

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

REPORT CL 2-2003

The Municipal Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara met in Closed Session in the Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Thursday, February 6, 2003 commencing at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Council: Regional Chair Zimmerman; Councillors Andreychuk, Badawey, Bailey; Beamer, Bentley, Brickell, Burroughs, Collins, Davidson, Eke, Gabriel, Haeck, Harry, Hildreth, Konkle, Marshall, Martin, Mastroianni (sitting in for Councillor Forster); McMullan, Muir, Nicholson, Partington, Redekop, Rigby, Saracino, Smeaton, Thomson, Timms, Trombetta,

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Lockyer, Treasurer, Financial Management & Planning; Cambray, Commissioner of Planning Services; Hollick Regional Clerk; Sidawi, Director, Operational Support Services; Nicol, Commissioner of Human Resources; Ms. Reid, Commissioner, Community Services Department; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Gilroy, Deputy Regional Clerk.

Others: Messrs. Banting, Director, Legal Services; Cunnane, Director, Public Safety; Ms. Graham-Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operations Support Services; Ms. Papaiz, Communications Coordinator; Mr. Roberts, Project Manager, Public Safety.

23.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Nicholson declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 50, Property Acquisition, Widening of Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue), Marineland Parkway to Dixon Street, City of Niagara Falls, as one of the property owners is a client of his firm, and he therefore vacated the Council Chamber and took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

CLOSED SESSION

24. Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Muir

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

Carried.

Committee of the Whole recessed at approximately 6:40 p.m. for a Media Conference with respect to Land Ambulance, and resumed at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Council do now resume its Closed Session.

Carried.

CLOSED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, RISE AND REPORT

25. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That this Council do now rise without report.

Carried.

Following Committee of the Whole, Council met in regular session, commencing at 7:35 p.m. with an Invocation by Councillor Marshall, followed by the singing of O' Canada.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

26. Moved by Councillor Collins
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Council Agenda CL 2-2003 February 6, 2003, be adopted.

Carried.

27. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Marshall declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 26, Land Ambulance Service, Service Improvements – 2002 Response Times, in Report CHS 2-2003, as he is employed in the Niagara Health System, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

Councillor McMullan declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 37, Niagara Recycling Processing Contract, in Report PW 2-2003, as a family member is the volunteer chair of a recycling company, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

Councillor Nicholson declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 50, Property Acquisition, Widening of Regional Road 102 (Stanley

Avenue), Marineland Parkway to Dixon Street, City of Niagara Falls, in Report PW 2-2003, as one of the property owners is a client of his firm, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

Councillor Smeaton declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to any matters related to the Homes for the Aged, as he is employed by a seniors home and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on these matters.

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 17, Fire Co-ordinator's Reserve Account, in Report CFS 2-2003, as his company is associated with the Fire Departments, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

28.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Regional Chair thanked Peter Bulk Greenhouses Limited in Welland for the donation of the beautiful Roses displayed in the Council Chamber.

The Regional Chair expressed condolences, on behalf of Council, to

- Mayor Rigby on the loss of his mother, Ann Rigby Goodwin, and to Mayor Forster on the passing of her nephew, Philip Breault
- the families of the seven youths who were tragically killed in an avalanche in British Columbia over the past week; a mother of one of the youths was a Grimsby resident before moving out west and currently, the grandmother of the youth is a resident of Niagara.

The Regional Chair provided highlights of the following events:

- the release of the Binational Economic Roundtable Partnership Report "Realizing a Vibrant Niagara Binational Region"
- a meeting with Niagara County Executive Joel Giambra and Mayor Massiello of Buffalo on Tuesday to discuss a Binational Emergency Response Contingency Plan.

The Regional Chair congratulated the Niagara Economic and Tourism Corporation for receiving three prestigious awards:

- Niagara Commercial Properties won for the "Business Development Technology - Website" Category
- Advantage Niagara: The Power of Business Surrounding the Falls won for "Business Development Publications - Brochure" category
- the Gateway Niagara Information Centre - Video Wall won for "Tourism Technology - Other Electronic Media" category

The Regional Chair was pleased to advise that Niagara has maintained its "AA Stable" rating with the credit rating agency Standard and Poor's Rating Services. According to Standard and Poor's, this indicates that Niagara's capacity to meet its financial obligations is very strong.

The Regional Chair welcomed Councillor John Mastroianni from Welland, who attended as a non-voting replacement for Mayor Cindy Forster.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

29. **Report 1-2003**

Moved by Councillor Thomson
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report 1-2003, being the minutes of the Proceedings of the Council meeting of Thursday, January 23, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

30.

CORRESPONDENCE

Communications were received and dealt with as follows:

C6046 Card of thanks from Councillor Ray A. Konkle (January, 2003) for the floral tribute and kind donation to the Jordan Station United Church in memory of his mother-in-law, Mary Laurie.

Received.

C6047 Township of West Lincoln resolution (January 28, 2003) respecting a petition to the Region of Niagara to provide financial support of \$1,000 to cover the costs incurred for maintenance and operation of the Visitors' Centre at the Smithville Train Station.

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Communication C6047 be received and referred to the Niagara Economic and Tourism Corporation

C6048 Township of West Lincoln resolution (January 29, 2003) requesting the Region of Niagara to set their 2003 budget at an increase not to exceed the cost of living.

Received.

- C6049 Card of thanks from Councillor Cindy Forster for the mixed plant arrangement in recognizing the passing of her nephew Philip Breault.

Received.
- C6050 Copy of a letter to the Town Clerk, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, from Tim Hudak, Minister of Consumer and Business Services (January 27, 2003) respecting initiatives to increase LCBO's Shelf Space for Ontario VQA Wines.

Received.
- C6051 Memorandum to Bob Muir, Chair, Police Services Board, (February 5, 2003) from Mike Trojan, CAO respecting the 2003 Capital Budget.

Received.
- C6052 Memorandum to Regional Chair Zimmerman and Members of Council (February 6, 2003) from Corwin T. Cambray, Commissioner of Planning Development respecting Three Reports on Severance Activity.

Received.
- C6053 City of Thorold resolution endorsing the Romanow Report entitled "Building on Values", The Future of Health Care in Canada, and requesting Regional Council's endorsement.

Endorsed and the resolution be amended to include distribution to all Niagara Area MPs.
- C6054 Sample of letters received from Members of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce requesting that Regional Council retain Ontario Street in the 2003 Capital Budget.

Received and referred to the Capital Budget Working Group.
- C6055 Adolescent's Family Support Services of Niagara (January 8, 2003) expressing gratitude for the decision to discontinue the collection of childcare service user fees for families experiencing financial difficulties.

Received.

C6056 Jack Cox, President, Ontario Senior Games Association (January 13, 2003) respecting an invitation to apply as the host of the 2005 Ontario Senior Games Provincial Championships Winterfest. (Brochure available in the Regional Chair's Office)

Received.

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Communications C6046 to C6056 be received and dealt with as directed by this Council and as noted in these minutes.

Carried.

PRESENTATIONS

31. Niagara Health Coalition

Ms. Kim Stasiak, RN, ONA Niagara Political Representative, Niagara Health Coalition provided an update to Council with respect to the recommendations of the Romanow Commission, on the future of health care in Canada. She reiterated Mr. Romanow's belief that publicly owned and administered health care is still the most reasonable price for the most accessible service. Regional Council endorsed a resolution supported by the Council of the City of Thorold in support of the Romanow Report.

CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

32. Report 2-2003

Moved by Councillor Martin
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report 2-2003, being the minutes of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, January 29, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

Councillor Martin advised that proposed reductions to the Current and Capital Budgets will be presented to Committee of the Whole on Thursday, February 20, 2003, at 4:00 p.m. Any additional information for the meeting will be distributed in next week's Blue Book package.

33. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Councillor Partington declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 28, Children's Charter Update, in Report CHS 2-2003, as his spouse is employed by the Public Health Department, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

34. **Report 2-2003**

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That Report 2-2003, being the minutes of the Community and Health Services Committee meeting of Monday, January 27, 2003, be approved and adopted.

35. **Children's Charter Update**

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That the resolution in Minute Item 28, Children's Charter Update, be amended by deleting the words "consideration of adoption and endorsement" from the second clause, so that the motion now reads as follows:

"That Report PHD 10-2003/COM 5-2003, January 27, 2003, respecting Children's Charter Update, be received for information;
and

That the Children's Charter be forwarded to the twelve Municipal Councils in Niagara for their comments.

That a Children's Champion be appointed by Regional Council to be an ambassador to support the tenets of the Children's Charter."

Carried.

Upon a vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the original motion on Report 2-2003, being the minutes of the Community and Health Services Committee meeting of Monday, January 27, 2003, with the foregoing amendment to Minute Item 28, was carried.

36. Emergency One-Time Funding

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Brickell

That the Community Services Department be authorized to extend emergency, one-time funding, pursuant to the provisions of the Ontario Works Act, Parts 1 and V and the Regulations thereunder, to the upset limit as outlined in an oral report to Regional Council on February 6, 2003; and

That funding be subject to the conditions outlined at that time; and further

That a formal written report be presented forthwith to the Community and Health Services Committee with respect to this matter.

Carried.

PLANNING SERVICES COMMITTEE

37. Report 2-2003

Moved by Councillor Smeaton
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

That Report 2-2003, being the minutes of the Planning Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, January 29, 2002, be approved and adopted

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Minute Item 25, Minutes of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee, meeting of Wednesday, January 15, 2003 be lifted from Report 2-2003, and be dealt with separately by this Council at this time.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Smeaton
Seconded by Councillor Andrychuk

That Minute Item 25, Minutes of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee, be referred back to Committee for further discussion of the approval of the Terms of Reference.

Carried.

Upon a vote being taken, the Regional Chair declared the original motion on Report 2-2003, being the minutes of the Planning Services Committee of Wednesday, January 29, 2003, with the exception of Minute Item 25, which was referred back to Committee, was carried.

Carried

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

38. **Report 2-2003**

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Report 2-2003, being the minutes of the Public Works and Utilities Committee meeting of Tuesday, January 28, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

39. **Toque Tuesday**

Mr. Trojan, CAO, was pleased to advise that Toque Tuesday was a great success, with 600 toques being purchased, 400 of which were donated to the Health Bus.

40. **Job Shadowing**

Mr. Trojan, CAO, congratulated Mr. John Nicol, Commissioner, Human Resources Department, for job shadowing a RPN at Northland Manor for a full shift.

OTHER BUSINESS

41. **Waste Management Steering Committee**

Councillor Burroughs commended staff for the excellent report presented to the Waste Management Steering Committee.

42. **Report CAO 21-2003**

Councillor Bentley asked that Report CAO 21-2003 be circulated to the Joint Committee on Municipal Services for their information.

43. Reshaping Council

Moved by Councillor McMullan
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

That Councillor Hildreth be appointed to the Committee on Reshaping Council.
Carried.

44. Land Ambulance

Councillor Marshall expressed appreciation to Council, and particularly the leadership of Regional Chair Zimmerman, for their persistence with the Province to take positive steps toward resolution of the difficulties with land ambulance services.

45. Design Charrettes

Councillor Brickell extended an invitation to two Design Charrettes being held on Saturday, February 8, 2003, at the Lion's Merritton Community Centre, 7 Park Avenue in the City of St. Catharines, the Queenston Neighbourhood from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and the Hartzel Road area from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

BY-LAWS

46. Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Haeck

That the following bills be now read and do pass:

Bill 07

A by-law to provide for the regulation of traffic on Regional Roads in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

Bill 08

A by-law to provide for the adoption of Amendment 174 to the Official Plan for the Niagara Planning area to permit an expansion of the urban area of the City of Welland

Bill 09

A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of the Regional Council at its meeting held on the 6th day of February, 2003

Carried.

47. Moved by Councillor Andreychuk
Seconded by Councillor Haeck

That the following bills be now read and do pass:

Bill 10

A by-law to establish Blocks 67, 68 and 70 in the City of St. Catharines as part of Regional Road No. 69 (Pelham Road)

Bill 11

A by-law to appoint an Acting Regional Chair (Pursuant to Municipal Act, S.O. 2001 Chapter 25)

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

Staff was asked to:

- Refer the Severance Report prepared by Austin Kirkby to the University of Guelph. (Planning Services Department)

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Debbie Zimmerman
Regional Chair

Pam Gilroy
Deputy Regional Clerk

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk