

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN COUNCIL MINUTES

MEETING NO. SIXTEEN

September 23, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Township Administration Building

318 Canborough Street, Smithville, Ontario

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

Staff: Truper McBride, Chief Administrative Officer
Cindy Weir, Chief Executive Officer, Library
Justin Paylove, Acting Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Kevin Geoghegan, IT Help Desk Analyst

Attendees: John Ganann
Gord MacCharles

1. SINGING OF "O CANADA" CAIRN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1. Comments from the public for a matter that is 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 are unable to attend the meeting in person, you may submit comments for matters that are on the agenda by either:
 1. emailing jpaylove@westlincoln.ca before 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments submitted will be considered as public information and be part of the public record; OR,
 2. by contacting the Clerk's Department to request a Zoom Link to attend the meeting virtually.
3. Tonight's Council Meeting will be livestreamed as well as recorded and available on the Township's website

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

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, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit 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 William Reilly

Councillor Reilly read the opening petition.

4. CHANGE IN ORDER OF ITEMS ON AGENDA

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

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

NOTE: Items for which conflicts were recently declared at Committee Meeting(s)

5.1 Councillor William Reilly - Special Council Minutes

Councillor Reilly noted that he has a potential conflict of interest with Agenda Item 9.2, as he was not in attendance at the Special Council Meeting held on August 12, 2024.

6. REQUEST TO ADDRESS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

NOTE: Requests to address items on the agenda are restricted to specific items as follows per Section 6.7 of the Procedural By-Law:

6.7 Public Comment at Council

There shall be no comments from the public permitted at Council unless:

- (a) a specific appointment has been scheduled; or,
- (b) an item is included under the “Other Business” or “Communications” or “Appointments” section of the agenda and relates to a matter which would normally be dealt with at Committee.

The Chair to inquire to the IT Help Desk Analyst, Kevin Geoghegan, if there are any members of the public present who wish to address a specific item on the agenda as permitted by Section 6.7 of the Procedural By-Law.

In response to the Chair's inquiry, the IT Help Desk Analyst, Kevin Geoghegan, explained that there were no members of the public present who wish to address a specific item on the agenda.

7. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

There were no appointments.

8. REGIONAL COUNCILLOR'S REMARKS

There were no Regional Councillor remarks. Regional Councillor Witteveen sent his regrets.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 Council Minutes

Re: August 12, 2024

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

Seconded By Councillor Jason Trombetta

That the minutes relating to the August 12, 2024 Council (includes All Committees) Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted.

Carried

9.2 Special Council Minutes

Re: August 12, 2024

Confidential Minutes Under Separate Cover

Councillor William Reilly declared a conflict on this item. (Councillor Reilly noted that he has a potential conflict of interest with Agenda Item 9.2, as he was not in attendance at the Special Council Meeting held on August 12, 2024.)

Moved By Councillor Joann Chechalk

Seconded By Councillor Mike Rehner

1. That the minutes relating to the August 12, 2024 Special Council Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted; and,
2. That the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the August 12, 2024 Special Council Meeting be accepted; and

that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with exemptions provided in Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*.

Carried

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Ontario Ombudsman

Re: Ombudsman Final Report - September 18, 2024

Moved By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

Seconded By Councillor Jason Trombetta

That the Ontario Ombudsman Final Report dated September 18, 2024 and the recommendations therein, be accepted.

Carried

11. MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor read from a prepared statement. This statement is attached to the minutes as Schedule "A".

12. REPORT OF COMMITTEE

12.1 Planning/Building/Environmental Committee

Re: Minutes - September 9, 2024

Confidential Minutes Under Separate Cover

Moved By Councillor William Reilly

Seconded By Councillor Joann Chechalk

1. That the minutes relating to the September 9, 2024 Planning, Building & Environmental Committee Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted; and,
2. That the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the September 9, 2024 Planning, Building & Environmental Committee Meeting be accepted; and that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with exemptions provided in Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*.

Carried

12.2 Administration/Finance/Fire Committee

Re: Minutes - September 16, 2024

Confidential Minutes Under Separate Cover

Moved By Councillor Jason Trombetta

Seconded By Councillor Shelley Bradaric

1. That the minutes relating to the September 16, 2024, Administration, Finance & Fire Committee Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted; and,
2. That the confidential minutes relating to the closed session portion of the September 16, 2024 Administration, Finance & Fire Committee Meeting be accepted; and that the minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with exemptions provided in Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*.

Carried

12.3 Public Works & Recreation Committee

Re: Minutes - September 16, 2024

Moved By Councillor Mike Rehner

Seconded By Councillor William Reilly

That the minutes relating to the September 16, 2024 Public Works & Recreation Committee Meeting, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted.

Carried

13. RECONSIDERATION

There were no motions introduced by any Members of Council to reconsider action taken at this Council meeting or the previous regular Council meeting.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION TO RESCIND

There were no notices of intent served by any Members of Council to introduce a motion to rescind action taken previously by Council.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Members of Council

Re: Council Remarks

Councillor Rehner
Re: AMO Progress Updates

Councillor Chechalk
Re: Rural Economic Development Roundtable

Councillor Reilly
Re: Miranda's Miracles; West Niagara Fair 2024

Councillor Trombetta
Re: Fire Station 2 Open House

Councillor Bradaric
Re: Recreation and Parks Plan

Mayor Ganann
Re: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

16. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no motions brought forward to introduce a new item of business.

17. BY-LAWS

Moved By Councillor William Reilly
Seconded By Councillor Mike Rehner

1. That leave be granted to introduce By-Laws 2024-55, 2024-56, 2024-57, 2024-58, 2024-59, 2024-60, 2024-61, 2024-62, 2024-63, 2024-64, 2024-65, and 2024-66, 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

17.1 BY-LAW 2024-55

A By-Law to amend By-Law 2023-03 which confirmed various appointments and/or recommendations for appointments to Boards, Committees & Municipal Positions.

17.2 BY-LAW 2024-56

A By-Law to authorize an agreement between the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln and Stevensville Lawn Service Inc. for the Murgatroyd Trail reconstruction project.

17.3 BY-LAW 2024-57

A By-Law to Adopt Amendment No. 57 (Re-Designation of Spring Creek Heights Secondary Plan) to the Official Plan for the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln.

17.4 BY-LAW 2024-58

A By-Law to permanently Close and Declare Surplus Part of the Road Allowance lying below Lots 1 and 2, Concession 1 (Former Corporation of the Township of Caistor), Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, and the Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

17.5 BY-LAW 2024-59

A By-Law to authorize the conveyance of a portion of the Municipal Road Allowance lying South of Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1 (former Corporation of the Township of Caistor), being Part 1, Reference Plan 30R-16111; Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

17.6 BY-LAW 2024-60

A By-Law to authorize the conveyance of a portion of the Municipal Road Allowance lying south of Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1 (former Corporation of the Township of Caistor), being Part 2, Reference Plan 30R-16111; Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

17.7 BY-LAW 2024-61

A By-Law to authorize the conveyance of a portion of the Municipal Road Allowance lying south of Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1 (former Corporation of the Township of Caistor), being Part 3, Reference Plan 30R-16111; Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

17.8 BY-LAW 2024-62

A By-Law to authorize the conveyance of a portion of the Municipal Road Allowance lying south of Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1 (former Corporation of

the Township of Caistor), being Part 5, Reference Plan 30R-16111;
Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, Corporation of the Regional
Municipality of Niagara.

17.9 BY-LAW 2024-63

A By-Law to authorize the conveyance of a portion of the Municipal Road Allowance lying south of Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1 (former Corporation of the Township of Caistor), being Part 6, Reference Plan 30R-16111;
Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

17.10 BY-LAW 2024-64

A By-Law to authorize the conveyance of a portion of the Municipal Road Allowance lying south of Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1 (former Corporation of the Township of Caistor), being Part 7, Reference Plan 30R-16111;
Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln, Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

17.11 BY-LAW 2024-65

A By-Law to appoint a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer and Property Standards Officer for the Corporation of the Township of West Lincoln (Tim Carr).

17.12 BY-LAW 2024-66

A By-Law to adopt, confirm and ratify matters dealt with by Council resolution.

18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

There were no confidential matters.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:21 p.m.

JUSTIN PAYLOVE, CLERK

MAYOR CHERYL GANANN

Mayor's Remarks - September 23/24 Council Meeting

Since our last meeting of All Committees and Council on August 12, our West Lincoln Community, like all other Communities. has experienced the birth of new babies, the weddings of loved ones, and the loss of friends and neighbours of varying ages, due to both serious illnesses and accidental causes. Our warm and supportive community have rallied around **all** in whatever circumstances have arisen... happy and sorrowful alike! When an increased need for back-to-school necessities was made known, members of the general public and in particular our local service club - Kiwanis of West Lincoln came to the rescue with a very generous donation to West Lincoln Community Care's Backpack programme. thus allowing for more than 100 children to have a great start to their new school year!

I regularly marvel at the warmth, caring and generosity of our West Lincoln community that is routinely demonstrated in so many and varied ways!

Shortly after our August Council meeting, several members of Council and our CAO attended the AMO Conference held in Ottawa and were able to delegate to Parliamentary Assistants and Ministers regarding the water/wastewater infrastructure needs of our community.

As a municipality, we have waited patiently to hear if we were successful in acquiring a Provincial grant to help with the costs associated with necessary water/wastewater infrastructure that would allow for housing starts in the NorthWest Quadrant in particular. Unfortunately, due to the high number of applications and in spite of a well-written grant application, we have recently learned that we were **not** successful. A second intake deadline for that same provincial grant is coming soon and staff are once again working diligently to strengthen our application, with the hope of being successful this time.

As September rolled around, and students and parents fell back into routines, so too, did Council, Staff and our various Citizen Committees. During the past few weeks, various Councillors have been involved in the West Niagara Fair in many different aspects, The Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee is holding its Holiday Card Artwork Contest during the month of September and have delivered their hand-made posters to our local schools, The Age-Friendly Advisory Committee has resumed meetings for the 24/25 season, as has the West Lincoln Library Board. As is true for all Township Committees, guests are always welcome and to that end the Road 12 Landfill Committee at their meeting last week, welcomed a couple of guests and showed off their new and streamlined processes to support current customer service especially in regard to yard brush and branches being brought to the site. They additionally reported on the various changes that will allow for that site to last for close to another 30 years! That is amazing and most welcome news, especially as the lifespan of that landfill site, thought to be approximately 25 years, would have run out in 2020 if not for the excellent stewardship of the site by both Regional staff and the overall governance committee.

We have had 2 flag -raising events in September, one being Miranda's Miracles in support of Childhood Cancer Research and the other being the United Way.

Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc. held its official 2024 AGM by zoom and in-person, Silverdale Hall held a very successful Chili, Soup and Corn Dinner, Smithville held its 21st Terry Fox Run and raised the most money that this run has ever raised - just over \$18,000. for Cancer Research, Twenty View Farms held an amazing Open House serving dinner to over 200 people, and additionally using the opportunity to run a raffle to raise funds for West Lincoln Community Care. The Smithville Christian High School held a Back to School Family and Friends BBQ and as part of that event, showcased the pickleball courts, disc golf and beach volleyball facilities that are open to the public after school and on weekends and holidays. They also officially opened a new space in a courtyard area for students that is dedicated to device-free activities and conversation.

This past week included the annual Grape Growers Celebrity Luncheon, with 2010 Canadian Gold Medal Skeleton winner, and host of the Amazing Race Canada, Jon Montgomery, as the very informative and entertaining guest speaker. Also this past week there was a well-attended fundraiser celebrating the Pen Centre's 65th Anniversary that was designed to support Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Pathstone Mental Health for Youth, in particular.

I would like to mention how pleased I am that when the nomination period for our Ward 3 By-election closed on Friday afternoon, we had 5 residents who have put their name forward indicating their willingness to represent their fellow residents on our Council. This is not an easy decision for many to make...it requires recognizing the fact that you will need to sacrifice personal and/or family time to the dedicated task of running an election campaign with the end goal of serving our community and also acknowledging the realization that if elected, you will find yourself devoting even more personal time as you serve your community for the next 2 years. I sincerely thank those who have chosen to run in this Ward 3 By-Election and wish each of them well as they begin to campaign.

The final thing that I want to include in these remarks is in regard to our Community Recognition Awards. We have had several nominations in each of the various categories and those nomination forms are still in the hands of the judges. Nominee names are **not** attached to the forms that the judges have received and the 5 judges are not known to each other so as to ensure that each nomination is judged independently and on its own merit. Those winners will be announced soon and will be honoured at a community celebration in the Library Programme Room on October 22 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Upon reflecting on our Community Recognition Awards Celebration of last year, our first, after a hiatus lasting several decades, the Committee has also decided that 2 changes will be made this year.

The first is that we will recognize both Ken Hunter and Lucien Rene posthumously. Both gentlemen were nominated last year and sadly both passed away at the end of June. Both Ken and Lucien were once again nominated after their passing as so many residents recognized the enormous degree of each of their contributions to the betterment of our community since each adopted West Lincoln as their home.

My personal regret is that neither is with us to be recognized and yet neither of these community-minded men did the things that they did in order to gain recognition. They were simply helping others in the community that they loved.

The second change that we made came as we recognized that many long-time residents of our community have spent decades of their lives volunteering in various capacities to make our community stronger in so many ways. We felt that in playing 'catch-up' after so many years, one winner was certainly not enough in a community where so many people volunteer their time in so many diverse ways.

Most of those who I am about to name continue to volunteer in some capacity as their personal health and circumstances allow.

We have therefore determined a new category, which we have called "**Lifetime Community Volunteerism**" Award.

Each of these 5 people have been involved in various aspects of our community for decades and decades and have made extremely positive impacts on the various residents of all ages with whom they have interacted. At the ceremony, on October 22, we will speak more specifically about their individual contributions, however it is my great privilege to release the following names:

In the Sports/Recreation Category, we will be recognizing **Milt Balint** for his generous and varied contributions to the betterment of Sports and Recreation endeavors in West Lincoln throughout his lifetime.

In the General Volunteerism Category, we are pleased to recognize - **Joanne Battersby, Jean Acton, Joan Packham** and **Clifford Travis**. Each of these 4 have spent their entire adult lives giving back to their community in one way or another particularly, but not limited to, the areas of History, Culture and Agriculture.

I look forward to being able to personally thank these 5 residents in addition to those who are soon to be named by our judging panel, for all that they have done and continue to do to make our community better for all of us. It should be a lovely evening of food, laughter and applause as we celebrate some very special members of the West Lincoln community; people who have been nominated by their peers, friends and neighbours for the good work that they do or have done voluntarily for the benefit of others.

I hope to see everyone at the Smithville Library at 7:00 PM on October 22nd as we celebrate the spirit of volunteerism in West Lincoln. All residents are of course, welcome to attend!

As none of the aforementioned things include our regular local Council and Regional meetings **or** many of the other start-up activities going on in the community at large, **or** events such as Harvest Routes and the Great Pumpkin Give-away or the West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce business Awards that are coming up soon, this fairly lengthy report is indicative of a very busy start to the Fall season in West Lincoln.

We are all involved and engaged in so many aspects of West Lincoln life and that is, I feel, what makes our community so great!