

## REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

**Meeting #:** C-06/2024  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
**Time:** 9:00 AM  
**Location:** Town of Pelham Municipal Office - Council  
Chambers  
20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill

**Members Present:** Marvin Junkin  
Bob Hildebrandt  
Wayne Olson  
John Wink  
Kevin Ker  
Shellee Niznik  
Brian Eckhardt

**Staff Present:** David Cribbs  
Bob Lymburner  
Jason Marr  
Teresa Quinlin-Murphy  
Jennifer Stirton  
Vickie vanRavenswaay  
Sarah Leach  
William Tigert  
Ryan Cook  
Brianna Langohr  
Halee Braun  
Shannon Larocque

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### 1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

Noting that a quorum was present, the Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 am.

### 2. National Anthem

### 3. Land Recognition Statement

The Councillor Ker read the land acknowledgment into the record.

### 4. Approval of the Agenda

**Moved By** Bob Hildebrandt  
**Seconded By** Wayne Olson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the March 27, 2024, Regular meeting of Council be adopted, as circulated.**

**Carried**

**5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and General Nature Thereof**

There were no pecuniary interests disclosed by any of the members present.

**6. Hearing of Presentation, Delegations, Regional Report**

**6.1 Delegations**

**6.1.1 Crime Stoppers of Niagara Inc.**

The delegation was withdrawn.

**7. Adoption of Council Minutes**

**Moved By** Wayne Olson

**Seconded By** Brian Eckhardt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following minutes be adopted, as amended:**

**1. C-05/2024 - Regular Council Meeting - March 06, 2024**

**Carried**

**8. Request(s) to Lift Consent Agenda Item(s) for Separate Consideration**

**9. Consent Agenda Items to be Considered in Block**

**Moved By** Shellee Niznik

**Seconded By** Kevin Ker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Consent Agenda items as listed on the March 27, 2024, Council Agenda be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved:**

**9. Consent Agenda Items to be Considered in Block**

**9.1 Staff Reports of a Routine Nature for Information or Action**

**9.1.1 2024 Spongy Moth Status Report, 2024-0063-Public Works**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2024-0063, 2024 Invasive Species - Spongy Moth Status Report, for information.**

**9.1.2 Communities in Bloom Competition Update, 2024-0069-Recreation**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2024-0069-Communities in Bloom Competition Update, for information.**

**9.1.3 Status of Assessment Review Board Appeals, 2024-0077-Town Solicitor**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2024-0077 Status of Assessment Review Board Appeals, for information.**

**9.1.4 Public Consultation Sessions re Future of Meridian Community Centre Adjacent Lands - Hope Lane, 2024-0075-Chief Administrator Officer**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Memo 2024-0075 titled Public Consultation Sessions re: Future of Meridian Community Centre Adjacent Lands, for information.**

**9.2 Information Correspondence**

**9.2.1 Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority - Completed Acquisition - Lathrop Parcel**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority resolution FA-08-24 dated February 28, 2024 and report dated February 16, 2024 relating to acquisition of the Lathrop Parcel located at 130 Luffman Drive, Part Lot 3 Concession 4, for information.**

**9.2.2 Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority - Annual General Meeting 2024**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority resolution FA-09-24 relating to the annual general meeting and meeting schedule, for information.**

**9.2.3 Pathstone Foundation Letter of Thanks**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the thank-you letter from Pathstone Foundation regarding Town of Pelham's donation, for information.**

**9.3 Advisory Committee Minutes for Information**

**9.3.1 Committee of Adjustment Minutes - February 5, 2024**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Committee of Adjustment minutes dated February 5, 2024, for information.**

**Carried**

**10. Consent Agenda Item(s) Lifted for Separate Consideration, if any**

**11. Presentation and Consideration of Reports**

**11.1 Members of Council Reports**

**11.2 Staff Reports Requiring Action**

**11.2.1 Fence Variance, 27 Milburn Drive, 2024-0066-  
Fire Dept**

**Moved By** Brian Eckhardt

**Seconded By** Bob Hildebrandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2024-0066 Fence Variance – 27 Milburn Drive, for information;**

**AND THAT Council approve the requested 6-foot, wooden fence to be erected on a small area considered the front yard of the property to conform to the Town’s Pool By-law regulations.**

**Carried**

**12. Unfinished Business**

**13. New Business**

**13.1 Endorsement for Councillor Hildebrandt’s Application to the LAS Board of Directors**

**Moved By** Wayne Olson

**Seconded By** Kevin Ker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council endorse Councillor Bob Hildebrandt's application to represent the Town of Pelham on the LAS Board of Directors.**

**Carried**

**14. Presentation and Consideration of By-Laws**

**Moved By** Shellee Niznik

**Seconded By** John Wink

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Pelham, having given due consideration to the following By-law do now read a first, second and third time and do pass same, and**

**THAT the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to sign and seal the by-law:**

**1. By-law 19-2024 - Being a By-law to establish certain lands as a public highway.**

**Carried**

## **15. Motions and Notices of Motion**

### **15.1 Councillor Olson - Decision of the Ontario Energy Board to End the Gas Pipeline Subsidy**

**Moved By** Wayne Olson

**Seconded By** Marvin Junkin

**WHEREAS** residents of the Town of Pelham and other Ontario municipalities are struggling with rising energy costs;

**AND WHEREAS** natural gas is no longer the only desirable way to heat homes because of innovations in electric heat pumps which can provide all heating needs even in cold climates, and result in competitive energy bills relative to gas heating;

**AND WHEREAS** natural gas is a fossil fuel that contributes to Ontario's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and should be phased out over time when possible and practical, while heat pumps currently result in the lower GHG emissions and are consistent with a zero-carbon future;

**AND WHEREAS** on December 21, 2023, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) released a decision that eliminated a subsidy for the installation of gas pipelines in new construction developments as of January 1, 2025, finding that this would lower energy bills for existing gas customers and improve affordability for new homebuyers;

**AND WHEREAS** on February 22, 2024, the provincial government introduced Bill 165 which, if passed, will effectively overturn the OEB decision;

**AND WHEREAS** the OEB decision will help lower energy bills and encourage heating systems that are consistent with climate targets and plans;

**AND WHEREAS** the construction of new methane gas pipelines, which have 60-year lifetimes, should not be subsidized because they are inconsistent with the Town's climate targets and will result in higher carbon emissions, higher energy bills, higher future decarbonization retrofit costs to get off fossil fuel heating;

**AND WHEREAS** the Town of Pelham supports the decarbonization of heating and cooling systems in existing and future building stock within the community;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council endorses and supports the OEB decision to end the gas pipeline subsidy, opposes the provisions of Bill 165 that would effectively reverse the OEB decision, and calls on the

**Honourable T. Smith, Minister of Energy, and the Government of Ontario, to rescind or amend Bill 165 accordingly;**

**THAT this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; Minister of Energy, Todd Smith; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; MPP, Sam Oosterhoff, the President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Colin Best; and Local Area Municipalities.**

**Carried**

**15.2 Councillor Hildebrandt - Electricity accounts in the Marlene Stewart Streit Park Area**

**Moved By** Bob Hildebrandt

**Seconded By** Kevin Ker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to prepare a comprehensive staff report examining the five electricity meters within Marlene Stewart Streit Park, focusing on consolidation/reduction of the number of electricity accounts and related services;**

**AND THAT Staff address potential the implications of such consolidation/reduction on the IT capital project 05-24 Video Surveillance Upgrade at Marlene Stewart Streit Park;**

**AND THAT Staff report back to Council in Q2 of 2024.**

**Carried**

**16. Resolution to Move In Camera**

**Moved By** John Wink

**Seconded By** Shellee Niznik

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the next portion of the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider the following:**

**(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees - 1 item (d) labour relations or employee negotiations; (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose - 3 items (Appointment to Advisory Committee, Non-union)**

**(e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege,**

**including communications necessary for that purpose - 1 Item  
(Human Rights Tribunal)**

**Carried**

**17. Rise From In Camera**

**Moved By** Bob Hildebrandt  
**Seconded By** Shellee Niznik

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adjourn the In Camera Session  
and that Council do now Rise with Report;**

**AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be and is hereby  
authorized to undertake the directions provided during the In  
Camera meeting of March 27, 2024.**

**Carried**

**Moved By** Brian Eckhardt  
**Seconded By** John Wink

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoint the following individual  
to the Environment and Climate Adaptation Committee:**

**1. Ryan Taylor**

**AND THAT Council direct the Town Clerk to prepare and present  
the necessary appointment by-law at the following Regular  
Meeting of Council.**

**Carried**

**18. Confirming By-Law**

**Moved By** Kevin Ker  
**Seconded By** Brian Eckhardt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following By-law be read a first,  
second and third time and passed:**

**Being a By-law No. 20-2024 to Adopt, Ratify and Confirm the  
proceedings of Council of the Town of Pelham at its Regular  
Meeting held on the 27th day of March, 2024.**

**Carried**

**19. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

**Moved By** Shellee Niznik  
**Seconded By** Wayne Olson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned until the next regular meeting scheduled for April 17, 2024 at 9:00 am.**

**Carried**

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Mayor: Marvin Junkin

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Town Clerk: William Tigert