

# THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

### REPORT CL 8-2003

The Municipal Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara met in the Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Thursday, May 15, 2003 commencing at 6:30 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

Council: Regional Chair Zimmerman; Councillors Badawey, Bailey, Beamer, Bentley, Brickell, Collins, Davidson, Eke, Forster, Gabriel, Haeck, Harry, Hildreth; Martin, McMullan, Muir, Nicholson, Partington; Redekop, Rigby, Saracino, Smeaton, Thomson, Timms.

Staff: Messrs. Neville, Acting Chief Administrative Officer and Commissioner of Public Works; Bacchus, Commissioner Corporate Services; Farley, Director of Planning Services; Hollick, Regional Clerk; Nicol, Commissioner of Human Resources; Ms. Reid, Commissioner of Community Services Department; Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Gilroy, Deputy Regional Clerk.

187.

### CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

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.

### CLOSED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, RISE AND REPORT

188. Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Martin

That this Council do now rise with no report.

Carried.

Following Committee of the Whole, Council met in regular session, commencing at 7:25 p.m. with an Invocation by Councillor Redekop, followed by the singing of O' Canada.

189. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Minute Item 106, Communication CFS 20-2003, Minutes of the Staff Task Force on Development Charges, as his family has an interest in a development company, 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 an employee of a Seniors Home, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on these matters.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

190. Moved by Councillor Smeaton  
Seconded by Councillor Collins

That Council Agenda CL 8-2003, be adopted as presented, and the time limit for the presentation with respect to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation be extended.

Carried.

191. **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

The Regional Chair thanked Martin Farms Limited of Vineland Station for the New Guinea impatiens hanging baskets in the Council Chamber

The Regional Chair expressed condolences to the family of Andy Koschok, an employee of the Public Works Department since 1970, who passed away suddenly last weekend.

The Regional Chair advised that Councillor Muir had announced that he will be retiring from political life and will not be seeking re-election to Regional Council, noting that he has served the community of Welland and Niagara for 15 years, on Welland Council and Regional Council. She expressed appreciation for his work on Council and his role on the Police Services Board.

The Regional Chair provided highlights of the following events which took place since the last Council meeting:

- the Greater Niagara Circle Trek event – the Regional Chair joined Mayor Davidson and Councillor Gabriel and walked the trail in Thorold
- the Community Matters Conference where the Regional Chair participated in a panel discussion on the voluntary not-for-profit's role in the community. Ed Broadbent was the keynote speaker.

The Regional Chair announced that Public Works Week would be celebrated from May 18 to May 24. The theme for this year is “The Strength of Public Works” and calls attention to the importance of public works in our community through the provision of services such as water, wastewater, transportation, building and maintenance of roads, and waste collection. This event also pays tribute to our “unsung heroes” – professional engineers, administrators and front line staff who serve the public every day.

The Regional Chair advised that Niagara is awaiting the Province’s Request for Proposal for ambulance dispatch and noted that a committee has been formed.

The Regional Chair extended appreciation to staff for a wonderful job on the Annual Report and Budget summaries – special thanks went to the staff in the office of the Commissioner of Corporate Services, particularly Karen Russell

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

192. Report 7-2003

Moved by Councillor Bailey  
Seconded by Councillor Forster

That Report 7-2003, being the minutes of the Proceedings of the Council meeting of Thursday, May 1, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

193.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Communications were received and dealt with as follows:

C6089 Jack Layton, Leader, NDP Caucus Community Investment Advocacy Team (April 25, 2003) respecting budget reductions and the federal government’s commitment to community infrastructure.

Received.

C6090 Mike Bradley, Mayor, City of Sarnia (April 22, 2003) respecting the costs of Court Security.

Received.

C6091 Reverend Dr. J. A. J. Maissan, First United Church (May 6, 2003) expressing gratitude on behalf of the Downtown Council of Churches for Regional support of the Good Friday Walk.

Received.

C6092 Card of thanks Bonnie Flewelling, an employee in the Public Health Department, and family for the kind donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Niagara District Chapter in memory of her mother Hazel Brown.

Received.

Moved by Councillor Bentley  
Seconded by Councillor Gabriel

That Communications C6089 to C6092 be received and dealt with as directed by this Council and as noted in these minutes.

Carried.

194. Petition for Stop Light

Councillor Brickell presented an additional petition of approximately 150 names of residents in St. Catharines requesting a stop light at the intersection of Martindale Road and Grapeview Drive. The petition was referred to the Public Works Department.

### PRESENTATIONS

195. Municipal Property Assessment Corporation

Mr. Carl Isenburg, Vice-President, Customer Relations, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, provided a detailed presentation on the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation. The information included an explanation of "Who Does What"; an assessment update (facts and figures); enhanced taxpayer access; future initiatives, including those to improve business processes; information on severances, consolidations and appeals; and an outline of "Market Change Profile (MCP)" and Customer Service.

Regional Chair Zimmerman thanked Mr. Isenburg for his presentation.

### CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

196. Report 9-2003

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report 9-2003, being the minutes of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, May 7, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

197. Report 9-2003

Moved by Councillor Brickell  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report 9-2003, being the minutes of the Community and Health Services Committee meeting of Monday, May 5, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

198. QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE MEDAL

Councillor Brickell advised that Certificates of Recognition were presented at the Community and Health Services Committee meeting on May 5, 2003, to Mr. Henry Goertzen and Ms. Lorraine Leyden of the Seniors Services Division, who were recipients of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. The medal was created to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne and is awarded to those persons who have made a significant contribution to Canada; their community; or to their fellow Canadians. Mr. Goertzen is the Pastor at the Linhaven Long Term Facility and has brought his tremendous spirit and the sounds of music to comfort many residents. He has also been a community volunteer and organizer in a variety of activities throughout his lifetime. He was an educator for 35 years, travelled with choral groups for school and community throughout Canada, and the U.S., and was involved in a special performance for the Pope in Rome. Lorraine Leyden became an active volunteer and fundraiser at Linhaven ten years ago while her father was a resident. She runs a twice-weekly program and is active on the Residents Council. In working with local service clubs, Lorraine has raised over \$160,000 towards resident medical equipment, and has been involved in many other community events.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

199. Report 4-2003

Moved by Councillor Nicholson  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report 4-2003, being the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

PLANNING SERVICES COMMITTEE

200. Report 10-2003

Moved by Councillor Smeaton  
Seconded by Councillor Haeck

That Report 10-2003, being the minutes of the Planning Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, May 7, 2003, be approved and adopted, with a correction on Page PS 76, to delete the word "not" from the first paragraph, sixth line, after the word should.

Carried.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

201. Report 10-2003

Moved by Councillor Badawey  
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Report 10-2003, being the minutes of the Public Works and Utilities Committee meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 2003, be approved and adopted.

Carried.

202. Reconstruction of Regional Road 50  
(Glenridge Avenue), Edgedale Road to  
Regional Road 91 (Westchester Crescent)  
City of St. Catharines

Moved by Councillor Badawey  
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Report PWP 50-2003, May 15, 2003, Reconstruction of Regional Road 50 (Glenridge Avenue), Edgedale Road to Regional Road 91 (Westchester Crescent), in the City of St. Catharines, be received for information.

Carried.

203. Niagara Hospital System Announcement

Council had for consideration, the motion put forward by Councillor McMullan with respect to the Niagara Hospital System Announcement.

Moved by Councillor McMullan  
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That consideration of the motion with respect to the Niagara Hospital System Announcement, be deferred for approximately one month.

Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

204. Road Projects in Niagara Falls

Councillor Bailey asked about the status of road projects in Niagara Falls, as it relates to the upcoming tourist season, and Mr. Neville advised that no construction would be taking place from June 15 until late September. Councillor Thomson asked for additional information on the bridges.

205. Folk Arts Festival

Councillor Rigby highlighted the Folk Arts Festival which kicked off tonight and will be running for the next two weeks, and ending the last weekend in May with a celebration in Montebello Park. He also noted that the high school rowing championships are the last weekend in May and Carousel Days will be held in Lakeside Park by the Friends of the Carousel.

206. Bus Tours

Councillor Eke thanked staff of Niagara Regional Housing for arranging the bus tours of housing stock in Welland, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines.

207. Niagara Stars

Councillor Forster asked everyone to support the inaugural season of the Niagara Stars baseball team, and invited all to visit their website.

**BY-LAWS**

208. Moved by Councillor Brickell  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That the following bills be now read and do pass:

**Bill 46**

A by-law to provide for the adoption of amendment 181 to the Official Plan for the Niagara Planning Area to permit an urban area expansion in Ridgeway in the Town of Fort Erie

**Bill 47**

A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of the Regional Council at its meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2003

Carried.

209. Moved by Councillor Collins  
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

That the following bills be now read and do pass:

**Bill 48**

A by-law to amend by-law No. 9068-98, being a by-law to dedicate part of Regional Road No. 538 (Thorold Road), in the City of Welland

**Bill 49**

A by-law to appoint an Acting Deputy Clerk for the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Council adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Debbie Zimmerman  
Regional Chair

Pam Gilroy  
Deputy Regional Clerk

Thomas R. Hollick  
Regional Clerk