

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – MARCH 20, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.  
CLOSED SESSION AT 6:30 P.M.**

**MUNICIPAL OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KENILWORTH  
HYBRID MEETING - IN PERSON AND VIA WEB CONFERENCING**

Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XL4ThV4shg>

Part 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rvhy9EFmSZY>

**Members Present:**

**Mayor: Andrew Lennox  
Councillors: Sherry Burke  
Lisa Hern  
Steve McCabe  
Penny Renken**

**Staff Present:**

**Chief Administrative Officer: Brooke Lambert  
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk: Karren Wallace  
Deputy Clerk: Catherine Conrad  
Human Resources Manager: Amy Tollefson  
Director of Finance: Farhad Hossain  
Deputy Treasurer: Mary Jo Marshall  
Chief Building Official: Darren Jones  
Economic Development Officer: Dale Small  
Director of Operations: Matthew Aston  
Manager of Transportation Services: Dale Clark  
Manager of Environment and Development Services: Corey Schmidt  
Recreation Services Manager: Tom Bowden  
Deputy Fire Chief: Marco Guidotti  
Manager of Development Planning: Curtis Marshall**

**CALLING TO ORDER**

Mayor Lennox called the meeting to order.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

RESOLUTION: 2023-097

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Agenda for the March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted and passed.

CARRIED

**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

No pecuniary interest was disclosed.

**CLOSED MEETING SESSION**

The meeting is closed pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, specifically:

(3.1) A meeting of a council or local board or of a committee of either of them may be closed to the public if the following conditions are both satisfied:

1. The meeting is held for the purpose of educating or training the members.
2. At the meeting, no member discusses or otherwise deals with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the council, local board or committee.

RESOLUTION: 2023-098

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North go into a meeting at 6:31 p.m. that is closed to the public under subsection 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, specifically:

(3.1) A meeting of a council or local board or of a committee of either of them may be closed to the public if the following conditions are both satisfied:

1. The meeting is held for the purpose of educating or training the members.
2. At the meeting, no member discusses or otherwise deals with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the council, local board or committee.

CARRIED

#### 1. REPORTS

- a. Presentation: Council and Building Departments
  - Darren Jones, Chief Building Official

#### 2. REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

- February 21, 2023
- March 6, 2023

#### 3. RISE AND REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETING

RESOLUTION: 2023-099

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North rise from a closed meeting session at 6:52 p.m.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-100

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the presentation Council and Building Departments.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-101

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North approve the Closed Meeting Minutes of the February 21, 2023 and March 6, 2023 Council Meetings.

CARRIED

**COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE**

Steve O'Neill, Ward 4 County Councillor

At the roads committee meeting last week there was a presentation on automated speed enforcement. A number of municipalities are using this to try to change driver behaviour with speeding. Cameras can only be used in designated community safety zones in a school zones. The County have nine community safety zones with one in Wellington North on Sligo Road in front of the high school. Speeding on our roads generates a large number of complaints. Residents can go to wellington.ca and use the speed concern form, which alerts County staff and the OPP about speeding issues on the County roads.

Leaf and yard waste clean up begins next month. Residents are encouraged to download the recycle coach app on their phone or tablet. The app reminds you when your solid waste pick up dates are and can also send you a notice when pick ups are delayed. In the last couple weeks, there were delays in Erin, Guelph Eramosa and Puslinch. The app alerted users that pick up would occur on the Saturday.

Guelph-Wellington paramedic services has seen an increase of 8% in the number of calls in 2022 from 2021. They had over 30,000 calls. The major problem is off load delays at the hospital, mostly the Guelph hospital. In 2022 paramedics spent over 11,000 hours waiting in the hospital with patients until the staff could take over the patient's care. Funding has been received to hire an off-loading nurse at Guelph General to help relieve that backlog. They have had trouble staffing that position.

**RECESS TO MOVE INTO PUBLIC MEETING**

RESOLUTION: 2023-102

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North recess the March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council at 7:07 p.m. for the purpose of holding a Public Meeting under the Planning Act:

- Marian Reynolds, Minor Variance

CARRIED

**RESUME REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

RESOLUTION: 2023-103

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North resume the March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council at 7:15 p.m.

CARRIED

**DEPUTATIONS**

1. Rosie Krul, Lindsay Smith, Sarah Corfield, Amy Timberlake, Caitlin Hall
  - Request for Rainbow Crosswalks

Ms. Krul represented the deputation and suggested that the new crosswalks proposed in Arthur and Mount Forest be granted additional funding in order to include a rainbow colour palette to indicate support and celebration of the LGBTQ+ community in Wellington North.

## PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Budget Presentation

- Farhad Hossain, Director of Finance/Treasurer

Farhad Hossain, Director of Finance/Treasurer, presented the third 2023 draft budget discussion and recapped discussions from the February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup> meetings. The revised base budget provides for the same level of service as the previous year, fewer capital projects and staffing investment of two full time employees. Council direction was requested to select revised option 1 or revised option 2, items required for addition or omission from the current 2023 capital program asks, the comfort level with utilization of reserves/reserve funds to reduce contributions to the capital program from the levy, and other direction from Council.

A 10-minute recess was taken between 9:15 p.m. to 9:25 p.m.

Staff were directed to set aside the new asks in a reserve in order to complete the carry forward projects subsequent to a further staff report on the status of the carry over projects.

Council discussed the budget options presented and directed that the capital roads projects, fleet (snowplow and backhoe), Mount Forest Fire Station design, Roads needs study/Transportation Master Plan and staffing (two FTE) investment be left in the budget. The paving of Concession 4 north will not be added to the budget. Council agreed to revised option 1 of the draft 2023 tax implication that included the base case plus two full time employees.

Council discussed the new Mount Forest Pool design, fundraising limits, grants, portion to come from the tax levy versus a special levy, and use of reserves.

#### RESOLUTION: 2023-104

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the tax payer contribution towards the \$5.3 million Mount Forest pool will be \$2.8 million;

AND FURTHER THAT the fundraising target will be \$2.5 million.

CARRIED

#### RESOLUTION: 2023-105

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT Council direct staff to begin collecting property taxes in the amount of \$350,000 commencing in 2023 to contribute towards the Mount Forest Pool project.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-106

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Hern

That the \$350,000 contribution towards the Mount Forest Pool project be raised through taxation from the general levy.

CARRIED

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND PUBLIC MEETING**

1. Special Meeting of Council, March 6, 2023
2. Regular Meeting of Council, March 6, 2023
3. Public Meeting, March 6, 2023

RESOLUTION: 2023-107

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council, Regular Meeting of Council and Public Meeting held on March 6, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF COUNCIL**

No business arising from previous meetings of council.

#### **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION**

2b, 2c, 4a, 7a

#### **ADOPTION OF ALL ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION**

RESOLUTION: 2023-108

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT all items listed under Items For Consideration on the March 20, 2023 Council agenda, with the exception of those items identified for separate discussion, be approved and the recommendations therein be adopted:

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Arthur Chamber of Commerce Directors Meeting held on March 8, 2023.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Mount Forest District Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting held on February 13, 2023.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive for information Report DC 2023-011 regarding the Final Approval of the 2831468 Ontario Ltd. Site Plan Agreement.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CBO 2023-04 being the Building Permit Review for the period ending February 28, 2023.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Community Resource Centre, Community Development Fund 2022 Funding Report dated March 8, 2023.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Vendor Cheque Register Report dated March 9, 2022.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the correspondence from Frank Vanderloo, P.Eng., B. M. Ross and Associates Limited, dated March 15, 2023 regarding Jack's Way Subdivision, Draft Plan 23T-18004, Preliminary Acceptance for Stage 1 & Stage 2

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North grant 5053745 Ontario Inc., for its Jack's Way subdivision in the community of Mount Forest (Draft Plan 23T-18004), Preliminary Acceptance for Stage 1 and for Stage 2.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report OPS 2023-012 being a report on growth within the community of Arthur; AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to implement a similar policy and allocation method for drinking water as the one that is currently in place for sewage allocation.

WHEREAS, 24 million Canadians give their time through formal or informal types of volunteering, contributing close to 5 billion volunteer hours per year; and

WHEREAS, volunteers in the Township of Wellington North mentor our children, support those feeling isolated, beautify our green spaces, and fundraise for our charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, volunteers in the Township of Wellington North continually step up to support families, friends, neighbors, and strangers, and for people standing up to systemic racism, and people sharing insights on how to create a more just and equitable society; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Wellington North's volunteers are individuals, families, workers, retirees, community members of all ages and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the collective result of the work done by our communities volunteers is that the Township of Wellington North is a more desirable place to live; and

WHEREAS, organizations in the Township of Wellington North that rely on volunteers include such fundamental organizations as the Louise Marshall Hospital, Cancer Patient Services, MF Community Pantry, Arthur Foodbank, Lynes Blacksmith Shop, MF Fireworks Festival, our Agricultural Societies, Historical Societies, Horticultural Societies, Lions Clubs, Optimist Clubs, and many more, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Lennox, Mayor of the Township of Wellington North do hereby proclaim April 16th – 22nd 2023, as National Volunteer Week, and urge my fellow citizens to recognize the crucial role played by volunteers in our community.

WHEREAS the homeless crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and,

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Wellington North calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- b. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- c. Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the media release, dated February 15th, 2023, regarding volunteers and newcomers celebration on Thursday, April 20th at the Arthur & Area Community Centre.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the email from Karren Waschinski, dated February 25, 2023, regarding budget and pool.

CARRIED

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION**

RESOLUTION: 2023-109

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive for information Report DC 2023-011 regarding the Final Approval of the All Treat Farms Limited Site Plan Agreement.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-110

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Planning Report prepared by Curtis Marshall, Manager of Development Planning, dated March 9, 2023, regarding Proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision – 23T-20203, Cork Street, Mount Forest, Recommendation Report – John Welton Custom Homebuilding Ltd.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-111

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North be extended past the four (4) hours curfew as set out in Section 23.1 of By-law Number 111-21 being the Procedure By-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings of Council and its Committees.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-112

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North support the proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision and related conditions of draft plan approval for 23T-20203, Cork Street, Mount Forest (John Welton Custom Homebuilding Ltd.).

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-113

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report EDO 2023-008 being a report on the Business Retention & Expansion Program.

AND FURTHER THAT Council, supports the programs outlined below along with the recommended utilization of funding from the 2023 BR+E Implementation fund.

Mount Forest & Area Health Professional Recruitment up to \$10,000.00

Mayors Roundtable up to \$ 5,000.00

Lynes Blacksmith Shop Restoration Project \$10,000.00

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2023-114

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2023-011 winter burials Mount Forest Cemetery;

AND FURTHER THAT Council not approve winter burials in the Mount Forest cemetery.

CARRIED

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

No notice of motion tabled.

## **COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING PROGRAM REPORT**

Councillor Renken (Ward 1):

- Cultural Round Table will have a table at the volunteer and newcomer welcome event in April.



- Cultural Round Table will attend a joint meeting with Minto and Hanover in May.
- Cultural Round Table will have an ad in Community News section of the Wellington Advertiser once a month for culture, arts and heritage.

Councillor McCabe (Ward 4):

- Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority meeting last week.
- Attended his second ROMA meeting last week. More information coming from ROMA in the next little while

## BY-LAWS

- By-law Number 021-31 being a by-law to amend By-law 66-01, being a Zoning By-law for the Township of Wellington North. (John Welton Custom Homebuilding Ltd., Sunvale Homes – Cork St.)

RESOLUTION: 2023-115

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT By-law Number 021-23 be read a First, Second and Third time and enacted.

CARRIED

## CULTURAL MOMENT

- Celebrating Helen Reynolds

On her shoulders is an exhibit on display at the Mount Forest Museum & Archives that showcases some of the unique women in the history of Mount Forest. Today's cultural moment celebrates Helen Reynolds ; 1860 - 1947.

Helen Reynolds was born in Mount Forest in 1860. Her father John was an Irish farmer and carpenter, and her mother Margaret came from Quebec. On the family farm and throughout her early schooling at Mount Forest High School and the Mount Forest Model School, Helen demonstrated a passion for Natural Sciences. Even with the intellectual and emotional drive to pursue medicine, Helen's choice to do so was both brave and remarkable for the time.

Although Queen's University (Kingston) accepted six women to Medical School in 1881, including Helen Reynolds, they were met with considerable hostility. By 1882 the faculty had created an impossible situation for the female students. Being separated for anatomy dissection was somewhat acceptable but not when the women were constantly insulted and excluded from "all obstetrical lectures to avoid their own embarrassment." The Professors lodged a formal complaint to the University that, "women restricted academic freedom" because lectures had to be "garbled to suit their refined sensibilities." The College caved, and all female students were expelled in 1883. The Queen's Faculty of Medicine would not reinstate female medical students until 1943. Fortunately for Helen Reynolds, a sympathetic group in Kingston took them in after founding the Women's Medical College. Helen graduated in 1885 with the highest marks of all women... and men.

Helen opened up her first practice in Toronto. It was a hard living, especially at night when Helen carried a length of chain for self-defense. Dr. Reynolds also had to open

a boarding house to supplement her earnings. When she contracted pneumonia in 1889, Helen came home to Mount Forest to convalesce and joined the office of her younger brother, Dr. Albert Reynolds, on Main Street. She specialized in the diseases of women and children as men would seldom trust her knowledge. After marrying Thomas Ryan in 1890, the couple moved to Sudbury where Helen opened a practice in her home – reaching patients by canoe, rail handcar and on foot. It was a life filled with remote surgeries, accidents and smallpox epidemics as well as raising five children. When they retired to Victoria, B.C. in 1907, Helen could not practice medicine in that province as a woman, but she unofficially continued to care for the poor and immigrant neighborhoods for many more years.

Submitted by all the volunteers at the Mount Forest Museum & Archives who mounted the exhibit “On Her Shoulders: Unique Women in the History of Mount Forest.

**CONFIRMING BY-LAW**

RESOLUTION: 2023-116

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT By-law Number 022-23 being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North at its Regular Meeting held on March 20, 2023 be read a First, Second and Third time and enacted.

CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT**

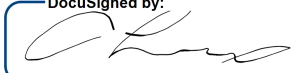
RESOLUTION: 2023-117

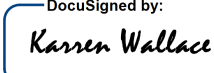
Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Regular Council meeting of March 20, 2023 be adjourned at 11:13 p.m.

CARRIED

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**MAYOR**

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**CLERK**