

**Township of South-West Oxford
Council Minutes
April 16, 2024**

Members Present:

Mayor: Mayor David Mayberry, Paul
Buchner (Ward 1), Peter Ypma
Councillors: (Ward 2), Valerie Durston (Ward 3),
George Way (Ward 4), Jim Pickard
(Ward 5), Craig Gillis (Ward 6)

Members Absent:

None.

Staff Present:

Mary Ellen Greb, CAO/Deputy Clerk
Julie Middleton, Clerk/Deputy CAO
Brooke Crane, Treasurer
Spencer McDonald, Development Planner
Paul Groeneveld, Fire Chief (via Zoom)
Nicole Chambers, Records Management Co-
ordinator/Clerk’s Assistant

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor David Mayberry and a quorum was present.

Motion to Accept Agenda

Resolution No. 1 Moved by Paul Buchner
Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the regular meeting agenda for the April 16th, 2024 meeting of council be approved.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Minutes

April 2nd, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Resolution No. 2 Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the regular minutes of the April 2nd, 2024 council meeting be approved, as amended.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

CL 18-2024: Business Arising from the Meeting Minutes of April 2nd, 2024

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with an overview of the staff actions arising from the minutes of the last Council meeting.

Resolution No. 3 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 18-2024: Business Arising from the meeting Minutes of April 2nd, 2024 as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Staff Reports

CAO 10-2024: Redevelopment of the Township's Flag Policy

Chief Administrative Officer Mary Ellen Greb provided Council with a report to bring forward a draft flag policy for consideration by the council. She explained that a proposed draft policy is attached to the report and the report outlines several positions in regards to the proposed new policy. She commented on the new vision statement included in the Township's new Strategic Plan – the strategic plan provides a roadmap towards a goal of welcoming, safe and connecting communities.

Members of Council provided comments in relation to the proposed new policy. Support was expressed for a dedicated community flag pole to be used for flag raising ceremonies. Councillor Pickard read a prepared statement in support of the new draft policy he stated that Council needs to show some leadership with respect to diversity, equality and inclusion within the community.

Resolution No. 4 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive Report CAO 08-2024: Redevelopment of the Township's Flag Policy as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the new flag policy for the Township as contained and presented within the staff report.

Discussion on the motion:

Councillor Ypma read a prepared statement in opposition to the proposed new flag policy and stated that the Canadian flag represents all Canadians and is a symbol of peace and justice around the world. He questioned how it will be determined which groups are deserving of a flag raising and which are not – only the Canadian flag will ensure no such division.

Councillor Way commented on the damage done to Township property the last time the pride flag was raised (2017). He expressed support for a community flag pole and hesitation in relation to potential issues in the future.

Discussion took place regarding a time limit to be established for all flag raisings and stated that he doesn't think that any groups should be allowed to raise a flag for longer than what is permitted for military veterans.

Councillor Gillis expressed support for the proposed new policy and a community flag pole. He agreed that a time limit should be established for flag raising, and suggested a period of one week.

Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the proposed new flag policy as contained and presented within staff report CAO 08-2024 be amended to establish a time limit of one week for all flag raisings with the exception of the Remembrance Day Flag.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

It was further discussed that the organization of group making the flag raising request will be required to supply the flag to the Township. All flags raised will follow the same half-masting protocol as any other flag flown within the Township.

Concern was expressed about flags promoting hatred and disorder. Councillor Pickard stated that this already exists and that he hopes that by approving the amended policy that Council can show some leadership in relation to inclusion within our community.

Mayor Mayberry commented that he agrees that the Canadian flag should represent all Canadians but not everyone feels this way. He stated that we should treat everyone with fairness, love and appreciation but noted that this is not what council observed the last time that the pride flag was raised in the Township. The flag was torn down and burned in the parking lot. This made a clear statement of a lack of respect for fellow Canadians. He stated that we need to make a statement and demonstrate that we do believe that all Canadians are equal and take a more proactive stance on respecting and appreciating the differences we see across this community and county.

Councillor Ypma requested a record vote:

Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive Report CAO 08-2024: Redevelopment of the Township's Flag Policy as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the new flag policy for the Township as contained and presented within the staff report, as amended (time limit).

Councillor Gillis	Yes
Councillor Buchner	Yes
Councillor Way	Yes
Councillor Pickard	Yes

Questions from Council:

None.

Comments from the Applicant/Members of the Public:

Vendel and Mary Szucscko, applicants, spoke in support of planning staff's recommendation as contained within the report.

No member of the public spoke in support of or opposed to the application.

Resolution No. 6 Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford reconvene in regular session.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Resolution No. 7 Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford approve-in-principle the zone change application submitted by Vendel and Mary Szucscko / John Wayne and Mary Diane Burgess, whereby the lands described as Lots 53 & 54, Pt. Lot 55, Registered Plan No. 66, in the Township of South-West Oxford are to be rezoned from 'Institutional Zone (I)' to 'Special Residential Type 1 Zone (R1-sp)' to facilitate the conversion of the existing church to a single detached dwelling and to ensure the dwelling located at 292258 Culloden Road is placed into a residential zone to recognize the existing residential use.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

7:15 p.m. - Development Planner Spencer McDonald - Public Meeting: Zone Change Application ZN 4-24-06 submitted by Chris Van Ginkel (Doubleview Farms Inc. c/o Debbie Bleeker for properties located at 403582 Union Road and 403566 Union Road

Resolution No. 8 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford move into public meeting to consider zone change application ZN 4-24-06 submitted by Chris Van Ginkel (Doubleview Farms Inc. c/o Debbie Bleeker) for properties located at 403582 Union Road and 403566 Union Road.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Development Planner Spencer McDonald explained that the zone change application proposes to add site specific zone provisions on the subject lands to treat the Town of Ingersoll Boundary as a Type A land use for the purpose of permitting continued (expanded) agricultural uses on the subject properties.

The subject lands are legally described as Part Lots 20 & 21, Concession 1 (Dereham), Township of South-West Oxford. The lands are located on the south side of Union Road between Culloden Road and Curry Road and are municipally known as 403582 Union Road and 403566 Union Road, in the Township of South-West Oxford. Surrounding land uses are primarily single agricultural with a number of rural residential lots to the north/northwest. The Town of Ingersoll boundary is located to the immediate north.

The lands municipally known as 403582 are approximately 23.4 ha (58 ac) in area and contain a single detached dwelling and a detached accessory building (shop). The proposed livestock (dairy) barn will comprise approximately 2,006 m² (21,600 ft²) in size with an approximate 143 m² (1,540 ft²) liquid manure storage facility to serve the proposed barn. The lands municipally known as 403566 Union Road are 21 ha (52 ac) in size and contain an existing single-detached dwelling, broiler barns and a number of agricultural buildings and structures (silos and circular bulk feed tank). No new development is proposed on these lands at this time.

No concerns have been expressed through circulation. Planning staff are recommending support of the application as it complies with the policies of the Provincial Policy Statement and the Official Plan.

Questions from Council:

In response to an inquiry from Councillor Pickard, Mr. McDonald explained that the lands at the boundary of the Town of Ingersoll (north) have been identified for future industrial development. He advised that more information in relation to required setbacks will be contained as part of the site-specific zoning for the industrial lands. He further advised that policy will be brought forward not to preclude further expansion in the future on both the north and south side of the boundary.

Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive Report CAO 11-2024: Township Development Charges – Annual Adjustment as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

** Development Planner Spencer McDonald left the meeting.*

CL 19-2024: By-law Enforcement Activity Report - 1st Quarter (2024)

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with an update in relation to the activities in the by-law enforcement division as of March 31st, 2024.

Resolution No. 12 Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 19-2024: By-law Enforcement Activity Report - First Quarter 2024 as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CL 20-2024: Vincent Municipal Drain Follow Up

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with follow up information in response to direction received by staff at the April 2nd, 2024 Council meeting in relation to the Vincent Municipal Drain.

Landowner, Birtha Wall, was in attendance at the meeting and commented on the emergency works already completed and suggested that this portion (retaining wall) be left as is and that the project be completed in two parts to provide cost savings for all affected parties. It was noted that the emergency works completed are not engineered and there is no guarantee how long they will last before requiring a more permanent solution. Payment arrangements with the Township are available for assessed landowners that wish to spread payments out over a period of time.

Resolution No. 13 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 20-2024: Vincent Municipal Drain Follow Up as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council provide direction to staff to proceed with next steps towards the completion of the Vincent Municipal Drain engineer's report in its entirety to complete the project under one engineer's report/project.

Discussion on the motion:

Councillor Buchner commented that the Vincent Drain has been an ongoing problem for a long time and reiterated that the emergency works completed are not an engineered solution.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

FC 06-2024: Replacement of Station #3 Pumper Fire Apparatus

Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld provided Council with a report to seek their approval for staff to enter into an Agreement of Purchase for one new pumper fire apparatus with Fort Garry Fire Trucks Ltd. in the amount of \$660,995.00 plus HST; and the allocation of an additional \$2,000 (maximum) from the Fire Service Vehicle Reserve to facilitate the installation of a mobile radio and equipment mounting hardware. He advised Council that five bids were received and that the proposal being recommended by staff is under budget by approximately \$40,000. All quotes are Canadian suppliers and in Canadian funds.

Resolution No. 14 Moved by Craig Gillis
Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED THAT Report FC2024-006 entitled "Replacement of Station #3 Pumper Fire Apparatus" be received as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the purchase of one (1) new 2025 Triple Combination Pumper Apparatus from Fort Garry Fire Trucks Ltd. at the proposed price of \$660,695.00 plus HST;

AND FURTHER THAT an additional maximum of \$4,000 be allocated, from the Fire Service Vehicle Reserve, as part of the overall purchase to facilitate a

radio installation, and mounting of equipment and tools.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

FD 07-2024: Fire Services 2024 Quarterly Activity Report (Jan. - Mar.)

Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld provided Council with a report to provide them with an overview of South-West Oxford Fire and Emergency Services activities for the first quarter of 2024. Councillor Ypma commented on the comprehensive report received from the Fire Chief and thanked Chief Groeneveld for this report.

Discussion took place regarding public education events that have taken place in the first quarter and how these will be tracked and reports going forward. Staff will be following up on putting procedures in place in relation to legacy gas wells within the Township – the Township should be prepared for evacuation of surrounding areas if needed.

Resolution No. 15 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 2024-007 entitled "Fire Services 2024 Quarterly Report (Jan. - Mar.)" be received as information.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

** Fire Chief Paul Groeneveld left the meeting 7:48 p.m.*

Agenda Items & Correspondence

#79 - April 2024 SWOX Talks

#80 - ERTH Corporation Save and Date - AGM Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Resolution No. 16 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford appoint Mayor David Mayberry as the Township's voting representative at the ERTH Corporation AGM in May.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

#81 - Oxford County Report PW 2024-17 - Annual Energy Update

Councillor Ypma noted that energy consumed within the county is not significantly higher from 2015 – they are doing well with conservation efforts and working to reduce demand.

#82 - Oxford County Report PW 2024-15 - Annual Waste Management Reports

Councillor Pickard acknowledged the annual waste management report – the contamination aspect of the report for South-West Oxford was very favourable: 3.5% contamination rate compared to the industry average of 11%. This is a job well done by staff.

#83 - Public Notification Letter for Waste ECA Amendment

#84 - Watson & Associates Assessment of Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024

#85 - Municipality of Thames Centre Notice re: Proposed Community Improvement Plan

#86 - 2024 UTRCA Approved Budget Package - South-West Oxford

#87 - LPRCA Board Minutes of March 1, 2024

Resolution No. 17 Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive agenda and correspondence items #79 to #87 as information and that they be noted and filed.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Accounts Payable Report

April 16th, 2024 - Accounts Payable Report

Resolution No. 18 Moved by George Way
 Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the following Accounts be approved for payment:

Accounts Payable for March 31 st to April 13 th , 2024	\$177,381.66
Bi-Weekly Payroll #7	\$58,639.49
Total:	\$236,021.15

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Information Items & Correspondence

#88 - City of Sault Ste. Marie Resolution re: Intimate Partner Violence Coercive Control

#89 - County of Prince Edward Resolution re: Blue Box for 'ineligible' sources

#90 - City of Richmond Hill Resolution re: Extension of the Deadline for Listed Non-Designated Heritage Properties

#91 - Town of Goderich Resolution re: Phase-out of Free Well Water Testing

#92 - Town of Goderich Resolution re: OW and ODSP Rates

#93 - City of St. Catharines Resolution re. Urgent Need for Increased Funding for Museums and Libraries

#94 - Township of Terrace Bay Resolution re: Fair Operational Budget Funding

Resolution No. 19 Moved by Peter Ypma
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford provide direction to staff to send a letter of support for information and correspondence items #89 and #91.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Resolution No. 20 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive information and

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Committees

- Engage and Inform Committee Meeting Minutes
- Environment and Energy Innovation Committee Meeting Minutes
- Salford Hall Board Meeting Minutes
- Beachville Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes

Resolution No. 23 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive the following committee minutes as information:

- Engage and Inform Committee Meeting Minutes of March 6th, 2024;
- Environment and Energy Innovation Committee Meeting Minutes of February 7th, 2024
- Salford Hall Board Meeting Minutes of February 6th, 2024
- Beachville Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of February 21st, 2024 and March 27th, 2024.

APPROVED

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Closed Session – None

Council Round Table

Council members shared updates from their respective wards and community involvement. Grand opening of the improved Trillium Trail took place this past week. Mount Elgin Hall Board meeting will take place on April 22nd – ongoing planning for the community night in May. The Engage and Inform Committee will meet again on May 14th – Act on Litter Day. Earth Day will take place this Saturday at the Brownsville Community Centre starting at 8 a.m. Beachville Parks and Recreation will be planning a park clean up day soon. Beachville Museum Board met again last week. Museum Summer Camp registrations are now open. Brownsville Hall Board meeting took place last week – the committee reviewed projected costs for new playground equipment (estimates came in at over \$270,000). Conservation authorities have expressed concerns about possible phase out of free well water testing because they won't have data for groundwater protection planning. Foldens Hall is hosting pancake breakfast this Saturday morning. Mayor Mayberry hosted SWOX tour of Essay Writing Contest winners last Friday – great

presentation was received at the Beachville Fire Hall and Beachville District Museum. Volunteer Appreciation Night is taking place this Friday evening at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Mayberry provided an update on broadband internet installation in the Township (working from north to south).

Confirmatory By-law

By-Law No. 31-2024 - To confirm all actions and proceedings of Council (April 16th, 2024)

Resolution No. 24 Moved by Paul Bucher
 Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that By-law 31-2024 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 be read a first, second and third time this 16th day of April, 2024.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the By-law and affix the corporate seal.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Adjournment

Resolution No. 25 Moved by Jim Pickard
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Council meeting be adjourned at 8:10 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, May 7th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CLERK: Julie Middleton

MAYOR: David Mayberry

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.