



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

Special Council Meeting Minutes (2025 Budget)

Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

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

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

Staff Present: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer
Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)
Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer
Jessica Pinkse, Deputy Treasurer
Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations
Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services
Brad Thomson, Facilities and Parks Supervisor

1. **Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement**
2. **Acceptance of Special Council Agenda**

Resolution 25-04-01

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the Special Council Meeting (2025 Budget) on February 11, 2025 as presented.

Carried

3. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**
4. **Delegations**
- 4.1 Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club - 2025 Budget Request

Richard Osborne, Head Greenskeeper and Property Maintenance and Don Clark, Maintenance Crew, provided an overview of the history of the Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club ("the Club") and some of the highlights from the previous year.

Mr. Osborne highlighted some features of the property and the reason for the capital requests being put forward by the Club.

Mr. Osborne responded to questions from Council about which project may be the highest need for the Club as the fencing and secondly the security lighting.

5. Reports

5.1 Walkerton Lawn Bowling 2025 Capital Request

Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and Brad Thomson, Facilities and Park Supervisor, responded to questions from Council about the number of grants that have been applied for on behalf of the Club.

Council discussed the number of items being proposed in the capital request and the importance of safety and security for the Club. Council proposed a smaller funding amount to begin addressing the repairs related to the fencing and lighting. Council debated the appropriate funding to ensure the fence was properly fixed noting that Brockton was the owner of the Property. Mr. Thomson explained the cost of \$14,000 to complete all the areas where the fencing required repair.

Resolution 25-04-02

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-04 - Walkerton Lawn Bowling 2025 Capital Request, prepared by Brad Thomson, Facilities and Parks Supervisor and Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so provides the following direction to staff regarding the 2025 budget request: \$14,000

Carried

Resolution 25-04-03

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton reconsider the resolution regarding the Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club Capital Request.

Carried

Resolution 25-04-04

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-04 - Walkerton Lawn Bowling 2025 Capital Request, prepared by Brad Thomson, Facilities and Parks Supervisor and Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so provides the following direction to staff regarding the 2025 budget request: the Municipality of Brockton shall directly replace the fencing as needed surrounding the Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club grounds up to the amount of \$14,000.

Carried

5.2 Walkerton Centennial Park Pool Diving Board

Council discussed whether the project would be approved without the fundraising amount already having been secured. Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions from Council about the amount in reserve funds for recreation purposes. Council debated whether to fund the project out of the reserve fund.

Resolution 25-04-05

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-03- Walkerton Centennial Park Pool Diving Board, prepared by Lisa Fagan, Recreation Programming Supervisor and Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves staff proceeding with inclusion of the diving board in the 2025 budget through sponsorship for 50 percent funding of the total cost, and 50 percent funding through the recreation reserve fund.

Carried

5.3 Walkerton Centennial Park Pool Floor Refinishing

Council discussed the priorities for Walkerton Centennial Park Pool, including the health and safety concerns for the pool flooring.

Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services, described the state of the floors that had been completely repainted in the past year and degraded quickly.

Council discussed the potential use of the reserve fund for the epoxy floors. Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, recommended using the working capital reserve fund.

Resolution 25-04-06

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-02 - Walkerton Centennial Park Pool Floor Refinishing, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves the inclusion of refinishing pool floors with epoxy finish within the 2025 Capital Budget as funded from the working capital reserve fund for an estimated cost of \$20,000.

Carried

5.4 Downtown Winter Maintenance

Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations, responded to questions from Council about the frequency that other municipalities complete downtown snow removal. Council debated the importance of supporting the downtown core balanced against the increased costs.

Resolution 25-04-07

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives report number PW2025-01 Downtown Winter Maintenance prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations for information purposes and in so doing chooses Option 1 related to the level of service for snow removal activities for downtown Walkerton and area.

Carried

5.5 Walkerton Hanover 2025 Landfill Budget

Council discussed the response from the Town of Hanover and the need to remain mindful of the terms of the Agreement.

Resolution 25-04-08

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number WM2025-01 - Walkerton Hanover 2025 Landfill Budget, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations for information purposes.

Carried

6. Closed Session

Resolution 25-04-09

Moved By: Steve Travale

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton enter into Closed Session at 2:17 p.m. to address matters pertaining to:

- Labour relations or employee negotiations - **Compensation and Pay Equity Review Proposal**

Carried

Resolution 25-04-10

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

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

Carried

7. 2025 Draft Budget Update

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer advised Council of the applicable tax rate after the decision to add the Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club fencing project and the removal of the Compensation and Pay Equity Review.

Council commended staff on their work to reduce the tax rate.

Resolution 25-04-11

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2025-01 – 2025 Draft Budget Update, prepared by Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer and in doing so approves bringing forward a By-Law to accept the 2025 Municipal Budget in the levied amount of \$13,283,911.00.

Carried

8. Council Discussion and Questions on Tax Supported Operating Budget

9. Council Discussion and Questions on Capital Requests

10. Adoption of 2025 Tax Supported Budget

11. By-Laws

Resolution 25-04-12

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

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 2025-006 - Adopt 2025 Non-Tax Supported Budget By-Law

- By-Law 2025-007 - Adopt 2025 Municipal Budget By-Law

Carried

12. Closed Session

Resolution 25-04-13

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton enter into Closed Session at 2:50 p.m. to address matters pertaining to:

Council of the Municipality of Brockton will enter into Closed Session to address a matter pertaining to:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees - **Committee Mandate Discussion, Individual Property Culvert Dispute, False Alarm Appeal**
- Labour relations or employee negotiations - **Staffing Update, Road Department Update**
- Advice that is subject to solicitor/client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose - **Private Well Update**
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board - **Facility Repurchase Proposal, Property Repurchase Proposal**
- A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiation carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality of local board - **Smoking Enforcement Proposal**

Carried

Resolution 25-04-14

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

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

Carried

13. Confirmation of Proceedings

14. Adjournment

Resolution 25-04-15

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Steve Travale

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 4:15 p.m. to meet again at 7:00 p.m. for the regular Council Meeting.

Carried

Mayor - Chris Peabody

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