

Special Meeting of Council

Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Electronic meeting live streamed at:
<https://video.isilive.ca/tecumseh/live.html>.

Present:

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

Also Present:

Chief Administrative Officer, Margaret Misk-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 Planning Services, Chad Jeffery
Manager Strategic Initiatives, Lesley Reeves

A. Roll Call

B. Call to Order

The Mayor calls the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

C. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

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

D. Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the meeting is to provide a copy of the Draft New Official Plan to Council with an overview provided in a covering Administrative Report listed on the Agenda regarding the more significant policy directions proposed in the document. Administration, upon reviewing the document and hearing input, will

be seeking authorization to proceed to a stakeholder and public consultation process.

The Mayor asks the Director Planning & Building Services, Brian Hillman and Manager Planning Services, Chad Jeffery to present the Draft New Official Plan and the Administrative Report. In February 2020, the Draft New Official Plan was summarized in a presentation at a Special Meeting of Council in open session. The focus of this presentation will be on some of the policy changes from the existing Official Plan compared to the Draft New Official Plan.

The Mayor comments that for the viewing audience, there will be opportunity for input on the Draft New Official Plan at a later date. The details on stakeholder engagement and public consultation will be available on the Town's website and on social media. In addition, notices will also be advertised in the local news media. Administration will report back to Council following the consultation period.

The Mayor clarified at this time, the Draft New Official Plan is only being presented to both Council and the public. No decision will be made this evening by Council.

The Director of Planning & Building Services reviews the steps taken since the meeting in February, which due to COVID-19, the process was put on hold. He notes that the Province adopted a new Provincial Policy Statement this year which contains amendments that are reflected in the Draft New Official Plan. The County of Essex is the approval authority for the Draft New Official Plan.

Each section of the Draft New Official Plan is reviewed and the significant changes and new requirements are highlighted as summarized in the covering Report PBS-2020-35 Town of Tecumseh Draft New Official Plan, September 2020.

The Director advises on the status of the Tecumseh Hamlet Secondary Plan and Oldcastle Hamlet Special Planning Study. Next steps of the Draft New Official Plan process are reviewed and it is noted that stakeholder input on the Draft New Official Plan will occur by way of holding a virtual Public Information Centre using Zoom as well as through the Place Speak online platform. Formal consultations will occur with Metis and First Nation communities. Ultimately, there will also be a formal public meeting held by Council in accordance of the *Planning Act*.

Councillor Altenhof leaves the meeting at 6:30 pm.

The Deputy Mayor congratulates Administration on the report. He comments on the aggressive timelines for the final approval of the Draft New Official Plan and noted the importance of finalizing the Tecumseh Hamlet Secondary Plan particularly given the recent Provincial approval on the location of the regional hospital. The Director provides additional information on project timelines.

A question is raised on the future connection of Little River Boulevard between Lesperance Road and St. Pierre Street which is not depicted on the Road

Classification Schedule given it is shown in the existing Official Plan. The Director advises that the noted connection was not included in the Town's recently completed Transportation Master Plan and that this document informed the transportation policies in the Draft New Official Plan. He explains that this matter will be reviewed by Administration and a recommended course of action provided to Council prior to the final adoption of the New Official Plan.

In response to an inquiry, the Director indicates that the potential future linkage of the Chrysler Canada Greenway (Greenway) across Highway 3 in the vicinity of Walker Road is not affected by any proposed changes in Land Use designations in the Draft New Official Plan. The question regarding how to safely connect the Greenway north and south of Highway 3 still needs to be resolved in consultation with the Ministry of Transportation and Essex Region Conservation Authority.

A Member expressed concerns regarding the limited severance options for farmers hoping to retire while remaining in the rural area. The Director indicates that the municipality is very limited with respect to rural severance policies as the Provincial legislation currently in effect has significantly reduced the types of agricultural severances permitted and is intended to protect agricultural resources.

E. Delegations

There are no delegations presented to Council.

F. Communications

There are no communication items presented to Council.

G. Reports

1. PBS-2020-35 Town of Tecumseh Draft New Official Plan, September 2020

Motion: SCM - 13/20

Moved By Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti

Seconded By Councillor Tania Jobin

That the Planning and Building Services Report PBS-2020-35 Town of Tecumseh New Official Plan Draft September 2020 **be received**;

And that the public and agency engagement process outlined in Report Number PBS-2020-35 **be authorized**.

Carried

H. Adjournment

Motion: SCM - 14/20

Moved By Councillor Brian Houston

Seconded By Councillor Andrew Dowie

That there being no further business, the Tuesday, September 29, 2020 meeting of the Special Council Meeting **be adjourned** at 7:06 pm.

Carried

Gary McNamara, Mayor

Laura Moy, Clerk