



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN

COUNCIL MINUTES

MEETING NO. SEVEN

April 24, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Township Administration Building

318 Canborough Street, Smithville, Ontario

Council: Councillor Shelley Bradaric
Mayor Cheryl Ganann
Councillor Mike Rehner
Councillor William Reilly
Councillor Jason Trombetta
Councillor Terry Bell
Councillor Joann Chechalk

Staff: Joanne Scime, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Bev Hendry, CAO
Kevin Geoghegan, IT Help Desk Analyst
Donna DeFilippis, Treasurer/Director of Finance*

Others: Kailie Pyott, MPAC*
Kirsten Uhl, MPAC*
Bruce Harris, WeeStreem

1. SINGING OF "O CANADA" - Smithville Christian High School

Mayor Ganann called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Prior to commencing with the Council agenda, Mayor Ganann read the following announcements:

1. Comments from the public for a matter that was on the agenda may be provided in person by attending the meeting and advising the Chair during the "Request to Address an Item on the Agenda" Section of the agenda.
2. For those individuals that were unable to attend the meeting in person, could submit comments for matters that are on the agenda by either (1) emailing jscime@westlincoln.ca before 4:30 pm today. Any comments submitted will be

considered as public information and read into public record OR (2) by contacting the Clerk's Department to request a Zoom Link to attend the meeting virtually.

3. This meeting was being livestreamed. The link to watch the meeting live could be found on the Township's website by selecting the "Township Office" tab at the top of the website, click the Council or Standing Committee meetings tab and scroll down the meeting list to find the link.

4. This meeting is being recorded and will be available to view by clicking the meeting video link found on the Township's website within 48 hours after the meeting unless otherwise noted.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Mayor Ganann will read the following:

The Township of West Lincoln, being part of Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk (Hat-i-wen- DA-ronk), the Haudenosaunee (Hoe-den-no-SHOW-nee), and the Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-ih- NAH-bey), including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Township of West Lincoln, as part of the Regional Municipality of Niagara, stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

3. OPENING PETITION - Councillor Mike Rehner

4. CHANGE IN ORDER OF ITEMS ON AGENDA

There were no changes in order of items on the agenda.

5. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no Members of Council that declared a pecuniary interest and/or conflict of interest with respect to matters that are on this evening's Council agenda.

6. REQUEST TO ADDRESS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The Mayor inquired if the IT Help Desk Analyst was aware if there were any members of the public in attendance virtually on the Zoom meeting call that wished to address a specific item on tonight's agenda as permitted under Section 6.7 of the Procedural By-law, for which the IT Help Desk Analyst confirmed there were not.

The Mayor asked the Director of Legislative Services/Clerk if she had received any emails or correspondence from a member of the public prior to 4:30 p.m. today to read into the record, for which the Director of Legislative Services/Clerk confirmed she had not.

Mayor Ganann asked if there were any members of the public present that wished to address an item on this evening, which there was not.

7. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Kailie Pyott, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) Re: MPAC 101 PowerPoint Presentation

Ms. Kailie Pyott, Account Manager from Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) reviewed the PowerPoint Presentation that was attached to the agenda. Ms. Pyott touched on the key players when it comes to Property Assessment in Ontario, those being the Ontario Government, MPAC itself, municipalities, and property owners. Ms. Pyott addressed the maintenance of the Province's property database and the changes it was undergoing, as well as the property valuation process referred to as "reassessments", which was still being followed based on property evaluations from January 1, 2016. Ms. Pyott clarified the reason why the 2016 evaluations were still being used and noted that reassessment of properties was largely postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Ms. Pyott explained how MPAC assessed properties and the direct comparison approach that they were using. Ms. Pyott explained the five (5) major factors that account for approximately 85% of a property's assessed value, MPAC's role in the building permit process, and how to address resolving assessment concerns, which was done through four (4) main ways. Ms. Pyott noted that MPAC establishes the assessment of a property but not the property taxes, and touched on the resources of a digital tool kit to learn more about your property. Additionally, Ms. Pyott explained how to spot misinformation and how property owners can find accurate information. Ms. Pyott concluded her presentation by advising the public to subscribe to InTouch.ca., where they can receive updates and information regarding MPAC, assessment information, and various other important resources for homeowners.

Councillor Chechalk inquired to the presenter that if the Province decided to utilize the newer assessments, would MPAC be prepared to roll those values out quickly to use.

In response to Councillor Chechalk's inquiry, Ms. Pyott noted that MPAC operates on data readiness, and would be able to provide those new numbers whenever the Province decides to enact this measure. Ms. Pyott further clarified how MPAC assesses properties, and the timelines they work under to assess current market evaluations.

Councillor Trombetta asked about the information that MPAC provides for the voters' cards that were distributed as part of the 2022 Municipal Election, where deceased or individuals who no longer lived at the residence were receiving voter cards.

Ms. Pyott stated that Election Ontario was taking over the preparation of the voters' list, but noted that MPAC struggles with updating the voters' list as tenant data was largely reliant on people updating their information through voterlookup.ca, where individuals utilize the service at will, as well as the Land Registry Office forwarding death certificates. Ms. Pyott noted that MPAC handles the assessment of properties well; however, she stated that the Ministry has struggled to address the issue of the preparation of the voters' list, and noted that they will be working collaboratively with Elections Ontario who will be taking over the preparation of the voters' list for the next municipal election.

Councillor Bradaric questioned if the video mentioned by the presenter could be made available for residents, and requested to put the link on our website.

Ms. Pyott provided the link to the information that residents and Council can use to view the information, which is <https://www.westlincoln.ca/en/living-here/property-assessments.aspx>.

The CAO stated she believes that the link is on the website but staff will insure the video is posted on the Township's website.

8. REGIONAL COUNCILLOR'S REMARKS

Regional Councillor Witteveen read from a prepared statement which is attached as **Schedule "A"** to the minutes. Regional Councillor Witteveen provided an update on various matters, meeting highlights, and events that were addressed by Niagara Region over the past month which included good news for West Lincoln with respect to the approval of Official Plan Amendment 62 and 63 being the Township's 30-year growth plan and was an important step in the growth of our community.

In closing Regional Councillor Witteveen advised that he had applied to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) to be as a member of their Policy Action Committee (PAC). Regional Councillor Witteveen advised that the NPCA was looking for an agriculture representative, and he was pleased that he was chosen and was excited to represent West Lincoln.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 Council Minutes – Regular
Re: March 27, 2023

Moved By Councillor Terry Bell

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

That, the minutes of the open session portion of the March 27, 2023 regular Council meeting be accepted.

Carried

10. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

11. MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Ganann read a prepared statement which was attached as **Schedule "B"** to the minutes. Further to Regional Councillor Witteveen's remarks with respect to the Township's OPA 62 and 63, Mayor Ganann stated that Region of Niagara unanimously passed OPA 62 and 63, at both the Regional Planning Committee on April 5th and again at Regional Council of the Whole on Tuesday, April 20th. Mayor Ganann stated that the urban boundaries being established by OPA 62, align with the Region's urban boundaries and OPA 63, outlines plans for growth within these boundaries so as to meet Regional growth targets in a logical, phased and sustainable growth rate over a 30 year period. Mayor Ganann stated that this work, over an almost 5-year time period, was done collaboratively and cooperatively by the Township's Planning staff, Regional staff from multiple departments, members of the NPCA, landowners representatives and numerous members of the public. All told, approximately 1000 people took some part in this consultative process that implements Regional growth allocations and ensures a complete community that will include infill and intensification, includes a strong environmental protection and reforestation lens and also provides an agricultural-land protection focus.

12. REPORT OF COMMITTEE

- 12.1 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee
Re: Minutes - April 11, 2023

Moved By Councillor William Reilly

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

1. That, the minutes of the open session portion of the April 11, 2023 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved,
2. That, the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the April 11, 2023 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee meeting be accepted; and that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act.

Carried

- 12.2 Administration/Finance/Fire Committee
Re: Minutes - April 17, 2023

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

That, the minutes of the April 17, 2023 Administration/Finance/Fire Committee meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Carried

- 12.3 Public Works/Recreation/Arena Committee
Re: Minutes - April 17, 2023

Moved By Councillor Mike Rehner

Seconded By Councillor Terry Bell

That, the minutes of the April 17, 2023 Public Works & Recreation Committee meeting, be accepted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Carried

13. RECONSIDERATION

There were no items put forward for reconsideration.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION TO RESCIND

There were no motions to rescind put forward by any Member of Council.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Director of Planning and Building (Brian Treble)

Re: Memorandum - Appointment of John Bartol as Chief Building Official
RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION

15.2 Councillor Joann Chechalk

Re: Motion in Support of Bill 5 - Stopping Harassment and Abuse by
Local Leaders Act

Councillor Chechalk noted that over 50 municipalities have endorsed a resolution to support Bill 5, which was designed to ensure that our workplace and our community are safe from harassment and abuse. Councillor Chechalk stated that we need to ensure that, as leaders, we set an example and that we can prevent violence, harassment and abuse in the workplace and this will be a great start in making a difference in our community and in the world.

Councillor Bell stated that he checked with the Clerk to ensure the Township has a violence and harassment policy which she confirmed we did and he urged Council to support Councillor Chechalk's motion.

In regards to Bill 5, Councillor Rehner inquired if this legislation was in place during last term of Council would it have made a difference in how conduct was handled.

The CAO confirmed that, in her opinion, it would have made a difference.

Councillor Rehner spoke to what happened last term of Council, specifically with respect to the Township struggling with the Integrity Commissioner's costs to undertake code of conduct investigations and that this would have been a useful tool at that time and he supported Bill 5 for any future issues that may come forward.

In order to speak to this matter, Mayor stepped down as Chair at approximately 7:22 p.m. and Acting Mayor Trombetta took the chair.

Mayor Ganann read from a prepared statement that she had received from Diana Huson, Regional Councillor for the Town of Pelham, which outlined a number of harassment and abuse experiences that women had faced during their employment in Municipal Government within Ontario.

Mayor Ganann resumed the position of Chair from Councillor Trombetta at approximately 7:27 p.m.

Councillor Reilly noted that this type of issue presents a threat that is genderless, and noted that there was a local municipality that dealt with a situation where a female Councillor harassed a male Councillor. Councillor Reilly noted that he was very supportive of this motion.

Councillor Reilly requested for a verbal and recorded vote to be taken by the Clerk.

Councillor Trombetta advised that he was in support of Bill 5 and asked how a public code of conduct for the safety of Members of Council could be enacted by the Township, and if this could be looked into as well.

Mayor Ganann stated her appreciation for Councillor Trombetta's comments, and noted that this would be the first step in the process to create a more respectful and transparent system.

Moved By Councillor Joann Chechalk
Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

WHEREAS municipally elected leaders do not have an appropriate accountability structure when it comes to perpetrating violence and harassment in the workplace; and

WHEREAS a fundamental, underlying principle of broadening diversity, equity and inclusion in politics rests on the assumption that the workplace is safe; and

WHEREAS Bill 5, the *Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act* would require Councillors to comply with the workplace violence and harassment policies of the municipality they represent, permit municipalities to direct the Integrity Commissioner to apply to the court to vacate a member's seat for failing to comply with the municipality's workplace violence and harassment policies as well as restrict officials whose seat has been vacated from seeking immediate subsequent re-election; and

WHEREAS over 50 municipalities have formally endorsed and communicated public support for Bill 5; and

WHEREAS Bill 5 would both hold accountable and protect all municipal officials;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of West Lincoln Council express its support for Bill 5, *Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act*;

FURTHER that this resolution be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and local area MPPs.

	For	Against	Conflict
Councillor Shelley Bradaric	X		
Mayor Cheryl Ganann	X		
Councillor Mike Rehner	X		
Councillor William Reilly	X		
Councillor Jason Trombetta	X		
Councillor Terry Bell	X		
Councillor Joann Chechalk	X		
Results	7	0	0
Carried			

- 15.3 TABLED ITEM (March 28, 2022 Council Meeting)
Director of Planning & Building (Brian Treble)
Re: Recommendation Report No. PD-36-2022 - Smithville Landowners Group request for support of Minister's Zoning Order (MZO)

- 15.4 Members of Council
Re: Council Remarks

- 1) Mayor Cheryl Ganann
Re: Fraud Seminar

Mayor Ganann stated that the Township's Age Friendly Advisory Committee have organized a free event for individuals to learn about and protect themselves against fraud, particularly fraud targeted at seniors. Mayor Ganann stated that Tom Cheel from the Canadian

Anti-Fraud Centre, will be in attendance at the event to speak about identity theft, mass marketing fraud, the most current scams in circulation, and how to recognize and report fraud. Mayor Ganann stated that the event will be held at the West Lincoln Community Centre, in the second floor program room, on Friday, May 12, 2023 commencing at 9:30 a.m. Mayor Ganann encouraged residents to attend, and shared stories regarding individuals within the community that had lost thousands of dollars due to the popular "Grandparent" scam.

- 2) Councillor Joann Chechalk
Re: West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Mayor's Luncheon Event - May 18, 2023

After four long years, the West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce have brought back the Mayor's Luncheon event for the business community as well as the community at large to attend. Councillor Chechalk advised that the event will take place on Thursday May 18th, 2023 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Gizio Recreation & Banquet Centre on Kemp Rd. West in Grimsby. The event includes a delicious lunch with Mayor Ganann, as the guest speaker, who will be sharing what's happening in West Lincoln. Councillor Chechalk advise that tickets for the event were now available and could be purchased by contacting the West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.

16. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no new items of business brought forward by any Member of Council in attendance.

17. BY-LAWS

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

Seconded By Councillor Mike Rehner

1. That, leave be granted to introduce By-law #s 2023-30, 2023-31, 2023-32, 2023-33, and 2023-34, and that the same shall be considered to have been read a first, second, and third time with one reading, and are hereby adopted; and,
2. That, the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to sign and affix the Corporate Seal thereto, any rule of this Council to the contrary notwithstanding.

Carried

SUMMARY OF APPROVED BY-LAWS:

17.1 BY-LAW 2023-30

A By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln at its regular meeting held on the 27th day of March, 2023.

17.2 BY-LAW 2023-31

A By-law to appoint John Bartol as a Chief Building Official, Municipal By-law Enforcement Officer and Property Standards Officer for the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln.

17.3 BY-LAW 2023-32

A By-law to amend Zoning By-law 2017-70, as amended, of the Township of West Lincoln (DeHaan Home Inc. - Lots 20, 56 & 57, Regional Road 20 - Removal of Holding Symbol - Upgrades to St. Catharines Street to the satisfaction of the Region of Niagara shall be completed prior to any development or site alteration)

17.4 BY-LAW 2023-33

A By-law to amend Schedule "F" of By-law 2023-11, to remove former Heritage Committee member Allan McLaren.

17.5 BY-LAW 2023-34

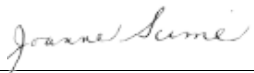
A By-law to authorize an agreement between the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln and Walkers Construction Limited for the 2023 Road Rehabilitation Work Project.

18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

There were no confidential matters.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:36 pm



**JOANNE SCIME, DIRECTOR OF
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/CLERK**

MAYOR CHERYL GANANN

Schedule A
to the
April 24, 2023 Council Meeting

Regional Councillors Report April 24, 2023

Good evening Mayor, members of council, staff and members of the public

This evening I would like to start by sharing in some of the highlights of committee meetings I have attended at the Region this past month. At the Public Works meeting we had a presentation on changes coming in respect to the Household Hazardous Waste program. This program has been in place since the early 1990's and Stewardship Ontario has been overseeing the program. In 2021 new regulation took effect on October 1, 2021 requiring producers to be responsible for the end of life cost for materials. The regulation defines designated materials and the minimum recycling targets, with a number of collection sites. Producers are categorized as small or large based on the number of tonnes put into the marketplace. Number of sites are determined for large producers is based on Local Municipalities populations. Concerns are the distance to travel to collections sites and return to retail sites may fluctuate. Or the general lack of service providers. Targets that have been set out in the regulation are as follows. Batteries 2023 = 40%, 2024=45%, 2025 = 50%.. For electronics 2023= 55%, 2024= 65%, 2025=70%. Tires 85% must be recycled. Funding now is currently based on hours of operation with the new legislation for compensation is moving away from hourly to

a quantity based model. The Niagara Region's staff are in negotiation with Product Care Association for equitable compensation are the next steps moving forward.

Our next item was a report on the Implementation of Red Light Camera's across Niagara Region. 10 signalized intersection have been identified by the Commissioner of Public Works for a term of 26 months with an option to extend for an additional 2 years at the discretion of the Commissioner, to improve road safety and reduce red light running. Three locations have been identified in West Niagara. In Grimsby at Christie St and the South service rd. In Lincoln at Ontario St and the South service rd. In West Lincoln at Victoria Ave and Hwy 20. The implementation of the program is anticipated to occur in late Q3/ early Q4 2023. There will be a 60 day warning period which is done under the legislation and the MTO operating agreement. Coming soon warning signage must be installed 60 days prior to engagement of the system. This program aligns with our Vision Zero strategy.

Later in the day we had our Public Health and Social Services committee meeting. We received a presentation from the Manager of Clinical Services Kim Friesen. We were informed how vaccinations for preventable diseases had taken a back seat because of COVID and access to family

doctors during this time. Want notices were mailed to those individuals had lapsed vaccination statuses. Compliance rates have been at 96% in historic years. Public Health is catching up in setting up school clinics and the community through March and April.

We also had a presentation regarding the Dental Program through public health. Youth Focused Programs which are cost-shared funding are administered through School Screening, Healthy Smile Ontario, Fluoride Varnish Program, Mobile Dental Unit and Outreach. Our Seniors focused Program is funded 100% funded through the Ministry of Health. In the Program called Ontario Seniors Dental Care. Eligibility is based on age and income.

Great news for our EMS teams that the Province is allowing ED tech's to assist in offload delays at the hospitals. This will free up the much needed resources to respond to more urgent calls. The Province has also funded 3 of the 4 extra staff members to help out for the 911 calls at the centre.

Exciting news from the Province on our Homelessness strategy, West Lincoln supported a state of Emergency on this file and other Local Municipalities with the Niagara Region lobbied the Province for further funding. We received an additional 9 million in funding for the next three years for enhancing the services that we provide. We have been running

behind in funding from the Province and now can provide services to those that require it the most.

At the Planning meeting OPA (62) and OPA (63) were presented for support and approval for West Lincoln's 30 year growth plan. Committee supported the reports and at last weeks council meeting it was ratified.

This as you all know was an important step in the growth of our community. I'm sure the Mayor will expand on this through her remarks.

And council this completes my report for this month and if any members have any questions I will answer them to the best of my abilities.

Thank-you
Albert Witteveen

Schedule B
to the
April 24, 2023 Council Minutes

Mayor's Remarks for April 24, 2023 Council Meeting

April has been another busy month beginning with the well attended and extremely well organized Easter Egg Hunt on April 7th. It was a delight to see so many residents - children, parents, grandparents out on a chilly but sunny morning to enjoy this time together.

Also that same day, in spite of it being Good Friday, there was a great turn-out for the Canadian Blood Services Blood Donor Clinic at John Calvin School from 3-8 o'clock. Our local Kiwanis Club volunteers staffed the refreshment table for that Clinic., thanking the donors for their very important donation of much-needed blood, especially over a long weekend.

The Easter Market on Saturday, April 8th was wonderful and I thank the vendors for doing their very best to provide ,so early in the season, a variety of interesting items for purchase including such things as Spring bulbs and flowers, delicious cheeses and baked goods and of course many beautifully hand-crafted items of wood, fabric or metals to name a few. People enjoyed being out and about and greeting each other on such a lovely morning!

On April 12, CAO Hendry, Councillors Chechalk and Bradaric and I attended the State of the Region address delivered by Chair Jim Bradley, to a room filled with approximately 400 people at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre. In a room that was packed, we were pleased to have been seated at a table with both members of staff and elected officials, from our neighbouring community of Lincoln.

The morning and into the afternoon of April 15, the Kiwanis Club of West Lincoln kicked off Earth week with their bottle drive. This event removed thousands of bottles and cans from the side of many local roadways, as well as basements and garages preventing many of them from ending up in our landfill site. Funds raised through this go directly back to our community!

I also want, in mentioning Earth Week, to thank the West Lincoln Green Team for promoting environmental clean-up activities in our community throughout the week leading up to Earth Day this past Saturday, April 22.

On the evening of April 15, Councillor Chechalk and John and I were pleased to support the Niagara Christian Gleaners by attending their Saturday evening

fundraising dinner at the West Niagara Agricultural Centre. This event ran for 2 evenings and had over 600 people in attendance over the 2 evenings. Dinner was delicious, the fellowship was engaging and the message delivered by the guest speakers was inspiring.

Most important of all to West Lincoln, is the unanimous passing of OPA 62 and 63, at both the Regional Planning Committee on April 5th and then again at Regional Council of the whole just last Tuesday, April 20th..The urban boundaries being established by OPA 62, align with the Region's urban boundaries and OPA 63, outlines plans for growth within these boundaries so as to meet Regional growth targets in a logical, phased and sustainable growth rate over a 30 year period. This work over an almost 5 year time period was done collaboratively and cooperatively by our Planning staff, Regional staff from multiple departments, members of the NPCA, Landowners representatives and numerous members of the public. All told, approximately 1000 people took some part in this consultative process that implements Regional growth allocations and ensures a complete community that will include infill and intensification, includes a strong environmental protection and reforestation lens and also provides an agricultural-land protection focus.

And finally, just today, in our Library Programme Room, I had the pleasure of welcoming many guests to our relatively new "Asset" - the West Lincoln Community Centre. Staff from Asset Management Ontario and AMO brought in a powerful and engaging speaker, Christina Benty who presented a workshop on the very important topic of Asset Management as all Ontario communities face the costs of maintaining aging infrastructure. Her very clear message surrounded the need to fund core assets appropriately, the absolute necessity of shifting the narrative around the budget process so that residents clearly understand the direct correlation between service levels and taxes, and that our job as elected officials regarding Asset Management is to remain at a high, governance and strategic level rather than being project-based or getting into discussions regarding day to day operational decisions..

In attendance from West Lincoln were Director of Finance/Treasurer, Donna DeFilippis, Director of Public Works and Recreation, Mike DiPaola, and Councillors Chechalk and Reilly.

This provided a wonderful learning opportunity for all in attendance!