



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

## Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Bruce County Council Chambers - 30 Park Street, Walkerton, ON

**Council Present:** Chris Peabody, Mayor  
James Lang, Deputy Mayor  
Mitch Clark, Councillor  
Tim Elphick, Councillor  
Kym Hutcheon, Councillor  
B. Carl Kuhnke, Councillor  
Gregory J. McLean, Councillor

**Staff Present:** Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)  
Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer  
Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations

**1. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement**

**2. Acceptance of Council Agenda**

**Resolution 23-22-01**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the regular Council Meeting on November 14, 2023 as presented.

**Carried**

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

**4. Public Meetings Required Under the Planning Act**

**5. Delegations**

**5.1 Municipal Innovation Council Update**

Tony Houad provided Council with a brief history of the Municipal Innovation Council (MIC) and summarized the main goals and priorities of the MIC. Mr. Houad explained the funding model and the amount of funds that were leveraged from external sources on top of the municipal contributions.

Mr. Houad gave an overview of the projects that had been completed and the cost savings opportunities that were identified through the MIC format, such as the Smart Beach pilot, the Food Cycler program and the IT services review.

Mr. Houad also noted the comprehensive mapping changes that were developed and that would save significant staff time, as well as the transportation system review that was developing real time road condition reporting that was underway.

Mr. Houad responded to questions from Council about the FoodCycler Program. Mr Houad also identified projects that had a positive impact and benefit to the

Municipality of Brockton. Council expressed concern that the joint projects did not provide sufficient quantifiable, tangible cost-savings for Brockton.

## 5.2 Bruce County Public Library Update

Brooke McLean, Bruce County Library Director and Christa Ferrier, Bruce County Public Library (BCPL) Walkerton Branch Supervisor provided an overview of the multiple library branches throughout the County of Bruce, including within Brockton. Ms. McLean confirmed that the BCPL was re-accredited under the Ontario Public Library Guidelines as meeting and/or exceeding guidelines of libraries within the Province.

Ms. McLean noted that libraries were one of the last remaining free public spaces that fundamentally impacted how communities interacted with one another. Ms. McLean summarized the number of users and the number of items held by the organization.

Ms. McLean informed Council about the successful launch of the bookmobile to bring material directly to the community members. BCPL created and distributed new resident guides unique to each community.

It was noted that another new program that was launched included a seed library and additional material to support food production.

Ms. McLean summarized the multiple subscription services provided at no charge for residents along with the other items that could be borrowed from the library.

Ms. Ferrier provided Council with information about the programs, partnerships and promotions being offered specifically at the Walkerton and Cargill branches.

Council thanked Ms. McLean and Ms. Ferrier for the presentation and expressed strong support for the services being provided by the BCPL. Ms. McLean responded to questions from Council and noted that residents could obtain material from any branch within the Bruce County Public Library organization. Ms. McLean noted that the library had 3D printers and cricut cutting machines.

## 6. Minutes

### 6.1 Council Minutes - October 24, 2023

#### **Resolution 23-22-02**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton adopt the minutes of the October 24, 2023 Council Meeting as presented.

**Carried**

## 7. Business Arising From the Minutes

## 8. Reports

### 8.1 Alectra Battery Storage Proposal -Greenock Project

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, confirmed the purpose of the report and the additional information added to the agenda, which included an email from one of the property owners and a petition in opposition to the project signed by 49 residents. Ms. Watson confirmed the representatives of Alectra were present at the meeting, and available to answer any questions Council may have in relation to the proposed project.

Council discussed the confusion surrounding the zoning concerns and the concerns brought forward by the property owners. Council expressed support for deferring consideration of the item to allow constituents an opportunity to fully engage. Council supported arranging another opportunity for residents to attend in person, with the goal of having representatives from the proponent attend the meeting in person as well.

Council decided to defer consideration of the motion until the next Council meeting.

**Resolution 23-22-03**

Moved By: James Lang

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby defers consideration of Report Number CAO2023-21 – Alectra Battery Storage Proposal Greenock Project, prepared by Dalton Stone, Municipal Services Coordinator & Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer until after the Public Information Meeting on November 22, 2023.

**Carried**

8.2 EPCOR Technical Conference

**Resolution 23-22-04**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report CAO2023-20 – EPCOR Technical Conference, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer for information purposes and further authorizes sending a Letter of Support on behalf of Brockton to EPCOR and the Ontario Energy Board in support of EPCOR’s project to provide natural gas service to areas of Brockton.

**Carried**

8.3 October 2023 Water and Wastewater Operation Maintenance

**Resolution 23-22-05**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number UT2023-12 – October 2023 Water and Wastewater Operation Maintenance, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations, for information purposes.

**Carried**

8.4 Winter Maintenance of Sidewalk Policy

Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations, responded to questions from Council about the sidewalks that would be cleared throughout the Municipality of Brockton.

**Resolution 23-22-06**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number PW2023-25 – Winter Maintenance of Sidewalk Policy, prepared by Nicholas

Schnurr and in doing so approves a By-Law coming forward to adopt the updated Winter Maintenance of Sidewalks Policy and repealing the 1999 policy.

**Carried**

8.5 Surplus Assets – Volvo Plow Truck and Street Lights

**Resolution 23-22-07**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2023-31 – Surplus Assets – Volvo Plow Truck and Street Lights, prepared by Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer for information purposes and approves the 2005 Volvo Plow Truck and 64 Coach Street Lights to be listed as surplus items.

**Carried**

8.6 2024 Fees and Charges By-law Update

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions from Council about the fees being proposed for the rental of the Walkerton Community Centre auditorium, noting the importance of ensuring the rental fees were affordable for local services clubs.

Council amended the motion to approve the proposed fees for only the East Ridge Business Park sign and Cemetery fees, requesting additional clarity on the recreation fees.

**Resolution 23-22-08**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receive Report Number FIN2023-32 – 2024 Fees and Charges By-law Update, prepared by Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer for information purposes and in doing so approves a By-Law coming forward to adopt the changes in Schedule A – Administration (East Ridge Business Park Sign), Schedule F – Cemetery, and ~~Schedule G – Recreation (Walkerton Community Centre – Arena Auditorium Rental).~~

**Carried**

8.7 Saugeen Municipal Airport Considerations for Future of Service

Council expressed concerns with the financial situation of the airport, but also identified the improvements made in terms of the governance update and future visioning sessions.

Council discussed that while there was value to having airport in the area, the preference would be to have the facility privately managed. Council highlighted the number of users and pilots relative to Brockton's overall population and the scope of duties assigned to the Airport Manager.

Council also debated the amount spent on the airport in comparison to the funding of other local boards, and the services provided for the tax revenue received by Brockton.

**Resolution 23-22-09**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves Report Number CLK2023-24 – Saugeen Municipal Airport Considerations for Future of Service, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) for information and further authorizes proceeding with Option 1: Propose a Sale of the SMA as an Airport.

**Carried**

**9. Public Notification**

9.1 Shop Walkerton and Win

The Shop Walkerton and Win holiday shopping promotion is back, running from November 13-December 23, 2023. Support local businesses during Shop Walkerton and Win for a chance to win Brockton Dollars. Learn more at [Brockton.ca/ShopWalkerton](https://Brockton.ca/ShopWalkerton)

9.2 Walkerton Hometown Christmas Market

The Walkerton Hometown Christmas Market would be happening on Thursday, November 16, 2023 from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. in downtown Walkerton featuring evening shopping and holiday specials from our merchants, restaurants and artisans, plus live music and an outdoor licensed area with seasonal cheer! Visit [Walkerton Hometown Christmas Market 2023 project](#) on Build Your Brockton to learn more.

9.3 Holiday House Tour

The Walkerton and District Optimist Club would be hosting their Holiday House Tour on Friday, November 17, 2023 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. featuring six festive homes in Brockton! Tickets were available at Marlin Travel, Pellow Pharmasave, Holst Office Supplies, and Brown's Pharmacy.

9.4 Santa Claus Parade

The Kinsmen Club of Walkerton would be hosting the Santa Claus Parade on Saturday, November 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. along Durham Street, Walkerton. Contact the Kinsmen Club to register a float for the parade.

9.5 Elmwood Christmas Tree Lighting - November 26, 2023

The Elmwood Chamber of Commerce were hosting the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Sunday, November 26, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. at the Lions Park. Treats and hot chocolate will be available prior to the tree lighting at St. John's Lutheran Church.

**10. Accounts**

10.1 Accounts - \$1,684,671.66

**Resolution 23-22-10**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton approve payment of the accounts in the amount of \$1,684,671.66.

**Carried**

**11. Correspondence Requiring Action**

## 11.1 ROMA Conference Delegation Requests Open

Council requested delegation meetings be requested with:

1. Ministry of Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and the Ministry of Infrastructure to advocate for a new municipal arena, and loan opportunities for this new infrastructure.
2. Ministry of Health to advocate for increased funding for mental health crisis programming. It was noted that the Municipality's recent grant application for the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) funding was unfortunately denied.
3. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to advocate for affordable housing in our community.

## 11.2 Elmwood Christmas Tree Lighting Invitation

## 11.3 Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism - Nomination Call for 2024 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards

## 12. Information

### 12.1 Ontario's Nuclear Advantage - October 2023 Ontario Provincial Update

### 12.2 Ontario Ombudsman Report - Investigation Complaint

### 12.3 Saugeen Municipal Airport Minutes - September/October 2023

### 12.4 Saugeen Mobility Board Minutes - September 15, 2023

### 12.5 City of Cambridge Resolution - Bill 21 Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act

### 12.6 Town of Greater Napanee Resolution - Support Midland on Catch and Release Justice

### 12.7 Municipality of North Perth Resolution - Support Midland on Catch and Release Justice in Ontario

Councillor Kutcheon requested that Item 12.7 be brought forward for consideration at the next Council Meeting.

### 12.8 Municipality of North Perth Resolution - Social and Economic Prosperity Review

### 12.9 Municipality of North Perth Resolution - Till Death Do Us Part Act

### 12.10 Municipality of West Grey Resolution - Support Bluewater on Childcare Availability in Ontario

### 12.11 Township of West Lincoln Resolution - Support Niagara on Declaring Intimate Partner Violence as an Epidemic

#### **Resolution 23-22-11**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: B. Carl Kuhnke

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives all items provided in Section 12. Information.

**Carried**

## 13. By-Laws

#### **Resolution 23-22-12**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: B. Carl Kuhnke

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorize that the following by-laws be read, enacted, signed, sealed, and numbered as follows:

- By-Law 2023-105 - Borrowing Upon Amortizing Debentures for Bruce Road 2 Watermain Replacement and Yonge Street Reconstruction By-Law
- By-Law 2023-106 - Saugeen Valley Cost Apportioning Agreement By-Law
- By-Law 2023-107 - Adopt 2022 Financial Statements By-Law
- By-Law 2023-108 - Appoint Principles Integrity as Integrity Commissioner By-Law
- By-Law 2023-109 - Amend 2024 Fees and Charges By-Law
- By-Law 2023-110 - Adopt Winter Maintenance of Sidewalks Policy By-Law
- By-Law 2023-111 - Rodenhiser Agreement of Purchase and Sale By-Law

**Carried**

#### **14. Committee Minutes**

##### **Resolution 23-22-13**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton receive the minutes of the following committees and or boards as presented:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes - August 25, 2023
- Elmwood Community Centre Board Minutes - October 11, 2023
- Elmwood Community Centre Board Special Minutes (Budget) - October 18, 2023

**Carried**

#### **15. New Business Brought Forward**

##### **1. Durham Street Intersection Traffic Calming Measures**

Councillor McLean noted that there has not been an update on the request for traffic calming measures at the Durham Street Bridge to ensure safe crossing for individuals on the Saugeen River Trail. It was noted that the County of Bruce are awaiting the report from Triton Engineering regarding the bridge rehabilitation plans.

##### **2. Warden's Banquet**

Councillor McLean thanked Warden Chris Peabody for his service to the County and expressed gratitude for the Warden's Banquet held on November 12, 2023.

Mayor Chris Peabody expressed his appreciation for the well wishes and gift provided by Council and staff.

##### **3. Diabetes Awareness Month**

Councillor Kuhnke noted that November was Diabetes Awareness Month and expressed appreciation for Sir Frederick Banting's discovery of insulin.

#### **16. Closed Session**

##### **Resolution 23-22-14**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton shall address the Ombudsman's Report dated November 2023 by requiring written confirmation that any third-

party providing information in confidence has explicitly stated the information is in confidence and explained what concrete harms could be expected if the information was disclosed publicly.

**Carried**

**Resolution 23-22-15**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton enter into Closed Session at 8:22 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- Labour relations or employee negotiations - **Staffing Update, Compensation Consideration Update**
- Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board - **Contract Claim Information**

**Carried**

**Resolution 23-22-16**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves the direction provided to staff in Closed Session and acknowledges the hiring of Stephen Alexander as Heavy Equipment Operator.

**Carried**

**17. Confirmation of Proceedings**

**Resolution 23-22-17**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorize that the following by-law be read, enacted, signed, sealed, and numbered as follows:

- By-Law 2023-112 - November 14, 2023 Confirmatory By-Law

**18. Adjournment**

**Resolution 23-22-18**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 8:29 p.m. to meet again on November 28, 2023.

**Carried**

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Mayor - Chris Peabody

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Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) – Fiona Hamilton