13, 2025**
- b. **Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum Board - June 17, 2025**
- c. **Port Colborne Public Library Board - June 4, 2025**

11.3 Staff Reports

- a. **2024 Consolidated Financial Statements, 2025-162**
- b. **Adjustments to Council Remuneration By-law, 2025-174**
- c. **Recommendation Report for Zoning By-law Amendment D14-01-25 (70 Nickel Street), 2025-180**

11.4 Receipt of Correspondence Items

a. **Niagara Transit - 2025 Q2 Statistics**

12. **Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

12.1 **Veterans Crosswalk, 2025-187**

C-25- 182

Moved by Councillor M. Bagu

Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That Public Works Department Report 2025-187 be received; and

That the Director of Public Works be directed to upgrade the Clarence Street pedestrian crossing line painting to match the aesthetics as outlined in Appendix A using regular road paint for a cost of \$3,100 to be funded from the Public Works Operating Budget before October 18, 2025; and

That the Director of Public Works be delegated the authority to allocate the future funds received from the Port Colborne Legion towards the veteran's crosswalk line painting project.

Carried

Amendment:

Moved by Councillor M. Bagu

Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the Director of Public Works be delegated the authority to allocate the future funds received from the Port Colborne Legion towards the veteran's crosswalk line painting project.

Carried

13. **Staff Remarks**

Stan Double, Fire Chief, spoke about the volunteer firefighter recruitment program, where applications are now open. He also noted they will be distributing fire alarms and carbon monoxide alarms to residents during October.

Steve Shypowskyj, Director of Public Works, spoke about the 2025 bridge rehabilitation program. He also talked about the beginning of work on the watermain lining program, and the ongoing progress in the east side employment land project. Lastly, he noted the remainder of the 2025 ditching program will be completed in the next month.

Gary Long, Director of Development and Government Relations, noted they met with Member of Parliament Fred Davies. He also noted there have been conversations with the Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority related to ongoing projects. A report about the feasibility of a hotel in Port Colborne is almost done. Lastly, he mentioned the Azure Sustainable Fuels company and a meeting that took place related to their Port Colborne project.

Erik Acs, Chief Planner, noted there will be an open house at the Vale Health and Wellness Centre on accessory dwelling units on September 16, 2025.

Danny Rodgers, Chief Building Official, noted the short-term rentals accommodation by-law and report are scheduled to come forward at the next Council meeting.

Greg Zwiép, Manager of Recreation and Tourism, reminded everyone that the Junior B Sailors Hockey team will be playing their first game of the season on September 12, 2025, at 7 p.m.

Bryan Boles, Chief Administrative Officer, spoke about an upcoming review that will be conducted by the Niagara Region to review allocated water/wastewater funding.

14. Councillors' Remarks

Councillor Aquilina gave a shout out to Port Colborne Soccer and thanked all players and coaches for a great season. She also gave a special shout out to the U16 group who had an undefeated season and went to Ontario Cup semi finals.

Councillor Bagu inquired to Steve Shypowskyj, Director of Public Works, about wire and plastic conduit damage for wiring along West Street and when the power would be back on. He also inquired about a lift parked on West Street.

Councillor Bruno inquired to Stan Double, Fire Chief, about how the condition of abandoned buildings were assessed. He also thanked Public Works staff for their work on roadside cutting during the spring and summer months. He inquired about potential work to smooth the surface of intersections in the city.

Councillor Elliott thanked Building, By-Law and Planning staff for their efforts related to a sign removal issue on Clarence Street. He also inquired to Erik Acs, Chief Planner, about the content that will be shared at the public open house related to accessory dwelling units.

Councillor Hoyle inquired to Steve about signage to curb speeding in school zones.

Councillor Bodner inquired to Steve for an update about the gates that are to be installed on the road ends. He also inquired to Erik about accessory dwelling units in urban areas, and if they can be built in the rural area. Lastly, he inquired to Chief Double about the progress to the proposed changes to the open air burning by-law and the nuisance by-law.

15. Motions

There were no motions.

16. Notice of Motions

There were notices of motions.

17. Procedural Motions

There were no procedural motions.

18. By-laws

C-25- 183

Moved by Councillor E. Beauregard

Seconded by Councillor M. Aquilina

That the following by-law(s) be passed and enacted, as presented:

- By-law No. 7383/74/25
- By-law No. 7384/75/25
- By-law No. 7385/76/25

Carried

18.1 By-law No. 7383/74/25

18.2 By-law No. 7384/75/25

18.3 By-law No. 7385/76/25

19. Adjournment

Mayor Steele adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

William C. Steele, Mayor

Charlotte Madden, City Clerk



PORT COLBORNE

MAYOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

TUESDAY, SEPT. 9, 2025

FINAL COMMUNITY CONCERT

Our Community Concert series, sponsored by Asahi Kasei Battery Separator Canada, has been the go-to Friday night event in the park this summer. We're so pleased you've enjoyed the variety of music. Calling all Swifties and fans of Taylor Swift: Are You Ready For it, Port Colborne? We have an awesome tribute show three sleeps from today!

Taylor's Story closes the summer concert series with the much-loved music of Taylor Swift Friday evening, Sept. 12. We are grateful to Asahi Kasei for their sponsorship, and to everyone who comes out to enjoy music, Live at the Lake. Port Colborne Wave Girls Hockey will have a barbecue in the park Friday, starting at 6pm. They ask you use cash only, please. The Wave will also have facepainting, Taylor Swift-inspired stickers, and all kinds of fun stuff.

We've invited all the city's incredible volunteers to join us at the concert Friday, as part of our Volunteer Appreciation celebration. Council and staff thank our volunteers for another amazing summer of events – we thank you for your time, energy and your commitment. Volunteers make Port Colborne a better place, and because of that we dedicate the final Community Concert to all of YOU!

Admission to the Community Concerts is free. We are grateful you attend with donations of non-perishable food for the Port Cares Reach Out Centre. At the Caverners concert a couple of weeks ago, we collected 1,609 pounds of food and several hundred dollars in cash, which is awesome! Thank you! Let's break both records Friday, for attendance, and donations!

TERRY FOX DAY SEPTEMBER 14

The Terry Fox Run is an annual non-competitive charity event held around the world to raise money for cancer research in commemoration of Canadian cancer activist Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope. With little fanfare, Terry Fox started in St. John's, Newfoundland in April 1980. Enthusiasm grew as he made his way, with a prosthetic leg, running about 42 kilometers (26 miles) each day through the Maritimes, across Quebec and Ontario, stopping in towns and cities along the way.

On September 1, after 143 days and 5,373 kilometres (3,339 miles), Terry was forced to stop running outside of Thunder Bay because cancer had appeared in his lungs. An entire nation was stunned and saddened. He died the following June in New Westminster, British Columbia, at age 22. His last words were, "if I don't make it ... the Marathon of Hope must continue." The Marathon has continued as a national event for 45 years. For many Canadians, Terry Fox is the greatest national hero.

In Port Colborne, Nancy Salvage has coordinated Terry Fox events for more than 20 years. She's shaved her head 19 times! Even set a Guinness World Record when she recruited the most shaved heads at one time! Nancy and her team have a great day planned in HH Knoll Lakeview Park Sunday starting at noon. The head shave gets underway at 12:30, run (or walk) starts at 1, followed by a foam party at 3.

PRESENTING ...

Join the Friends of Roselawn Centre to celebrate local arts and culture with an art auction, featuring one-of-a-kind treasures by local artists in honour of Ontario Culture Days. The event, entitled "Presenting ..." opens Friday, Sept. 19 and runs until October 3 in the Roselawn Centre on Fielden Avenue. Roselawn is open 1 to 3 Wednesday to Saturday.

COMMUNITY INPUT SOUGHT FOR ADDITIONAL DWELLING UNITS

Council and staff are asking for ideas and opinions from residents on ADUs. An Additional Dwelling Unit (ADU) is a self-contained residential unit with its own kitchen, bathroom, and sleeping area. An ADU may be in an existing home or a separate

building on the same property. ADUs include basement apartments, in-law suites, coach houses, laneway houses, garden suites, and accessory dwelling units.

According to the City's current by-laws and policies, a single ADU is permitted on any lot containing a single-detached, semi-detached, townhouse, or street townhouse dwelling. We need to increase the number of ADUs, according to provincial and federal mandates, which are tied to funding. That's why we need to update our policies and bylaws, and why we're asking you for your opinions and ideas. We have a survey we ask you to complete, and we have an open house a week from today on Tuesday, Sept. 16 in the Vale Centre. The survey is available online until Tuesday, Sept. 23 on the city website. Printed copies are available at City Hall, the Vale Health & Wellness Centre, and the Port Colborne Public Library.

UNITED WAY FIRETRUCK PULL

I will join city staff as we don our pirate gear and sailor suits for the annual United Way firetruck pull Thursday, Sept. 18. Our well-dressed crew will work together to pull a 12-tonne firetruck 100 feet. Our team joins municipal teams from across the region to raise money and awareness for the United Way.

NEW LOCKERS AT YMCA

Members of the YMCA will be happy the old metal lockers in the family change room have been replaced. The new Port Colborne-blue lockers will last a lot longer and are protected from rusting. YMCA and city staff have already heard many great comments about the upgrades. Council thanks you for the positive feedback.

TREE GIVEAWAY AND RAIN BARREL SALE

Our annual tree giveaway on the last Saturday of the month at the Vale Health and Wellness Centre. It'll be first-come first-served starting at 11am Saturday, Sept. 27. We'll have 500 one-gallon potted saplings to give away, limit of two per person. Port residents may choose from a variety of native species. The City has partnered with FCMP Outdoor to offer 50-gallon Raincatcher rain barrels for \$45 each, limit two per household.

You'll need to purchase your barrel (or barrels) online before September 27 and pick them up that day between 9 and noon. All the information is on the city website. You'll need to prove Port Colborne residency for the tree giveaway and the barrel sale. That concludes my report for this evening.