

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**

**PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL**

**REPORT CL 12-2007**

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The Municipal Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara met in the Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Thursday, September 6, 2007 commencing at 6:45 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Council: Regional Chair Partington; Councillors Augustyn, Badawey, Baty; Collins; Cordiner; D'Angela; Forster; Gabriel; Goulbourne; Greenwood; Heit; Henderson; Hodgson; Katzman; Lepp, Marshall; Martin; McMullan; Puttick; Rigby; Salci; Saracino; Smeaton; Timms, Trombetta; Zimmerman.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Farley, Director, Planning Development; Brothers, Commissioner, Public Works; Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Pilon, Deputy Clerk.

Staff

(Part-Time): Messrs. Roberts, Executive Assistant to the Regional Chair; Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Robson, Director, Community Integration; Gohier, Former Acting Director, Water & Wastewater; Ms. Matthews-Malone, Director, Water & Wastewater.

**CALL TO ORDER**

332. Regional Chair Partington called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

333. Moved by Councillor Burroughs  
Seconded by Councillor D'Angela

That this Council do now move into Closed Session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to legal, personnel and property matters.

Carried.

**CLOSED SESSION, RISE AND REPORT**

334. Moved by Councillor Bentley  
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That this Committee do now rise without report.

Carried.

Following Closed Session, Council met in regular session, commencing at 7:00 p.m. with an Invocation by Councillor Goulbourne followed by the singing of 'O Canada'.

**PRESENTATIONS**

335. The Region's Edge

Dr. Kathryn Bryk Friedman, Deputy Director, University at Buffalo Regional Institute began her presentation by asking Regional Council to consider the following two questions during her presentation: So what? and What's in it for me?

Dr. Bryk Friedman noted that both Niagara's have lived, worked and played as a binational region for almost 200 years and that forces outside of the regions such as globalization, integration and security are impacting the Niagara's more acutely than ever before.

Dr. Bryk Friedman's presentation provided Regional Council with the data that she and her colleagues have been able to collect from both sides of the border. The data illustrated the percentages of Ontarians and New Yorkers who travel over the border, and the amount of money that is spent on either side of the border and the impact those dollars have on either side of the border.

Dr. Bryk Friedman noted at the conclusion of her presentation that Niagara Region has to consider how they can have a seat at the table, with Ottawa and Washington, when they are discussing issues that affect Niagara Region and stressed the need for the stakeholders to make a commitment.

Moved by Councillor Gabriel  
Seconded by Councillor Zimmerman

That Dr. Kathryn Bryk Friedman's presentation entitled "The Region's Edge" be received.

That staff report back in October 2007 on the current level of cross border coordination and to suggest further opportunities for collaboration and any future role for the Niagara Region, the Niagara Economic Development Corporation and Brock University in supporting these efforts.

Carried.

336.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Heit declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to any matters that deal with wireless communication as he is employed by a wireless communication company and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, these matters.

Councillor Forster declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the August 28, 2007, Public Health and Social Services Committee Minute Item 191, respecting Report PHD 55-2007, Community Mental Health Program Homeless Initiative Staff Enhancement, as she is the staff representative on ONA and she therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

Councillor Badawey declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the August 29, 2007, Planning and Public Works Committee Minute Item 382, respecting Report DPD 97-2007, Regional Policy Plan Amendment 187 - Environmental Polices Status Report and Resolution of Some Outstanding Items as he is a property owner affected by this report, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

Councillor Zimmerman declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the August 29, 2007, Planning and Public Works Committee minutes, respecting the Grape Growers Association, as she is employed by the Grape Growers Association, and she therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting on, this matter.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

337. Moved by Councillor Burroughs  
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That the Council Agenda CL 12-2007 be approved and adopted as presented.

Carried.

**REGIONAL CHAIR'S REMARKS**

338. Regional Chair Partington thanked all who attended the last Council Business Planning session on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The Chair noted that much progress was made in working toward our plan that will guide this term of Council.

On September 4, 2007, Federal Justice Minister and Niagara Falls M.P. Rob Nicholson announced the federal government's commitment of \$35 million to the Niagara Convention Centre. The Chair was pleased that all levels of government have come together to support this project, as the convention centre will not only increase visitors to Niagara, but will also increase opportunities for workers in Niagara and their families. This announcement strengthens Niagara as a true world class destination.

Regional Chair Partington and Regional Council welcomed Ken Brothers to his first official council meeting as Commissioner of Public Works.

Mr. Brothers brings extensive experience in the delivery of municipal infrastructure services as a senior executive manager. Regional Chair Partington noted that Regional Council is looking forward to the contributions that Mr. Brothers will make as a member of the Corporate Management Team, and as head of the Public Works Department.

Regional Chair Partington took this opportunity to update Council and members of the public and advised them that he would be hosting a monthly show on Cogeco featuring Regional departments and issues that are of interest to residents. The Regional Chair's first show will feature John Cunnane discussing issues within his division, Emergency Services.

Regional Chair Partington thanked the Silver Vase of Beamsville for the plants that adorned the Council Chambers.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

339. Report COTW 6-2007

Moved by Councillor Gabriel  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report COTW 6-2007, being the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of Thursday, August 16, 2007, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

340. Report CL 11-2007

Moved by Councillor Greenwood  
Seconded by Councillor D'Angela

That Report CL 11-2007, being the minutes of the Proceedings of Council of Thursday, August 16, 2007, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

341. Moved by Councillor Heit  
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That Communications C6947, C6948, C6950 and C6951, be received and dealt with as noted in the Council Agenda and Addendum:

- C6947 A card of thanks from the Moote Family, for the kind donation to the Canadian Cancer Society in memory of Douglas Gordon Moote, an employee of the Public Works Department.
- C6948 A copy of a letter sent to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario from the City of Niagara Falls (August 23, 2007) respecting a resolution passed by their Council requesting an official reconfirmation of the commitment to keep Casino Niagara open.
- C6950 A letter from Michel Audy, Executive Secretary, Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (August 20, 2007) respecting the Welland Canals National Heritage Corridor Concept.
- C6951 A letter from Karen Murray, Chair, Niagara Regional Housing (August 28, 2007) respecting Site Revision for Keefer Development Inc. 4523 – 4525 Morrison Street, City of Niagara Falls.

Carried.

**AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

342. Niagara Regional Housing Quarterly Report  
April 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007  
**NRH 06-2007**

Moved by Councillor Forster  
Seconded by Councillor Gabriel

That Report NRH 06-2007, September 6, 2007, respecting the Niagara Regional Housing Quarterly Report, April 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007, be received for information.

Carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

343. Report 12-2007

Moved by Councillor Smeaton  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report 12-2007, being the minutes of the Planning and Public Works Committee meeting of Wednesday, August 29, 2007, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

**CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

344. Report 12-2007

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report 12-2007, being the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, August 29, 2007, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

345. Report 12-2007

Moved by Councillor Baty  
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report 12-2007, being the minutes of the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting of Tuesday, August 28, 2007, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

346. Moved by Councillor Puttick  
Seconded by Councillor Zimmerman

That the decisions made at the Committee of the Whole meeting of Thursday, September 6, 2007, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

347. Council's Involvement Made a Difference

Councillor Salci thanked his fellow Regional Councillors and the Regional Chair for working together and becoming a partner in the Niagara Convention and Civic Centre.

348. Budget Review Committee of the Whole

Regional Council agreed to move forward and have the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting on September 27, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. as originally planned.

349. Thank you! St. Catharines

Councillor Badawey thanked Mayor McMullan and the City of St. Catharines for providing the City of Port Colborne with two transit buses, to shuttle visitors to and from the Canal Days events in the City of Port Colborne, it was very much appreciated!

350. Niagara Regional Housing's Fifth Anniversary

Councillor Forster invited Regional Councillors to a Niagara Regional Housing event that will mark their Fifth Anniversary on September 27, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. immediately following the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting.

351. 2010 FISA World Rowing Masters Regatta to be Held in St. Catharines

Councillor Rigby announced that the City of St. Catharines has been chosen as the site for the 2010 FISA World Rowing Masters Regatta.

Councillor McMullan thanked the Canadian Henley Rowing Corporate and the Committee for bringing this event to St. Catharines.

352. Niagara Wine Festival

Councillor McMullan invited everyone to attend the Pied Piper Parade on Saturday, September 22, 2007 and the Mayor's Grape Stomp.

Councillor Zimmerman noted that the keynote speaker at the Scotiabank Celebrity Luncheon on September 19th is Mr. Rex Murphy the Canadian icon of political satire and host of the only national call-in show on CBC One. Contact the Niagara Wine Festival offices for tickets.

353. Members of Provincial Parliament

Councillor Puttick requested that Niagara's Members of Provincial Parliament be invited to provide Regional Council with updates on a regular basis.

354. Niagara Greek Festival

Councillor Heit advised Regional Council of the Niagara Greek Festival that is taking place at the corner of 585 Niagara Street, September 7, 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>.

355. Biketoberfest

Councillor Augustyn invited everyone to attend the Biketoberfest at Centennial Park in Fenwick, September 21 & 22, 2007.

On Friday September 21, 2007, the Golden Helmets, will perform the "Ride of the Flags OPP Golden Helmet Demonstration", the show begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Niagara Central Airport.

356. Grimsby Festival of Art

Councillor Zimmerman invited everyone to the Grimsby Festival of Art being held on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**BY-LAWS**

357. Moved by Councillor Badawey  
Seconded by Councillor Augustyn

That the following Bills be now read and do pass:

Bill 90

A By-Law to Establish Part of Block 108, Plan 30M-369 in the Town of Grimsby as Part of Regional Road No. 512 (Livingston Avenue)

Bill 91

A By-Law to Establish Part of Lot 14, Concession 4 in the City of St. Catharines as Part of Regional Road 83 (Carlton Street)

Bill 92

A By-Law to Adopt, Ratify and Confirm the Actions of the Regional Council at its Meeting Held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, 2007.

Carried.

358. Moved by Councillor D'Angela  
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That the following Bills be now read and do pass:

Bill 93

A By-Law to Provide for the Regulation of Traffic on Regional Highways in the City of St. Catharines.

Carried.

**STAFF DIRECTIONS**

Staff was requested to:

- include Report CSD 141-2007, in the next Audit Committee agenda. (Refers to Minute Item 344)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Peter Partington  
Regional Chair

Janet Pilon  
Deputy Clerk

Pam Gilroy  
Regional Clerk