City of Port Colborne Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting 04-19 Minutes

Date:

January 28, 2019

Time:

6:30 p.m.

Place:

Council Chambers, Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Members Present:

M. Bagu, Councillor

E. Beauregard, Councillor R. Bodner, Councillor G. Bruno, Councillor F. Danch, Councillor A. Desmarais, Councillor D. Kalailieff, Councillor

W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)

H. Wells, Councillor

Staff Present:

D. Aquilina, Director of Planning & Development

T. Cartwright, Fire Chief

A. Grigg, Director of Community and Economic Development A. LaPointe, Manager of Legislative Services/City Clerk

C. Lee, Director of Engineering and Operations

S. Luey, Chief Administrative Officer

L. Nelson, EAA to Director of Corporate Services (minutes)

T. Rogers, Chief Building Official

P. Senese, Director of Corporate Services

Also in attendance were interested citizens, members of the news media and WeeStreem.

Call to Order:

Mayor Steele called the meeting to order.

Mayor Steele requested a moment of silence for Former Councillor John Mayne.

2. National Anthem:

Those in attendance stood for O Canada.

3. Introduction of Addendum Items:

Nil.

4. Confirmation of Agenda:

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner Seconded by Councillor H. Wells

That the agenda dated January 28, 2019 be confirmed, as circulated or as amended.

CARRIED.

5. Disclosures of Interest:

Nil.

6. Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Regular meeting of Committee of the Whole 01-19, held on January 14, 2019.

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Committee of the Whole 01-19, held on January 14, 2019, be approved as presented. CARRIED.

7. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion:

The following items were identified for separate discussion:

Items 1, 2, 5 and 14

8. Approval of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion:

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais Seconded by Councillor H. Wells

That Items 1 to 16 on the agenda be approved, with the exception of items that have been deferred, deleted or listed for separate discussion, and the recommendation contained therein adopted.

Items:

 Planning and Development Department, Planning Division, Report 2019-10, Subject: Bill 66 – Proposed Amendment to the Growth Plan

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That Council receive Planning and Development Department, Planning Division Report 2019-10 for information.

4. Planning and Development Department, By-law Division, Report 2019-9, Subject: Parking and Traffic – Elgin Street

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the amendment to By-law 89-2000 being a By-law regulating traffic and parking on City roads be approved as follows:

That Schedule 'E' Limited Parking Restrictions, to By-law 89-2000 as amended, be amended by deleting therefrom the following:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Highway	Side	From To	Times/ Days	Maximum
Elgin St.	South	Steele St. Fielden Ave.	Anytime	1 Hour

6. Corporate Services Department, Finance Division, Report 2019-6, Subject: Cancellation, Reduction or Refund of Realty Tax

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the applications pursuant to Section 357/358 of the *Municipal Act,* 2001, as amended, 2018-04 (566 Pleasant Beach Road) and 2018-05 (4443 Koabel Road) be approved to cancel or reduce taxes in the total amount of \$244.60.

7. National Eating Disorder Information Centre Re: Request for Proclamation of Eating Disorder Awareness Week (EDAW), February 1-7, 2019

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the week of February 1 - 7, 2019 be proclaimed as Eating Disorder Awareness Week in the City of Port Colborne in accordance with the request received from the National Eating Disorder Information Centre.

8. Cathy Boyko and Peter Van Caulart, Co-Chairs, 2019 ARC Terminus Committee Re: Request for Proclamation of Air Race Week, June 19-24, 2019

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the week of June 19 - 24, 2019 be proclaimed as "Air Race Week" in the City of Port Colborne in accordance with the request received from Cathy Boyko and Peter Van Caulart, Co-Chairs, 2019 ARC Terminus Committee.

 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation Re: 2018 Year-End Assessment Report

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the correspondence received from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) Re: 2018 Year-End Assessment Report, be received for information.

 Memorandum from Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament, Niagara Centre Re: National Trade Corridors Fund – 3rd Call for Proposals

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the Memorandum from Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament, Niagara Centre Re: National Trade Corridors Fund – 3rd Call for Proposals, be received for information.

11. Municipalities in the Niagara Region Re: Responses regarding their decision on retail cannabis whether to "Opt-In" or "Opt-Out" to allow retail cannabis in their Municipality

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the resolutions received from the municipalities within Niagara Region regarding retail cannabis, be received for information.

12. City of St. Catharines Re: Support for Ontario Wine and Beer in Retail Stores as Part of Modernizing Alcohol Sales

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the resolution received from the City of St. Catharines Re: Support for Ontario Wine and Beer in Retail Stores as Part of Modernizing Alcohol Sales, be supported.

13. Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Re: Support for Locally grown and produced wine and craft beer

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the resolution received from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Re: Support for Locally grown and produced wine and craft beer, be received for information.

15. Township of Georgina, Township of Wilmot, Town of Orangeville Re: Bill 66 – "Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act" – Oppose Schedule 10 of Bill 66 "Open for Business" Planning By-law

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the resolutions received from the Town of Georgina, Township of Wilmot and the Town of Orangeville Re: Bill 66 "Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act" – Oppose Schedule 10 of Bill 66 "Open for Business" Planning By-law, be received for information.

16. City of Welland Re: Transit Agreement approval with the City of Port Colborne

Committee of the Whole Recommends:

That the resolution received from the City of Welland Re: Transit Agreement with the City of Port Colborne, be received for information.

9. Presentations:

CARRIED.

(a) Lynne Cunningham, Account Manager, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC)

Lynne Cunningham, Account Manager, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation provided information on MPAC and answered questions by Members of Council regarding MPAC and Ontario's Assessment System. Ms. Cunningham directed residents with inquiries regarding their property assessment to visit aboutmyproperty.ca. A copy of the presentation is attached.

10. Delegations:

(a) Michael Smith, President, Hometown Properties Inc., regarding a request to include 176 Elm Street within the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Boundary

Michael Smith requested to extend the Downtown CIP boundaries to include 176 Elm Street. Mr. Smith noted that there is a shortfall in the downtown core to provide affordable housing for seniors and the former church is an opportunity to create affordable housing for seniors.

Moved by Councillor D. Kalailieff Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That the Director of Planning and Development be directed to evaluate the request for 176 Elm Street to be included within the Downtown CIP boundary; and

That staff review the Downtown CIP boundary as a whole; and

That staff report back to Council with recommendations. CARRIED.

11. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Steele announced that the City has lost a great community supporter with the passing of former Ward One Councillor John Mayne. Mayor Steele noted that former Councillor Mayne was very passionate about Port Colborne with his many volunteer activities within the community, especially serving as a volunteer firefighter for 25 years, retiring as Captain in 2008. Mayor Steele noted that flags have been lowered in John's honour. Mayor Steele spoke regarding warming centres during the recent cold spell and the efforts made across all sectors to alleviate conditions that local residents are dealing with. Mayor Steele also reminded residents about Sportsfest, February 8-10.

12. Regional Councillor's Report:

Regional Councillor Butters provided Council with answers to questions raised by a resident regarding garbage bi-weekly collection. Councillor Butters advised that if any Councillor receives feedback from the public, good and bad comments, please forward to her attention. Councillor Butters spoke regarding the water tower being taken down and noted that it is unfortunate that the City name will not be displayed on water tower anymore. Councillor Butters suggested Council and staff think of other ways of creating signage near the harbor such as on the Grain Terminal.

13. Councillors' Items:

(a) South Crescent Street Lights (Bagu)

In response to a concern Councillor Bagu received with respect to South Crescent street lighting, the Director of Engineering and Operations advised that he will touch base with staff on January 29th, and report back on the issue.

(b) Warming Centre and Snowbuddies Volunteers (Desmarais)

In response to an inquiry Councillor Desmarais received from a local business running the warming centre, Councillor Desmarais suggested contacting the City volunteers to work at the warming centre as well as for the Snowbuddies

program which is currently in need of volunteers for the large population of seniors in the City. The Director of Community and Economic Development advised that she will speak to the volunteer coordinator.

(c) Parking Lot Lighting at Vale Centre (Beauregard)

Councillor Beauregard noted that he has heard parents mentioning the low lighting and dark parking lot at the Vale Centre. The Director of Engineering and Operations advised that facilities staff are looking into retrofitting current lighting at the Vale Health and Wellness Centre and replacing with LED lighting.

(d) Parking Lot Lighting at Vale Centre (Wells)

Councillor Wells thanked staff for the prompt replacement of mailboxes that had been knocked down by snow plowing.

Staff responses to Councillors' enquiries:

(a) Sound Deafening Measures Golden Puck Room (Grigg)

The Director of Community and Economic Development provided an update regarding successful installation of baffles in the Golden Puck room to deafen the sound.

(b) Pedestrian Crossover Update (Lee)

The Director of Engineering and Operations provided an update that there will be a presentation at the next meeting of Council regarding the pedestrian crossover on Clarence Street.

(c) Building a Disaster Resilient Niagara Conference (Cartwright)

The Fire Chief provided an overview of the Building a Disaster Resilient Niagara conference on February 18th that the CAO, some staff and some members of Council attended. All in attendance enjoyed the day and the information provided.

(d) Budget Meeting (Senese)

The Director of Corporate Services advised Council and staff that the next scheduled budget meeting is February 4th at 530 p.m.

14. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion:

1. Planning and Development Department, Building Division, Report 2019-8, Subject: Rates and Fees By-law – Building Division Fees

Moved by Councillor H. Wells Seconded by Councillor F. Danch

That the Council of the City of Port Colborne adopt the fees and charges in Schedule X of Appendix A to By-Law No. 6558/13/18 as provided in this report.

CARRIED.

2. Motion by Councillor Beauregard Re: Rezoning of Certain Lands within the East Waterfront Secondary Plan Area to Industrial/Employment Purposes

Moved by Councillor E. Beauregard Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That Planning and Development staff be directed to bring forward applications under the Planning Act to propose changes in land use for certain properties within the East Waterfront Secondary Plan Area that are federally and privately owned from Parks and Open Space to Industrial/Employment purposes.

CARRIED.

Corporate Services Department, Finance Division, Report 2019-11, Subject: Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law – 2019

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That the Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law attached to Corporate Services Department, Finance Division report 2019-11 be approved; and

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the appropriate By-law.

CARRIED.

14. City of St. Catharines Re: Plastic Straw and Plastic Stir Stick Ban in City Facilities

Moved by Councillor E. Beauregard Seconded by Councillor F. Danch

That the resolution received from the City of St. Catharines Re: Plastic Straw and Plastic Stir Stick Ban in City Facilities, be received for information.

Moved in referral by Councillor E. Beauregard Seconded by Councillor F. Danch

That the correspondence received from the City of St. Catharines be referred to the Director of Community and Economic Development and the Environmental Advisory Committee for recommendations for the City of Port Colborne.

CARRIED.

15. Notice of Motion:

Councillor Kalailieff provided notice of her intention to introduce a motion at the February 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting with respect to waiving the fire inspection fees on Bed and Breakfasts.

16. Adjournment:

Moved by Councillor F. Danch Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at approximately 8:41 p.m.

CARRIED.

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MAYOR'S REPORT – JANUARY 28, 2019

FORMER COUNCILLOR JOHN MAYNE

On Friday, we lost a great community supporter with the passing of former Ward One Councillor John Mayne.

John was very passionate about Port Colborne with his many volunteer activities within the community, especially serving as a volunteer firefighter for 25 years, retiring as Captain in 2008.

He represented the constituents of Ward One for 4 years and sat on the many committees including Accessibility, Committee of Adjustment, Economic Development, Heritage, Library, Operations Centre and Property Standards during his term.

Never afraid to speak up or ask a question, you always knew where you stood with John.

Our prayers go out to his wife Mickey and family. Our flags have been lowered in John's honour.

WARMING CENTRES

There is no question that the City of Port Colborne is a compassionate and caring community.

We witness this 365 days a year and in particular this time of year with the harshness of winter.

During this recent extreme cold spell there have been a number efforts made during this across all sectors – including community, organizational as well as municipal level to alleviate the difficult conditions that local residents who are living in rental units or homes without heat or hydro, or are couch surfing because they don't have a place of their own, or are on the brink of becoming homeless or are.

Late last week the City announced that all local residents seeking warmth and shelter are welcomed and encouraged to go to all city owned buildings during operating hours—including the Vale Centre and library as well as here at city hall.

Since becoming Mayor and being appointed to the police board, I am fully aware of the incredible work that goes on day in day out in this community by our frontline police and social service personnel working as an interdisciplinary team to reach out to Port Colborne residents who are at risk - many who face addiction and mental health issues and are in extremely difficult situations including living in inhabitable conditions.

This team has been working hard seven days a week to make sure people are helped and properly housed.

They are the eyes and ears of those most in need in our city.

I have also learned an incredible amount about the work of Port Cares and its Reach Out Centre to help those in need including what Port Cares can do to keep residents from becoming homeless because they don't have heat or hydro as result of not having enough money to pay their utility bills.

I appreciate all the assets and resources that we have in Port Colborne to help those at risk and those at greatest risk during times like these.

However, collectively we have to get beyond the stop-gap measures and knee jerk reactions.

We need real, workable and impactful solutions to wrestle down the housing crisis – solutions that in one year, two years, five and ten years mean we don't have to rely on opening up buildings so our residents can have comfort for a few hours a day.

As Canadians – we want more – we want everyone to have a safe home.

We know full well that the availability of safe, affordable housing is increasingly shrinking – this is the case in Port Colborne along with nearly all municipalities in the region.

However, we need to work TOGETHER – TRULY TOGETHER, not just as a municipality but as a COMMUNITY, to move far past the stop gap measures that deal in the moment of what's happening at this moment or today when the weather takes a bad turn to longer term strategies and solutions which will ultimately eliminate stop gap measures.

While we know full well that the answer to the situation ultimately rests in increasing the stock of safe affordable housing – both rental and owned in our city.

This won't happen overnight nor can the city alone address the issue.

To this end, I am seeking the assistance of the Social Determinants of Health Committee, as well as our Planning and Economic Development Departments to work with me to deliver long-term effective strategies.

SPORTSFEST

A reminder to residents that the weekend of February 8-10 is SportsFest, a family-friendly **Festival of Sports** event, which attracts participants from across Niagara, with proceeds donated to various charities.

The Mayor's Cup Invitational Hockey Tournament, indoor Volleyball Tournament, FREE Family Skating & Swimming, Music Trivia, Sno-Pitch & Outdoor Ball Hockey are just some of the events that are offered to the community.

Providing a sense of community pride and greater awareness of each community group, SportsFest offers activities for all ages, promotes a healthy lifestyle, and an opportunity for organized fundraising within the City of Port Colborne.

SNOW PLOW OPERATIONS AND PARKING ON CITY STREETS

During a snow event, we remind the citizens of Port Colborne to refrain from parking on the street and NOT to park in a way that interferes with snow removal.

A snow-clearing event is when our plows are dispatched, and they move the snow from the travelled portion of the roadway to the edge or sides of the road allowance.

All vehicles that interfere with this process by causing the creation of windrows, parking on the road allowance and/or parking in removal areas for the snow to be displaced from the highway, will receive:

- a \$75 ticket.
- · a purple tow tag
- · have their vehicle towed

All of these actions may take place within the hour, depending on the severity of the snow.

Therefore, to avoid actions from our By-law Enforcement Division, please refrain from parking on the highway and allow our plow operators to clear the snow in a safe and timely fashion.