



February 2022

February 7, 2022 Regular Council Meeting

Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program Update

- Council received an update from the County of Huron regarding the Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program. Council expressed concern with becoming an investor in the project and did not take any action to provide funding.

Adoption of 2022 Municipal Budget

- Council approved the 2022 Municipal Budget at their meeting on February 7, 2022. The budget was developed through significant discussion and deliberation by Council during several meetings that included receiving public feedback. The budget includes a total tax increase of 6.28%.

Official Plan Amendment OPA 15 & Zoning By-Law Amendment Z07-21

- Council adopted an Official Plan amendment and approved a Zoning by-law amendment for the former Wingham Trailer Park property. The purpose of the Official Plan amendment and Zoning by-law amendment applications is to facilitate the development of an apartment building on the subject property. The Zoning by-law amendment was approved, subject to a revision that the building height be decreased to three-storeys.

Appointment of Council Representative to the Fundraising Committee for the North Huron Museum Relocation Capital Project

- At the February 7th meeting, Councillor Paul Heffer was appointed as the Council Representative to the Fundraising Committee for the North Huron Museum Relocation Capital Project. As the Council Representative, Councillor Heffer will serve as a liaison between the Committee and Council.

Proposed COVID-19 Recovery Plan from the Wingham Columbus Centre

- To assist with the hardships experienced by COVID-19, Council voted to support a request for a reduction in the Wingham Columbus Centre's annual contribution towards the overall cost of utilities and the deficit of the North Huron Westcast Community Complex for a maximum period of two years. As a condition of the reduction, Council reaffirmed that a repayment plan must be completed by the Wingham Columbus Centre within the current term of Council.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan Implementation

- At the February 7th meeting, Council directed staff to begin implementing the non-financial recommendations that were included in the newly adopted Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan. Council also directed for funds to be included in future budget processes to facilitate Council's consideration of the short-term, medium-term and long-term financial recommendations of the Plan.

Transfer Payment Agreements for Asset Management Software Modernization and E-Permitting Modernization Projects

- Council authorized for the execution of two transfer payment agreements for grant funding received under the Municipal Modernization Program Intake 3. The funds will be used toward an Asset Management Software Modernization Project and an E-Permitting Modernization Project. Council is appreciative of the Provincial Government for providing this funding opportunity.

Alice Munro Festival of the Short Story 2022 Update

- At the February 22nd meeting, Council received an update from representatives of the Alice Munro Festival of the Short Story on the success of the 2021 Festival and the 2022 Festival plans.

Restricted Acts of Council (Lame Duck Period)– Delegation of Authority

- Council directed for the preparation of a by-law delegating authority to the Chief Administrative Officer in the event Council is considered “Lame Duck” during the 2022 Municipal election period. This delegation of authority ensures the maintenance of operations of the Township during the established Lame Duck Council periods.

Use of Corporate Resources During an Election Policy

- At the February 22nd meeting, Council approved a Use of Corporate Resources During an Election Policy. This policy is required under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and establishes guidelines on the appropriate use of corporate resources. As per the policy, no corporate resources are to be used by candidates for election purposes.

Huron-Kinloss Whitechurch Water Agreement

- Council adopted a renewal agreement between the Township of North Huron and the Township of Huron-Kinloss for connections to the Whitechurch water supply system. The agreement was originally adopted in 2001 and deals with costs and operational matters for the provision of water services in Whitechurch.

Appointment of Chief Building Official/By-law Enforcement Officer

- Council approved the hiring of Nancy Small as the Township of North Huron’s Chief Building Official/By-law Enforcement Officer effective March 21, 2022. Ms. Small joins North Huron as a certified Chief Building Official with thirty (30) years of experience in the construction industry, twenty (20) of which she has worked in the capacity as a Municipal Building Official.

Creation of Economic Development Officer Position

- At the February 22nd meeting, Council approved a job description for a full-time Economic Development Officer and directed the Chief Administrative Officer to commence the hiring process for the position. The primary purpose of the position will be to attract new businesses and industries to North Huron and to work with property owners, developers and builders to create attractive business locations in North Huron.

Hutton Heights Surplus Land Declaration

- Council declared approximately 20 acres of municipally-owned lands in Hutton Heights as surplus to the needs of the Township and directed staff to proceed with the disposition of the lands for residential development purposes. Interested parties will be invited to submit “expressions of interest”, detailing the type of housing that would be constructed on the severed lands.

Return to In-Person Meetings

- Council directed for all Council, Committee, and Board meetings to return to an in-person format as of March 1, 2022. Council meetings will be held in the North Huron Town Hall Theatre.

February 24, 2022 Special Council Meeting

- Council held a Special Meeting of Council to discuss revisions to the North Huron Official Plan (OP). The purpose of the meeting was to provide the public with information on the review of the North Huron Official Plan; receive community feedback on possible revisions to the OP; and discuss relevant trends influencing development, growth and resource protection which may be addressed through the OP.

Additional North Huron Council information, meeting minutes and agendas can be found on the [Township of North Huron website](#).

Next Regular Council Meetings to be held in March:

Monday, March 7th at 6:00PM in the North Huron Town Hall Theatre

Monday, March 21st at 6:00PM in the North Huron Town Hall Theatre