



MINUTES
MUNICIPALITY OF THAMES CENTRE
REGULAR MEETING

December 11, 2023, 5:00 P.M.
Municipal Office - Council Chambers
4305 Hamilton Road, Dorchester, ON

Members Present: Mayor McMillan
Deputy Mayor Smibert
Councillor Heeman
Councillor Crockett
Councillor Lockie

Staff Present: D. Barrick, Chief Administrative Officer
J. Craven, Director of Public Works
N. Dorken, Director of Fire & Emergency Services/Fire Chief
S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services & Facilities
S. Henshaw, Interim Clerk
J. Nethercott, Interim Deputy Clerk
E. Schinbein, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer
A. Peter, Human Resources Advisor
T. Pitt, Drainage Superintendent
A. Storrey, Development Services Supervisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McMillan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

No additions to the agenda.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Heeman thanked the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Public Works for working with CN Rail to improve railway crossings in Thames Centre.

Councillor Crockett provided details on how to sign up for the Thames Centre Christmas Light Tour.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No items.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

6.1 Regular Council Minutes - November 27, 2023

Resolution: 407-2023

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: M. Smibert

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of Council, held on November 27, 2023 be approved as circulated.

Carried.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

7.1 Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. - Presentation on Bill 134

Resolution: 408-2023

Moved by: M. Smibert

Seconded by: C. Crockett

THAT Consent Agenda Item 7.1 be received for information.

Carried.

8. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS

8.1 CAO-017-23 - DRAFT Tree Planting Plan

The Chief Administrative Officer presented Report No. CAO-017-23. There was some discussion.

Resolution: 409-2023

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: M. Smibert

THAT Report No. CAO-017-23 be received for information;
AND THAT Council approve the attached DRAFT Tree Planting Plan as further recommended by the Thames Centre Environmental Advisory Committee.

Carried.

8.2 CLERK-017-23 - 2024 Council Meeting Schedule

The Interim Clerk presented Report No. CLERK-017-23.

Resolution: 410-2023

Moved by: C. Crockett

Seconded by: D. Lockie

THAT Report No. CLERK-017-23, 2024 Council Meeting Schedule, be received for information;
AND THAT the 2024 Council Meeting Calendar be approved as presented.

Carried.

8.3 CLERK-018-23 - Proposed 2024 Fees and Charges

The Interim Clerk presented Report No. CLERK-018-23, and also noted the following amendments to By-law No. 119-2023, being the 2024 Fees and Charges By-law:

- Under Schedule “A” (Administration Fees), the fee for registering deaths was removed to avoid duplication, as it is already included in Schedule “J” (Dorchester Union Cemetery Fees)
- Under Schedule “E” (Environmental Services), the 2024 Water and Wastewater Rates were amended to show 0% increases for both, to reflect Council’s resolution during the budget meeting held on December 11, 2023 to freeze these rates

There was some discussion.

Resolution: 411-2023

Moved by: M. Smibert

Seconded by: C. Crockett

THAT Report No. CLERK-018-23 be received for information;

AND THAT the proposed 2024 Fees and Charges be approved by by-law, as amended.

Carried.

8.4 CLERK-019-23 - Animal Control Services – Contract Extension

There was some discussion requesting staff to request quotes for Animal Control services before the next renewal.

Resolution: 412-2023

Moved by: M. Smibert

Seconded by: C. Crockett

THAT Report No. CLERK-019-23 be received for information;

AND THAT the current agreement with Hillside Kennels Animal Control Ltd. for the provision of Animal Control Services be extended for an additional one-year term.

Carried.

8.5 PW-DR-020-23 - Cameron Petition – Request for Drainage Works

Resolution: 413-2023

Moved by: C. Crockett

Seconded by: D. Lockie

THAT Report No. PW-DR-020-23 of the Drainage Superintendent, dated December 11, 2023, concerning a request received by Wayne Cameron for a request for new drainage works, be received for information;

AND THAT the petition submitted by Wayne Cameron, under Section 4 of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990, for new drainage works, in relation to property located at CON 4 W PT Lot 16, (former township of West Nissouri) be received and adopted;

AND THAT Mr. M. P. Devos, of Spriet Associates, be appointed the Engineer to investigate and prepare the necessary drainage report.

Carried.

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

9.1 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting - December 4, 2023

9.1.1 Amend Terms of Reference

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to the Thames Centre Council that the Terms of Reference for the Environmental Advisory Committee be amended as attached;
AND THAT Thames Centre Council adopt the amended Terms of Reference.

9.2 Thames Centre Special Events Committee Meeting - December 6, 2023

Resolution: 414-2023

Moved by: D. Lockie

Seconded by: M. Smibert

THAT Reports of Committees Agenda Items 9.1 and 9.2 be approved as presented.

Carried.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT/COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Deputy Mayor Smibert provided an update on activities since the last report on November 14, 2023.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

No items.

13. NEW BUSINESS

No items.

14. BY-LAWS

14.1 By-law 118-2023 - Extension of Agreement for Animal Control Services

Being a by-law to authorize the extension of an Agreement with Hillside Kennels Animal Control Ltd. to provide animal control services.

14.2 By-law 119-2023 - 2024 Fees and Charges By-law

Being a by-Law to provide for various Fees and Charges for the Municipality of Thames Centre.

14.3 By-law 102-2023 - Amend Zoning (Southwest Corner of Mossley Drive and Lewis Road)

Being a By-law to amend By-law No. 75-2006, as amended, insofar as it relates to the lands located at Part of Lot 9, Concession 3, SRT (geographic Township of North Dorchester), Municipality of Thames Centre, in the County of Middlesex.

14.4 By-Law 121-2023 - Amend Zoning (23061 Nissouri Road)

Being a By-law to amend By-law No. 75-2006, as amended, insofar as it relates to the lands located at Part of Lot 26, Concession 2 (geographic Township of West Nissouri), designated as Part 1 on Plan 33R-8660 and Part 1 on Plan 33R-17425, in the Municipality of Thames Centre, in the County of Middlesex.

Resolution: 415-2023

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: M. Smibert

THAT By-laws 118-2023, 120-2023 and 121-2023 be adopted as presented;

AND THAT By-law 119-2023, being the 2024 Fees and Charges by-law be adopted as amended.

Carried.

15. CLOSED SESSION

Resolution: 416-2023

Moved by: M. Smibert

Seconded by: C. Crockett

THAT Council adjourn to closed session at 5:23 p.m. pursuant to:

Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act, being "personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees" with respect to a performance review.

Carried.

Resolution: 417-2023

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: M. Smibert

THAT the Closed Session be adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Carried.

16. RISE AND REPORT

Mayor McMillan advised that during the closed session, Council discussed personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, with respect to a performance review.

17. MEETING SCHEDULE

Mayor McMillan advised that the approved 2024 Council Meeting Dates will be published on the municipal website after this meeting.

18. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

18.1 By-law 122-2023 - Confirmatory By-law

Resolution: 418-2023

Moved by: M. Smibert

Seconded by: T. Heeman

THAT By-law 122-2023, being the Confirmatory By-law, be approved.

Carried.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution: 419-2023

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: C. Crockett

RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 6:26 p.m.

Carried.

S. McMillan, Mayor

S. Henshaw, Interim Clerk