

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

REPORT CL 17-2009

The Municipal Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara met in the Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Thursday, December 17, 2009 commencing at 6:32 p.m.

The following individuals were in attendance during the Closed Session of the Regional Council meeting:

ATTENDANCE

Council: Regional Chair Partington; Councillors; Augustyn; Baty; Burroughs; Bylsma; Casselman; Cordiner; D'Angela; Gabriel; Garcia; Goulbourne; Greenwood; Heit, Henderson; Hodgson; Katzman; Lepp; Marshall; Martin; Puttick; Rigby; Salci; Saracino; Smeaton; Timms; Zimmerman.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Robson, Commissioner, Integrated Community Planning; Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Brothers, Commissioner Public Works; Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Bain, Regional Clerk; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Pilon, Deputy Regional Clerk.

Staff
(Other): Messrs. Weir, Director, Administration; Roberts, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

516. Regional Chair Partington called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

517. Moved by Councillor Lepp
Seconded by Councillor Augustyn

That this Council do now move into Closed Session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating A Matter Affecting the Security of the Property of the Municipality and Involving Solicitor-Client Advice (Grass Ban Alternative); Matters of Litigation Affecting the Municipality and Involving Solicitor-Client Advice – Appeal of Niagara Region's 2009 Development Charges By-law and Proposed Acquisition of Lakefront Land by the Municipality.

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION, RISE AND REPORT

518. Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Bylsma

That this Committee do now rise without report.

Carried.

Council met in regular session, commencing at 7:10 p.m. with an Invocation by Councillor Timms followed by the singing of 'O Canada' by the Smithville Christian High School Choir.

The following individuals were in attendance during the Open Session of the Regional Council meeting:

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Robson, Commissioner, Integrated Community Planning; Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Brothers, Commissioner Public Works; Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Bain, Regional Clerk; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Pilon, Deputy Regional Clerk.

Staff
(Other): Messrs. Weir, Director, Administration; Roberts, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair; Pilon, Associate Director, Service Quality & Improvement; Steele, Associate Director, Strategic Business Management; Pollock, Director, Waste Management Services.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

519. Moved by Councillor D'Angela
Seconded by Councillor Lepp

That the Council Agenda CL 17-2009, be approved and adopted as presented.

Carried.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

520. Councillor Heit declared a 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.

PRESENTATIONS

521. Smithville Christian High School Choir

Dawne Warkentin, Music Director and the Smithville Christian High School Choir filled the Council Chamber with the sounds of Christmas for Regional Council's enjoyment.

Regional Chair Partington on behalf of Regional Council thanked the choir for singing for Council this evening.

522. Regional Chair's Golf Tournament Cheque Presentation

Regional Chair Partington advised Regional Council that this years Regional Chair's Charity Golf Tournament marked the 12th successful year.

Regional Chair Partington extended his personal thank you to all the generous sponsors and supporters, the over 240 golfers and the more than 30 volunteers that helped us raise over \$70,000 for two very deserving charities.

In keeping with the Regional Chair's personal values, one hundred per cent of the funds will be provided to the youth of our community through ProKids and the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara. In attendance to receive the cheque in the amount of \$70,000 were JoAnne Turner, Executive Director; Bill Walters, President of the Boys and Girls Club along with some of the children and David Wyllie, Vice President of Financial Development & Communications; June Mergl, Member of the YMCA of Niagara Board of Directors.

The Regional Chair noted the he is looking forward to next year's event which will take place on Thursday, September 9, 2010 at Legends on the Niagara and hopes to see you all there.

523. Regional Councillor Length of Service Awards

Regional Chair Partington noted that it is a significant achievement for any individual to run for public office and win. It is a remarkable and special achievement to win election twice. It is nothing short of spectacular to win multiple times.

In municipal politics, that kind of success means the individual has worked hard to earn and maintain the respect, trust and confidence of the people to represent a community.

This evening, Regional Council is recognizing five long-time councillors for their many years of dedicated service to their communities and to the residents of Niagara – individuals who have truly worked hard to achieve the success they have.

It is an honour and privilege to work with these individuals, each of whom devotes countless hours and energy to the business of Council and to local organizations and individuals in the communities they represent.

Regional Chair Partington invited Councillors Marshall, Smeaton, Saricino, Puttick and Zimmerman to join him at the podium.

George Marshall:

Councillor George Marshall has represented Welland for 25 years. He was first elected as Alderman for the City of Welland in 1982 and served for nine years. There, he served as Chair of the Transit, Parks, Recreation and Finance committees.

Councillor Marshall is currently serving his fifth term as Regional Councillor. He is a passionate advocate for his community and makes many valuable contributions to the Council committees on which he serves. George is also a member of the Communications Advisory panel and the Niagara Regional Housing board.

Other committees he served on over the years include the Family and Children's Services Committee, Niagara District Health Council and most recently, the Strategy to End Poverty Committee.

He is an individual who truly cares about the health and welfare of his fellow citizens. He brings to the task a wonderful sense of humour, which comes in very handy in this business of government. As does his career experience as a psychotherapist, which he practiced for 34 years at the Welland Hospital. A visit with George after a Council meeting can do wonders...

Councillor Marshall, on behalf of Council, congratulations and thank you for 25 years of outstanding public service.

Norm Puttick:

Councillor Norm Puttick has represented Niagara Falls for 39 years. His political career began before the Leafs last won the Stanley Cup. That's a long time in public office...

He served as Alderman for the City of Niagara Falls from 1966 to 2003. He is serving his first term on Regional Council.

His interest in politics began when he challenged the City of Niagara Falls on an issue, was advised by the City to appeal to the OMB, which he did – and won.

That Councillor Puttick doesn't take no for an answer won't surprise any of us in this chamber...He is a fierce advocate for causes he believes in and for the people he represents.

Over the years, Norm played a key role in bringing about smoke-free by-laws – first in Niagara Falls, and then regionally working with Dr. Williams and our Public Health Department. Our by-laws became the model for the province's smoke-free legislation.

Norm served on the Board of the Greater Niagara General Hospital, the Niagara Parks Commission and the original Welland and District Health Unit.

He has been involved in numerous tourism initiatives. He helped establish the Festival of Lights in Niagara Falls, and worked to bring the first casino to Niagara, earning him a Misty Award for progressive development.

Most recently, he helped secure federal funding for a project that provides seniors in Niagara Falls with computer equipment and training to help them adapt to the internet age.

To use the Councillor's own words, he's helped "get a lot of projects done in Niagara."

Councillor Puttick, on behalf of Council, congratulations and thank you for 39 years of public service.

Bill Smeaton:

Councillor Bill Smeaton has represented Niagara Falls for 36 years.

He was first elected to public office in 1973 as Alderman for the City of Niagara Falls. In 1977, he was elected to Regional Council. He served as Mayor of Niagara Falls from 1984 to 1991, and has been a Regional Councillor ever since.

Bill has served on a number of Standing Committees, being Chair of both the Planning and Development and Finance Committees. He is currently Co-Chair of the Integrated Community Planning and Public Works Committee. He also serves as a member of the Niagara Regional Police Services Board.

Councillor Smeaton is a wealth of institutional knowledge and the Dean of this Chamber. He can always be counted on to provide an informed view on the issue at hand and brings a level-headedness and reasoned approach to every discussion or debate.

Councillor Smeaton, on behalf of Council, congratulations and thank you for 36 years of public service.

Bob Saracino:

Councillor Bob Saracino has represented Port Colborne for 36 years.

If Councillor Smeaton is the Dean of this Chamber, then Councillor Saracino is the Elder Statesman.

He began his political career when he was elected Alderman for the City of Port Colborne in 1972. He served the City as Mayor 1977 to 1995 and has served on Regional Council ever since. He currently serves on the Corporate Services Committee and Human Resources Committee. He also serves on the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee, and the Inter-Municipal Specialized Transit Advisory Committee. He also represents Regional Council on the Niagara Parks Commission.

Councillor Saracino was a member of the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services, and the Regional Land Division Committee. He is currently serving on the Physician Resources Planning Task Force.

Councillor Saracino is an Honourary member of the Port Colborne Historical Marine Museum. He is also a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56, Italian Canadian Cultural Centre, Club Rheingold, Port Colborne Bocce Club and a recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. He received the Ontario March of Dimes award for assisting those with Disabilities.

Councillor Saracino, on behalf of Council, congratulations and thank you for 36 years of public service.

Debbie Zimmerman:

Councillor Debbie Zimmerman has represented Grimsby for 30 years.

She began her political career in 1978 when she was elected as Alderman for the Town of Grimsby. In 1989 she was elected to Regional Council and served as Chair of the Region from 1997 to 2003.

As we all know, Debbie's reputation as a tireless worker and advocate for the Niagara region is well deserved.

She has championed many causes and issues with a zeal and determination that is rare for any politician.

In addition to her committee work as a member of Council, Debbie has served on the Niagara Escarpment Commission. She was a member of the Team Canada 2001 Trade Mission to China, and she played a key role in establishing the Niagara Bi-National Region Economic Roundtable.

Debbie's leadership and abilities have earned her a number of awards. She is the recipient of two awards from Niagara College recognizing her commitment to service and her success in promoting the region. She was the recipient of the 2001 YWCA Woman of Distinction Award and received the 2002 Zonta Club of St. Catharines Award for making a difference in the lives of women and children in the Niagara Region.

Councillor Zimmerman, on behalf of Council, congratulations and thank you for 30 years of public service.

The following individuals were in attendance during the Closed Session of the Regional Council meeting:

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Robson, Commissioner, Integrated Community Planning; Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Brothers, Commissioner Public Works; Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Bain, Regional Clerk; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Pilon, Deputy Regional Clerk.

Staff
(Other): Messrs. Weir, Director, Administration; Roberts, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair; Pilon, Associate Director, Service Quality & Improvement; Steele, Associate Director, Strategic Business Management; Pollock, Director, Waste Management Services.

CLOSED SESSION

524. Moved by Councillor Katzman
Seconded by Councillor Salci

That this Council do now move into Closed Session for the purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating A Matter Affecting the Security of the Property of the Municipality and Involving Solicitor-Client Advice (Grass Ban Alternative); Matters of Litigation Affecting the Municipality and Involving Solicitor-Client Advice – Appeal of Niagara Region's 2009 Development Charges By-law and Proposed Acquisition of Lakefront Land by the Municipality.

Carried.

525. Moved by Councillor Augustyn
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That the rules of procedure be waived, in order for Regional Council to consider the recommendation in Confidential Report CAO 7-2009.

Carried.

526. Proposed Acquisition of Lakefront Land by the Municipality
CAO 7-2009 Confidential

Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Zimmerman

That Confidential Report CAO 7-2009-2009, December 17, 2009, respecting Proposed Acquisition of Lakefront Land by the Municipality, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests)

CLOSED SESSION, RISE AND REPORT

527. Moved by Councillor Smeaton
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

The following individuals were in attendance during the Open Session of the Regional Council meeting:

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Robson, Commissioner, Integrated Community Planning; Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Brothers, Commissioner Public Works; Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Bain, Regional Clerk; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Pilon, Deputy Regional Clerk.

Staff
(Other): Messrs. Weir, Director, Administration; Roberts, Executive Officer to the Regional Chair; Pilon, Associate Director, Service Quality & Improvement; Steele, Associate Director, Strategic Business Management; Pollock, Director, Waste Management Services.

REGIONAL CHAIR'S REMARKS

528. Regional Chair Partington was pleased to announce that at last Thursday's Budget Review Committee of the Whole, Committee passed the 2010 Capital Budget, which will move forward our 2010 capital projects.

As Niagara and the rest of Canada continues to recover from the recession, our capital projects will help stimulate Niagara's economic recovery while addressing the region's ongoing need for infrastructure renewal.

Regional Chair Partington was pleased to recognize Councillors Marshall, Puttick, Saracino, Smeaton and Zimmerman. These councillors have over the years made outstanding contributions to the communities they represent and to Niagara as a whole. As all of us know, public service often involves enormous sacrifice, and these individuals have given much of themselves and asked much of their families in order to serve their fellow residents. The recognition they received this evening for their hard work, leadership and dedication is greatly deserved.

The Olympic Torch will arrive and travel through Niagara in the near future and the Regional Chair encouraged everyone to demonstrate their Olympic pride by taking part in the relay as it comes through Niagara. We have a rich Olympic history here in the region and the Regional Chair is confident that our future athletes will continue to make Niagara and Canada proud.

The Regional Chair was pleased to announce that the Region has been selected to host the 2011 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Annual Conference. Our unique location combined with our world-class hospitality and conference facilities and the Region's experience in managing a range of water issues make us an ideal host. The conference is an excellent opportunity to promote Niagara to an international audience. Special thanks to Councillor McMullan for his support of the Region's application.

The Regional Chair advised Regional Council that this would be the final time we'll be graced with the presence of our Associate Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Doug Sider. Dr. Sider has served the Region and his fellow residents in a manner and style that is truly unique – and one that has earned him the respect and admiration from those both inside and outside of the organization. Dr. Sider brought a certain warmth and humour to the very important and serious work carried out daily by our Public Health Department. Dr. Sider's commitment and passion for excellence and to the health and well-being of Niagara residents shone through in all he did, and his contribution to the Region, to the Public Health department and to his fellow citizens is greatly appreciated. On behalf of Council, the Regional Chair thanked Dr. Sider for his hard work and dedicated service, and extended best wishes for continued success in his new role with the province of Ontario.

The Regional Chair took this opportunity to thank Council and Regional staff for their support, hard work, and commitment to excellence during the past year. 2009 was a year of many challenges, but also many opportunities and achievements for Niagara. The Regional Chair believes strongly that in our final year for this term of office we will build on our success and continue the momentum of advancing Niagara's priorities.

As we break after this Council meeting, The Regional Chair wished everyone a merry Christmas and a safe, warm and happy holiday season. The Regional Chair hopes that everyone will take the time to enjoy the best of the season with family and friends. The Regional Chair is looking forward to seeing everyone after the holidays as we get back to a busy start in what promises to be another great year for Niagara Region.

The Regional Chair thanked the talented young voices of the Smithville Christian High School Choir for sharing the festive spirit with Regional Council tonight and their music director, Dawne Warkentin.

In closing, the Regional Chair thanked Bob Martin from Martin Farms Ltd. of Vineland for the plants that adorned the Council Chamber. These flowers will be donated to Northland Pointe in Port Colborne.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

529. CL 16-2009

Moved by Councillor Saracino
Seconded by Councillor Martin

That Report CL 16-2009, being the minutes of the Proceedings of Council of Thursday, December 3, 2009, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

530. BRCOTW 7-2010

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Smeaton

That Report BRCOTW 7-2010, being the minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting of Thursday, December 10, 2009, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

531. Moved by Councillor Bylsma
Seconded by Councillor Hodgson

That Minute Items 45, 46 and 47 from Report BRCOTW 7-2010, being the minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting of Thursday, December 10, 2009, be lifted and dealt with separately at this time.

Defeated.

Councillor Hodgson requested that his concerns regarding the Niagara District Airport and the response to those concerns from Mr. Brothers be noted in the minutes as follows:

Councillor Hodgson expressed concern with respect to the funds allocated to the Niagara District Airport, which he feels are not sufficient to build all aspects of the proposal, he therefore, asked who will be responsible for the shortfall?, as all aspects of the plan will need to be built to realize the benefit of the proposal. Councillor Hodgson also asked whether the project will be completed by the March 2011 deadline? And if it is not, what are the risks to the Niagara Region.

Mr. Brothers noted that the Niagara Region is acting on behalf of Niagara District Airport to facilitate the project, so if there are any cost overruns he would not see that as part of the Region, who is project managing this on their behalf. So far as he understands it from Niagara Regional staff, they are on track at this time, there is lots of work to do, we have been meeting with their consultants, looking at scope of work that is there, but it his understanding within the scope of the Capital Project that has been set aside so far so good, if there are any trimmings as a result of higher than anticipated tenders, then it will be the Board of the Niagara District Airport that will make decisions as to where it wishes to spend their money first. Mr. Brothers also noted that we will be happy to update Regional Council with further information as we move forward with this project and give you a more critical timeline in terms of what's anticipated; the cost elements and our expectations of completing this project on time.

Upon the vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the original motion, carried.

Councillor Timms requested that he be recorded as opposed to Minute Item 41 in Report BRCOTW 7-2010, being the minutes of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting of Thursday, December 10, 2009

CORRESPONDENCE

532. Moved by Councillor Lepp
Seconded by Councillor Bylsma

That Communications C7375 to C7377; C7379 to C7382; C7385 and C7386, be received and dealt with as noted in the Council Agenda and Addendum, which reads as follows:

C7375 A letter from Minister Jim Watson, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Christine Norris, President, Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario and Peter Hume, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (November 30, 2009) in appreciation of the Niagara Region's participation in this year's Local Government Week.

Received.

C7376 A letter from John Dewar, Vice President, Strategic Services, Upper Lakes Marine & Industrial Inc. (December 1, 2009) respecting the Virtual Tour of the Welland Canal Corridor Project.

Received.

C7377 A letter from Penny Christie, Municipal Relations Representative, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (December 3, 2009) notifying the Regional Chair of the delivery of Property Assessment Notices to property taxpayers across the province.

Received.

C7379 A letter from Minister Jim Watson, MPP, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (December 9, 2009) congratulating the Niagara Region on winning a 2009 "Brownie" award from the Canadian Urban Institute in the category of Communications, Marketing and Public Engagement.

Received.

C7380 A memorandum from Peter Inman, Associate Director, Energy Management (December 17, 2009) responding to a Wind Energy Niagara Project, Councillor Information Request.

Received.

C7381 A letter from Richard D. Merritt and Wesley Turner, Co-Chairs of the Niagara-on-the-Lake War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee to Jim Phillips, Director, Stamp Services, Canada Post Corporation (November 19, 2009) respecting the Bi-National Stamp to commemorate the signing of the Ghent Treaty and 200 years of peace.

Received.

C7382 A letter from Randolph Paura, a resident of the Town of Fort Erie (December 14, 2009) respecting Report PWA 121-2009, Proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment 3-2009, Canadian Motor Speedway, Between Bowen and Gilmore Roads, West of the QEW, Town of Fort Erie.

Received.

C7385 A letter from David Ullrich, Executive Director, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (December 14, 2009) informing Niagara Region that we have been chosen to host the 2011 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Annual Member Meeting and Conference.

Received.

C7386 A memorandum from Gord Lockyer, Treasurer/Director, Financial Management (December 17, 2009) respecting the 2010 OMPF for Niagara's Local Area Municipalities.

Received.

Carried.

533. Moved by Councillor Garcia
Seconded by Councillor Augustyn

That Communication Item C7378, A memorandum from Kevin Bain, Regional Clerk (December 9, 2009) respecting 2010 Meeting Date and Time Options for Standing Committees, be received;

That the regular meetings of the Corporate Services Committee; Public Health and Social Services Committee; the Integrated Community Planning Committee and Public Works Committee be held on the day and time as per Option 1, in accordance with the schedule approved, from time to time, by Regional Council:

Public Works Committee	Tuesday 9:30 a.m.
Public Health and Social Services Committee	Tuesday 2:00 p.m.
Corporate Services Committee	Wednesday 9:30 a.m.
Integrated Community Planning Committee	Wednesday 2:00 p.m.

That special meetings be held at such times and such places as may be appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the procedural by-law.

Carried.

534. Moved by Councillor Hodgson
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Communication Item C7383, A memorandum from Kevin Bain, Regional Clerk (December 17, 2009) respecting the appointments to the Integrated Community Planning Committee, be received; and

That the appointment of the following Councillors, be approved.

Dave Augustyn
Vance Badawey
Brian Baty
Gary Burroughs
Judy Casselman
Henry D'Angela
Robert Gabriel
Damian Goulbourne
Barbara Henderson
Bill Hodgson
Dave Lepp
George Marshall
Brian McMullan
Peter Partington
Tim Rigby
Ted Salci
Bill Smeaton
Bruce Timms
Debbie Zimmerman

Carried.

535. Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Communication Item C7384, A memorandum from Kevin Bain, Regional Clerk (December 17, 2009) respecting the appointments to the Public Works Committee, be received; and

That the appointment of the following Councillors, be approved.

Dave Augustyn
Vance Badawey
Brian Baty
Gary Burroughs
Mark Bylsma
Henry D'Angela
Barbara Henderson
Bill Hodgson
Dave Lepp
George Marshall
Peter Partington
Norm Puttick
Ted Salci
Tim Rigby
Bruce Timms

Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOINT REPORTS

536. Project Initiation for Niagara District Airport
CSD 173-2009/PWA 122-2009

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Smeaton

That Report CSD 173-2009/PWA 122-2009, December 17, 2009, respecting Project Initiation for Niagara District Airport, be received;

That approval is given to initiate Capital Levy Financing in the amount of \$3,869,333 for Project ZGG1002 Niagara District Airport Improvements; and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to ensure the appropriate bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

537. Report 16-2009

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Smeaton

That Report 16-2009, being the minutes of the Integrated Community Planning and Public Works Committee meeting of Wednesday, December 9, 2009, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

538. Moved by Councillor Bylsma
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PWA 115-2009 (Minute Item 481, respecting Grass Ban Alternatives, be lifted and dealt with separately at this time.

Carried.

539. Grass Ban Alternatives
PWA 115-2009

Moved by Councillor Bylsma
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That PWA 115-2009, December 9, 2009 respecting Grass Ban Alternatives, be **amended**;

That all further discussions between the Region and IMS on the current 20 year Composting Contract do fully comply with Council's decision of December 20, 2007; and

That such agreement stipulates **the** specific location (**IMS Gore™ Compost Facility in the City of Thorold**) for the Composting Facility, which explicitly prohibits a transfer of operations to another location.

Carried.

Upon the vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the original motion **as amended**, carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

540. Report 16-2009

Moved by Councillor Augustyn
Seconded by Councillor Garcia

That Report 16-2009, being the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, December 9, 2009, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

541. Report 16-2009

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report 16-2009, being the minutes of the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting of Tuesday, December 8, 2009, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

542. Report 5-2009

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report 5-2009, being the minutes of the 40th Anniversary Committee meeting of Wednesday, December 2, 2009, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

543. Report 6-2009

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Hodgson

That Report 6-2009, being the minutes of the 40th Anniversary Committee meeting of Thursday, December 10, 2009, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

544. Police Long Term Accommodations
Selection of Consultant to Prepare Master Plan
CAO 6-2009

Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Salci

That Report CAO 6-2009, December 17, 2009, respecting the Police Long Term Accommodations Selection of Consultant to Prepare Master Plan, be received for information.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

545. Goodbye to Dr. Sider

Councillor Casselman, in light of Dr. Sider's departure to pursue a position as a Physician Consultant for Infectious Diseases in Toronto, made note of his contributions to the evolving role of Public Health in Niagara and Ontario. Dr. Sider joined the Niagara Region in 2002 as a part time Associate Medical Officer of Health, which became full time in 2004. The Niagara Region has benefited from Dr. Sider's knowledge and advocacy for Public Health, he has been a leader, forging partnerships with health related organizations and institutions throughout the Region.

Dr. Sider took this opportunity to express his appreciation to the members of the Corporate Management Team; the current and past Councillors and staff.

546. Thank you to Councillor Lepp and Vineland Growers

Councillor Baty extended his appreciation to Councillor Lepp and Vineland Growers for the 50 bushels of pears that have been delivered to those in need in Niagara Region.

547. Next Regional Council is the First Meeting of Regional Council in their 40th Year

Councillor Timms noted that the next Regional Council meeting will be the first meeting of Regional Council in the Niagara Region's 40th year.

Staff and the public were asked for suggestions and ideas on how Niagara Region should celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

548. Regional Chair's Levee

Regional Council was reminded of the Regional Chair's Levee that will be taking place on January 16, 2010 in the Atrium at Regional Headquarters from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

549. Canadian Motor Speedway

Councillor Martin thanked Council for approving the recommendations respecting the Canadian Motor Speedway contained in the Integrated Community Planning and Public Works Committee minutes.

550. 3 Year Agreement Reached for the Fort Erie Racetrack

Councillor Martin was pleased to announce that a 3 year agreement for the operation of the Fort Erie Racetrack has been reached with the provincial government on December 17, 2009.

Councillor Martin thanked all who were involved in making this a Very Good Day for the Town of Fort Erie.

551. Councillor Martin Invited by United Nations to Discussions on Refugees

Councillor Martin also advised Regional Council of the honour he was bestowed when he was invited by the United Nations to attend roundtable discussions by Mayors on issues dealing with refugees in Geneva, Switzerland.

Councillor Martin was one of 20 Mayors from across the world that were invited, to discuss the challenges and similarities with the application as to how we deal with refugees, how they are processed and what we are doing to assist them.

Councillor Martin will be working with Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services to compile information that will assist the other Mayors on the roundtable.

552. H1N1 Update

Councillor Casselman advised Regional Council that the H1N1 vaccination clinics are winding down, Public Health are still holding the H1N1 clinics with the season flu vaccine being available at the same time.

553. Thank you to All the Staff Involved in the H1N1 Clinics

Councillor Casselman thanked all the staff involved in the H1N1 Clinics, which were responsible for vaccinating over 50,000 individuals in a very short time.

BY-LAWS

554. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Lepp

That the following Bills be now read and do pass:

Bill 103

A By-Law to Authorize Franchise Agreement Between the Regional Municipality of Niagara and Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.

Bill 105

A By-Law To Accept, Assume And Dedicate Part Of Lot 8, Concession 9, In The City Of St. Catharines As Part Of Regional Road No. 89 (Glendale Avenue)

Bill 106

A By-Law To Accept, Assume And Dedicate Part Of Lot 6, Concession 7, In The Town Of Pelham As Part Of Regional Road No. 20 (Highway 20)

Bill 107

A By-Law To Accept, Assume And Dedicate Part Of Lot 19, Plan 689, In The City Of Thorold As Part Of Regional Road No. 56 (Collier Road)

Bill 108

A By-Law To Provide For The Regulation Of Traffic On Regional Highways In The Town Of Grimsby

Bill 110

A By-Law to Adopt the 2010 Capital Budget for the Regional Municipality of Niagara

Carried.

555. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That the following Bill be now read and do pass by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members present:

Bill 109

A By-Law to Amend the Procedural By-Law

Carried.

556. Moved by Councillor Gabriel
Seconded by Councillor Zimmerman

That the following Bill be now read and do pass:

Bill 104 Amended
A By-Law to Establish Standing Committees

Carried.

CONFIRMING BY-LAW

557. Moved by Councillor Heit
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That the following Bill be now read and do pass:

Bill 111
A By-law to Adopt, Ratify and Confirm the Actions of Regional Council at its Meeting held on the 17th of December, 2009.

Carried.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

Regional Council requested that staff prepare a report that lists all of the Niagara Region's surplus lands (Refers to Minutes Item 526)

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Peter Partington
Regional Chair

Janet Pilon
Deputy Regional Clerk

Kevin Bain
Regional Clerk