

# The Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph Council Minutes

**Present:** Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson, Deputy Mayor D. Manders, Councillor D. Regan, Councillor P. Mastorakos and A. Westman

**Also Present:** R. Reymer-CAO/Clerk, T. Merner-Deputy Clerk, L. deBoer-Economic Development Coordinator, J. Little-Public Works Manager, K. Langendyk-Treasurer, P. Smith-Parks & Recreation Manager, D. Fitzgerald-County Planner

## Call To Order

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The meeting took place electronically.

## Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & Nature Thereof

None

## Announcements

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson opened the meeting with the following:

Recently, The Middlesex-London Health Unit has reported an outbreak within the Township of Lucan Biddulph but expressed that this is a focused outbreak and the risk to community is relatively low. It is important to remember that COVID is in our municipality as it is with every community and the precautions that are in place need to be respected and adhered to.

The Middlesex-London Health Unit will only report an outbreak on their daily summary if it is located in a Long Term Care Home/Retirement Home, a school or where there is a higher concern for public transmission.

Because we have been asked about the spike in numbers in our community and concern for an outbreak, Lisa has been in contact with the facility that has been impacted. In working with the facility, we are able to provide this further update to the community.

There is currently an outbreak (12 cases) of COVID-19 at Crest Support Services in one of our mental health supportive housing programs. The outbreak is contained and Crest is working very closely with Middlesex-London Health Unit during this time. No residents have been in the community since the onset of COVID-19 as per Ministry regulations.

Crest has been providing residential support to people with a serious mental illness and/or developmental disability for over 50 years. Crest Support Services would like to thank the community for ongoing support and best wishes. Everyone is currently doing well and Crest is confident the outbreak will be declared over within the next week.

This is a good time to remind everyone to adhere to the protocols we have been instructed to live with: Be physically distant when in the presence of people not in your limited bubble; Wash your hands; Stay home if you feel ill; Stay home because we are supposed to; Get tested if you show COVID symptoms; Mask up.

Please join me in sending our very best to the staff and residents at Crest Support Services.

## Delegations

None

## Adoption of Minutes

### 1/ Minutes

*Moved by A. Westman*

*Seconded by D. Regan*

*That the regular council minutes of January 19, 2021 and special meeting minutes of January 27 and January 29, 2021 be approved as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

## Business Arising

Councillor D. Regan advised he and Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson attended the ROMA virtual conference and met with Solicitor General Sylvia Jones and OPP Deputy Commissioner Chris Harkins to discuss and present information regarding the history of Lucan's OPP detachment

centre and its future. Councillor D. Regan noted they were advised there has been no discussions with regards to the short term or long term of moving the Lucan OPP detachment and if that proposal ever did come to light Lucan Biddulph would be involved in the consultation/discussion. He further thanked staff for putting together a great power point presentation for the meeting which was included in the correspondence section of the agenda.

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson noted that governance training took place last week with Council therefore that item can be removed from the list.

#### **Correspondence**

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson noted the ABCA is accepting nominations for the annual conservationist of the year award and members and residents are encouraged to submit a nomination for any deserving recipient.

#### **2/ Receive Communication Reports**

*Moved by P. Mastorakos*

*Seconded by A. Westman*

*That Items 9 1) through 9 2) 1) (Correspondence) be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

#### **Committee Reports**

*Bluewater Recycling Association (BRA)*

Deputy Mayor D. Manders advised the start of electronic robotic sorting and testing was noted at a recent meeting. He further noted some concerns with trucks not being able to attend scheduled pick-ups in rural areas recently and would like to ensure communication takes place between BRA and the Township to ensure residents are notified of the re-scheduled date for pick-up.

*Lake Huron*

Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson advised she attended two meetings recently. The first was regarding governance model decisions that the board is facing in the next 18 months and the second involved strategic planning for both Elgin and Huron was systems.

*ABCA and UTRCA*

Councillor A. Westman advised he attended meetings with both conservation boards and safety awareness and education was a topic regarding bodies of ice and open water. He further noted ABCA continues to have discussions regarding the shoreline management project. Councillor A. Westman also noted orders for tree planting with the ABCA are currently be accepted.

*PRAC*

P. Smith advised the Parks & Recreation Committee meets next on February 10<sup>th</sup>. He further noted the application deadline for the PRAC member position has closed and a recommendation will be coming to Council for consideration. Councillor P. Mastorakos commented on a recent renovation project completed at the Thorndale Community Centre and if there is anything that could be learned from that experience. Discussion took place regarding the circumstances of that particular project including majority of the designs and funding having been completed prior to the pandemic.

#### **Staff Reports**

*CAO/Clerk*

R. Reymer reviewed report no. CAO-02-2021. Discussion followed regarding the upcoming LPAT hearing and Case Management Conference scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup>.

T. Merner advised a bylaw is included for passing tonight regarding authorization to execute a severance agreement. She noted that the severance agreement is a condition of consent for file no. B-1-2020 which was passed by Council in February 2020.

*Finance*

K. Langendyk reviewed report no. FIN-01-2021 regarding the appointment of the auditor for the next 3 years. She noted staff is satisfied with the service Scrimgeour & Company has provided in past and common practice is to re-appoint if there are no issues. Discussion followed regarding the timing of an RFP process and K. Langendyk noted the appointment is for the 2021 audit therefore there would be time to complete an RFP process if Council directed.

K. Langendyk also noted 2021 interim tax bills will be generated this week and the 1<sup>st</sup> instalment due date is February 26, 2021.

*Public Works*

J. Little reviewed report no. PW-03-2021 and noted a bylaw is included for passing that would prohibit off road vehicles (ORV's) on municipal roads. He noted a change was made to the Highway Traffic Act effective January 1, 2021 which required municipalities to pass a bylaw should they wish to prohibit use of ORV's on municipal roads, therefore the bylaw included for passing would maintain the current practice followed in the Township. J. Little further noted the County of Middlesex recently passed a similar bylaw. Discussion took place regarding farmers being able to utilize off road vehicles for agricultural purposes and that this bylaw would not affect ORV's for agricultural use.

J. Little provided some further updates regarding the Frank Street construction project noting the tender closing has taken place and a report will follow to Council at the next meeting. He further noted a recent short drop in water pressure in Granton due to staff work that was being completed on computers.

J. Little discussed some follow-up questions from members regarding the presentation and discussion from BM Ross Engineers at our recent special council meeting with respect to the expansion of the Lucan Waste Water Treatment plant. Discussion took place regarding the water tower capacity, servicing needs for expansion of the Industrial Park, built-in reserves for commercial and industrial capacity, the effect of the expansion on Granton and its water treatment plant, current municipal drain capacity, master servicing study and financial modeling projections. J. Little noted the expansion of the sewage treatment plant is something we have been planning for and that it will be paid for through growth and the sewer capital levy. Councillor P. Mastorakos raised concerns regarding two major capital projects taking place in the next few years and if that would restrict the Township financially in any way. J. Little noted both projects are very separate and are funded from different streams and modeling. R. Reymer further noted the Township receives an annual repayment limit statement each year that sets out our borrowing/payment limit.

*Parks & Recreation*

P. Smith advised that due to a mechanical failure over the past weekend the arena ice has been lost and therefore report no. PR-01-2021 is included now for information purposes only. P. Smith further noted the ice could be re-installed in approximately five days should provincial restrictions be lifted and majority users wish to continue with their programs. He further added there is potential to secure up to 55 hours of ice time weekly with an interested hockey development school for spring/summer. Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson asked if any damage was done with the recent mechanical failure and P. Smith advised no damage took place and unfortunately the mechanical failure that happened is common during the winter season.

**3/ Arena Ice**

*Moved by D. Regan*

*Seconded by P. Mastorakos*

*That Report No. PR-01-2021 be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

*Economic Development*

L. deBoer advised the draft Community Improvement Plan will be available for review in the next couple of weeks and a public open house will be scheduled for March before it comes back to Council for final approval. L. deBoer shared a recent shop local video that was created in partnership with the County for Councils viewing. She added five local businesses participated and the video promotes and encourages people to shop local. Mayor C. Burghardt-Jesson noted the video has received great feedback so far.

**Councillor's Comments**

Councillor D. Regan advised he wishes to attend the OGRA virtual conference and a motion has been included for same. He further noted he has received several compliments on sidewalk maintenance this season. Councillor D. Regan also relayed concerns of speeding on Gilmour Street and Kent Avenue.

Councillor P. Mastorakos inquired regarding the possibility of clearing sidewalks around the storm water management pond.

Councillor P. Mastorakos posed a question in regards to follow-up responses provided with respect to the recent training presentation provided by Cindy McNair.

**Motions**

**4/ 2021 OGRA Conference**

Moved by A. Westman

Seconded by D. Manders

That the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph authorize Daniel Regan to attend the OGRA Virtual Conference from February 22, 2021 to February 25, 2021 at a registration cost of \$655.00 (plus HST) per person.

CARRIED

**5/ Auditor**

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded by A. Westman

That the Council accepts the recommendation of the Treasurer as presented in report no. FIN-01-2021 and appoints Scrimgeour & Company as the auditor for the next 3 years.

Policy No. 101-02-2021 (Electronic Signatures Policy)

CARRIED

**6/ Confirming**

Moved by D. Regan

Seconded by D. Manders

Resolved that if no one cares to speak to these By-laws on their First, Second and Third Reading, that they be considered to have been read a First time and Passed, read a Second time and Passed, read a Third time and Passed, that they be numbered:

- 09-2021 Execution of Severance Agreement – Holland Farms
- 10-2021 Off-Road Vehicle Bylaw
- 11-2021 Confirming

CARRIED

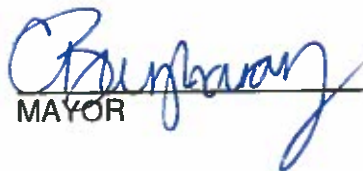
**7/ Adjournment**

Moved by D. Manders

Seconded by P. Mastorakos

Resolved that the Council meeting be adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

CARRIED

  
MAYOR

  
CLERK