

Special Meeting of Council

Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 16, 2020
Time: 11:00 am
Location: This meeting is being conducted electronically

Present: Mayor, Gary McNamara
Deputy Mayor, Joe Bachetti
Councillor, Bill Altenhof
Councillor, Andrew Dowie
Councillor, Brian Houston
Councillor, Tania Jobin
Councillor, Rick Tonial

Also Present: Chief Administrative Officer, Margaret Misek-Evans
Director Parks & Recreation Services, Paul Anthony
Director Public Works & Environmental Services, Phil Bartnik
Director Fire Services & Fire Chief, Wade Bondy
Director Information & Communication Services, Shaun Fuerth
Director Planning & Building Services, Brian Hillman
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer, Tom Kitsos
Director Corporate Services & Clerk, Laura Moy
Deputy Clerk & Manager Legislative Services, Jennifer Alexander
Manager Strategic Initiatives, Lesley Reeves

Others Present Town Solicitor, Ed Hooker

A. Roll Call

B. Call to Order

The Mayor calls the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

C. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There is no pecuniary interest declared by a Member of Council.

D. Delegations

There are no delegations presented to Council.

E. Communications

There are no communications presented to Council.

F. Reports

1. FIRE-2020-05 Emergency Flood Mitigation and Amendments to the Town of Tecumseh Flood Response Plan

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) introduces the report and highlights the recommendation as a solution to the risk of inland flooding. She comments on the current Lake St. Clair high water levels, which are anticipated to peak in July. The CAO explains that while Administration is continuing to monitor the potential flood risks, the current COVID-19 pandemic rules regarding large gatherings and social distancing, impacts the Town's ability to provide emergency shelter if flooding occurs and residents need to evacuate.

The solution of implementing permanent berms along the lake will assist in the defense of lake water inflow. In order to implement the berms, the CAO advises that the Town's Flood Response Plan must be amended to authorize the works to be completed. There are 16 properties identified where berms are to be constructed.

The Director Public Works & Environmental Services explains that the Manager Roads & Fleet has met with a contractor on the proposed works and communicated with the majority of the property owners. He explains the proposed construction and location of berms being placed at the high point on these properties which is the water's shoreline. If a wind event occurs, the water flows down into Riverside Drive.

The Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer advises that the funds requested are available and can be funded through the new infrastructure levy.

The Mayor explains that there are three issues to worry about: the wind, the lake levels and a rain event. The berms are a preventative measure to assist with the lake levels and the wind, but not for a rain event.

Discussion ensues over the financial impacts if the Town did not proceed with these works. The Director Public Works & Environmental Services explains that the flooding event in 2016 affected over 2,000 properties. If this event occurs, there is a potential of 5,500 properties in the flood prone area that are at risk for inland flooding; and there's a potential risk of surcharging the sanitary sewer system. He advises the costs (insurance claims) associated with inland lake flooding could be well above the 2016 flood event.

It is requested that Administration provide a map of affected properties to Council as a reference. The general area where the works may be provided is outlined in Schedule A to the Emergency Order to be signed by the Mayor under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. The Director Public Works & Environmental Services will provide Council

with a map showing the locations of the 16 properties where works will commence.

The Town has met with the City of Windsor regarding flood mitigation on the border of the City.

The Director Public Works & Environmental Services explains that construction will take place from the land side not the water. Access may be challenging and as a result the contractor will be using smaller equipment. There should be no significant traffic delays from this construction.

Motion: SCM - 10/20

Moved By Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti

Seconded By Councillor Andrew Dowie

That the Fire Chief's report FIRE-2020-05 regarding the Amendments to the Town of Tecumseh Flood Response Plan **be received**;

And that By-law No. 2020-35 being a by-law to adopt the revised Emergency Response Plan, inclusive of the appended Flood Response Plan, Version 2 (April 2020) **be adopted**;

And further that the expenditures of \$500,000 from the Infrastructure Reserve for the implementation of flood mitigation defenses on those identified private properties that pose a significant risk for further in-land flooding **be authorized**.

Carried

G. By-Laws

1. By-Law 2020-35

Being a By-Law to adopt an emergency management program and emergency response plan.

Motion: SCM - 11/20

Moved By Councillor Bill Altenhof

Seconded By Councillor Brian Houston

That By-Law 2020-35 being a by-law to adopt an emergency management program and emergency response plan **be given** first, second, third and final reading.

Carried

H. Adjournment

Motion: SCM - 12/20

Moved By Councillor Rick Tonial

Seconded By Councillor Brian Houston

That there being no further business, the Thursday, April 16, 2020 meeting of the Special Council Meeting **be adjourned** at 11:51 pm.

Carried

Gary McNamara, Mayor

Laura Moy, Clerk