



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

## Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

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

**Council Present:** Chris Peabody, Mayor  
Mitch Clark, Councillor  
Tim Elphick, Councillor  
Kym Hutcheon, Councillor (Virtually)  
B. Carl Kuhnke, Councillor  
Gregory J. McLean, Councillor

**Council Absent:** James Lang, Deputy Mayor

**Staff Present:** Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)  
Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk  
Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services

1. **Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement**

2. **Acceptance of Council Agenda**

**Resolution 24-01-01**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the regular Council Meeting on January 9, 2024 as presented.

**Carried**

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

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

5. **Delegations**

5.1 Victoria Jubilee Hall Update

Bob McCulloch, a representative from Victoria Jubilee Hall (owned by the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario), provided an overview of the major projects and the donations made by local partnerships, such as with the Bruce County Towne Players).

Mr. McCulloch also highlighted the projects that were planned for the next few years to preserve and maintain the building, such as repairs to the roof and investigation into an upgraded HVAC system.

Council noted the amount of capital improvements made over the past year. Council extended gratitude to the Victoria Jubilee Hall Executive and the number of volunteers who maintain this community landmark. Council commended the number of events and local talent on display, and the upgrades completed that

which ensure that the facility remains accessible and functional for years to come.

Henry Simpson, VJH Treasurer responded to a question from Council about the location of the asphalt roofing.

Council noted the increased involvement from youth and artist groups, and the vast use received from this historical building.

## **6. Minutes**

### **6.1 Council Minutes - December 12, 2023**

#### **Resolution 24-01-02**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton adopt the minutes of the December 12, 2023 Council Meeting as presented.

**Carried**

## **7. Business Arising From the Minutes**

### **7.1 Motion on Importance of Natural Gas in Brockton**

Councillor Hutcheon expressed frustration with the delay for EPCOR's leave to construction application for installing natural gas in Brockton. Mayor Peabody expressed support for natural gas noting that he had received a number of complaints from crop producers earlier in the day at Grey Bruce Farmer's Week about the need for natural gas in the agricultural sector.

#### **Resolution 24-01-03**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

Whereas EPCOR Southern Bruce Gas Inc. created a proposed distribution network for natural gas transmission pipelines which will service residences, commercial and industrial businesses along the route;

And Whereas the Municipality of Brockton committed to working with natural gas distributors to bring natural gas to our communities to remain competitive with our neighbouring municipalities and support our flourishing agricultural industry;

And Whereas rural communities require the same services and opportunities for natural gas expansion to support our economic development, residential growth, and access to reliable energy;

And Whereas the Municipality of Brockton have sent letters of support of EPCOR and Enbridge Gas' applications to the Ontario Energy Board to service rural areas of Brockton with natural gas access;

And Whereas there is a need in our community to support the continued growth of rural areas, including the impact to businesses, and agricultural producers, as well as supporting local, affordable housing developments;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton encourages the Provincial Government at the Ontario Energy Board to move applications along at a rapid pace in recognition of the fact that this service is required in our community.

And Further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Energy for consideration.

**Carried**

**8. Reports**

8.1 Brockton Regional Training Centre Fee Exception

**Resolution 24-01-04**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby accepts Report Number FIRE2024-01 Brockton Regional Training Centre fee exemption, prepared by Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services for information purposes and further approves a recommendation to charge a reduced fee for remote site training at the Bruce County Mutual Aid County School.

**Carried**

8.2 EPCOR Update

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, noted that the Ontario Energy Board has accepted EPCOR's withdrawal application and awarded costs to EPCOR.

**Resolution 24-01-05**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2024-01 – EPCOR Update, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, for information purposes.

**Carried**

8.3 East Ridge Business Park Tender- Phase 3A

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, provided Council with additional information and requested a motion to defer the item until the next regular Council meeting to allow Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer an opportunity to reconsider hydro servicing costs.

**Resolution 24-01-06**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number PW2024-01 – East Ridge Business Park Tender, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations and Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and in doing so awards the contract to Kurtis Smith Excavating Inc. in the amount of \$1,670,800.00 plus HST.

**Tabled**

8.4 January 23, 2024 Council Meeting

**Resolution 24-01-07**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2024-03 – January 23, 2024 Council Meeting, prepared by Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk and Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) and in doing so approves conducting the January 23, 2024 Council

Meeting virtually and further that communication be distributed to the public to inform them of the meeting format change.

**Carried**

8.5 Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 Update

Council recommended appointing Councillor Elphick as the Brockton Council representative on the South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment Board.

**Resolution 24-01-08**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2024-02 - Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 Update, prepared by Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk and in doing so recommends appointing Tim Elphick as the Council representative for the Municipality of Brockton on the South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment Board;

And further approves that a request be made to the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Township of Huron-Kinloss, Municipality of Kincardine, and Municipality of South Bruce to convene a Transition Committee.

**Carried**

8.6 Saugeen Municipal Airport Correspondence and Meeting Request

Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) responded to an inquiry on the status of the By-Laws, advising that the Commission approved circulating the By-Laws to Municipalities and the Commission would then consider approval in February, and then formal approval would need to be given by the municipalities.

Ms. Hamilton responded to an inquiry about the governance mechanism and meeting between all Councils. Ms. Hamilton advised that the new By-Laws clarify that only Municipalities are members of the Commission, which would allow for votes from the Municipal representatives.

**Resolution 24-01-09**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves Report Number CLK2024-01 – Saugeen Municipal Airport Correspondence and Meeting Request, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) for information, approves arranging a meeting with all of Council and the Councils for the Municipality of West Grey and the Town of Hanover, and provides the following comments regarding the proposed new corporate by-laws of the Saugeen Municipal Airport: That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton endorses the draft By-Laws but request that a return to recorded vote provisions be included, and further supports attending a meeting with the Municipality of West Grey and Town of Hanover.

**Carried**

**9. Public Notification**

9.1 2024 Budget Meetings

The Municipality of Brockton are hosting Special Council Meetings to consider the 2024 Municipal Budget on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., and

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Bruce County Council Chambers, and electronically on Zoom and livestreamed via eSCRIBE to our website. The third Budget Meeting will occur on February 6, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cargill Community Centre, and electronically on Zoom and livestreamed via eSCRIBE to our website.

**10. Accounts**

10.1 Accounts - \$3,449,843.06

**Resolution 24-01-10**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton approve payment of the accounts in the amount of \$3,449,843.06.

**Carried**

**11. Correspondence Requiring Action**

11.1 Request to Proclaim Alzheimer's Awareness Month

**Resolution 24-01-11**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

Whereas annually in January, the Alzheimer Society supports and leads Canada's Alzheimer's Awareness Month;

And Whereas the Alzheimer Society of Grey-Bruce are requesting Grey-Bruce Municipalities to partner with their organization to recognize Alzheimer's Awareness Month to decrease the stigma associated with Alzheimer's disease and promote early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby proclaim January 2024 as Alzheimer's Awareness Month in the Municipality of Brockton and further agrees to partner with Victoria Jubilee Hall to illuminate the hall in recognition of Alzheimer's Awareness Month;

And further that a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Alzheimer Society of Grey-Bruce and Victoria Jubilee Hall.

**Carried**

11.2 Request to Proclaim Optimist Day

**Resolution 24-01-12**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton approves and adopts the attached Proclamation declaring the first Thursday in February as Optimist Day in recognition of the partnerships and projects undertaken by that organization for promoting youth throughout the Municipality of Brockton.

**Optimist Day - The First Thursday of every February**

WHEREAS, Volunteers working with young people who are our joy of today and are our hope for tomorrow, are exuberant representatives of the potential to be reached and dreams to come true. They are also unbounded in their enthusiasm to use their own talent, skills, and hard work to make a difference in others' lives, and;

WHEREAS, Members of Optimist International will celebrate OPTIMIST DAY throughout the world the first Thursday of every February to promote their efforts in helping and recognizing the young people that make a difference in their communities and who will encourage a greater exchange of ideas between young people and adults, and;

WHEREAS, there are 2400 Optimist Clubs, with more than 70,000 Members, in Optimist International and Optimist members throughout the world that carry out more than 6500 service projects that serve six million young people a year;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Municipality of Brockton issue this Proclamation declaring the first Thursday of every February as Optimist Day in the Municipality of Brockton. May this day instill pride in our community's Optimists for all of their accomplishments and for the impact they have to truly make a difference in others' lives.

**Carried**

11.3 AMO Conference Registration

Councillor McLean, Councillor Elphick, and Councillor Kuhnke indicated their interest in attending the AMO Conference.

**12. Information**

**Resolution 24-01-13**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

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

**Carried**

12.1 Municipal Innovation Council Provides Smart Beach Update

Councillor Elphick noted the Municipal Innovation Council's Smart Beach Update and voiced concerns on the lack of benefit to the Municipality of Brockton. Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer confirmed that the MIC funding was included within the 2024 Municipal Budget and had been flagged as a consideration for Council's review during the budget deliberations.

12.2 Saugeen Conservation Media Release - SVCA Appoints Erik Downing as Acting General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

12.3 South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment Commander Report - November 2023

12.4 Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Minutes - October 20, 2023

12.5 County of Brant Resolution - Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence

12.6 Township of Clearview Resolution - Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration and Management Support

12.7 Township of Conmee Resolution - Request to Amend Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act to Disqualify People With Criminal Records

12.8 Clean Energy Frontier - December 2023 Newsletter

12.9 City of Port Colborne Resolution - Support for Tax Credit Increase for Volunteer Firefighters

Councillor Hutcheon requested that Item 12.9 be brought forward for consideration at the next Council Meeting.

- 12.10 City of Stratford - Support BIA on Business Support for CEBA Loan Businesses
- 12.11 City of Greater Thunder Bay Resolution - Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer
- 12.12 City of Thunder Bay Resolution - Advocacy on Short Term Rentals

**13. By-Laws**

**Resolution 24-01-14**

Moved By: Tim Elphick  
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 2024-001 - Appoint Committee of Adjustment By-Law
- ~~By-Law 2024-002 – East Ridge Business Park Expansion Phase 3A Tender Acceptance By-Law~~
- By-Law 2024-003 - Fairmount Community Centre Security Agreement By-Law

**Carried**

**14. Committee Minutes**

**Resolution 24-01-15**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean  
Seconded By: Tim Elphick

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

- Brockton Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes - September 21, 2023
- Brockton Police Services Board Minutes - November 14, 2023
- Elmwood Community Centre Board Minutes - December 5, 2023

**Carried**

**15. New Business Brought Forward**

1. Victoria Jubilee Hall Lease Agreement

Councillor Elphick inquired on the status of the Victoria Jubilee Hall lease agreement. Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) advised that Council's request was provided to the VJH Executive who agreed to amend the lease agreement for the use of any meeting spaces at no additional cost provided that bookings are made in advance or any scheduling conflicts are accommodated between the Municipality and other renters.

Ms. Hamilton noted that discussions have occurred with the Four County Labour Board regarding purchasing equipment.

2. Accessibility Improvements

Councillor McLean thanked staff for preparing cards on behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee to distribute to downtown businesses in Walkerton for accessibility access improvements made by moving the location of their sidewalk signs.

### 3. Hospice Announcement

Mayor Chris Peabody advised that Members of Parliament will be making an announcement on January 15, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Centre in Walkerton regarding the hospice, and further that \$1.5 million dollars will be awarded to the hospice.

## 16. Closed Session

### **Resolution 24-01-16**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: B. Carl Kuhnke

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton enter into Closed Session at 7:43 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees - **Council Committee Appointments**

**Carried**

### **Resolution 24-01-17**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approve the direction provided to staff in Closed Session.

**Carried**

### **Resolution 24-01-18**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

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 2024-004 - 2022-2026 Council Committee Appointments By-Law

**Carried**

## 17. Confirmation of Proceedings

### **Resolution 24-01-19**

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 2024-005 - January 9, 2024 Confirmatory By-Law

**Carried**



**18. Adjournment**

**Resolution 24-01-20**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 8:06 p.m. to meet again on January 16, 2024 and January 17, 2024 for Special Council Meetings to consider the 2024 Municipal Budget.

**Carried**

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Mayor - Chris Peabody

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