

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – APRIL 22, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M.
CLOSED SESSION PRIOR TO OPEN SESSION AT 6:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KENILWORTH
HYBRID MEETING - IN PERSON AND VIA WEB CONFERENCING
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvGjvorPkQM>**

Members Present: Mayor: Andrew Lennox (via Zoom)
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
Executive Assistant to CAO: Tasha Grafos
Director of Finance: Jeremiah Idialu
Human Resources Manager: Amy Tollefson
Chief Building Official: Darren Jones
Senior Project Manager: Tammy Stevenson
Manager Environment & Development Services: Corey Schmidt
Manager Community & Economic Development: Mandy Jones
Community Development Coordinator: Mike Wilson
Recreation Service Manager: Tom Bowden
Director of Fire Services: Chris Harrow
Emergency Manager/CEMC: Hurania Melgar

CALLING TO ORDER

Mayor Lennox called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

RESOLUTION: 2024-123

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Agenda for the April 22, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted and passed.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Burke declared an indirect pecuniary interest with the following:

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

6. INFRASTRUCTURE

- a. Report INF 2024-008, 2024 Sewage Allocation

for the following reason:

Her employer prepared some of the documentation for those developments.

CLOSED MEETING SESSION

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

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

RESOLUTION: 2024-124

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North go into a meeting at 6:32 p.m. that is closed to the public under subsection 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, specifically:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

CARRIED

1. REPORTS

- Report C&ED 2024-018 Arthur Business Improvement Association
- Report CLK 2024-010 Animal Control By-law Prosecution

2. REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

- April 8, 2024

3. RISE AND REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETING SESSION

RESOLUTION: 2024-125

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North rise from a closed meeting session at 7:16 p.m.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-126

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report C&ED 2024-018 Arthur Business Improvement Association;

AND THAT Council approve the confidential direction to staff.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-127

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2024-010 Animal Control By-law Prosecution;

AND THAT Council approve the confidential direction to staff.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-128

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North approve the Closed Meeting Minutes of the April 8, 2024 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

O'CANADA

COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE

Campbell Cork, Ward 3 County Councillor

Public Transportation is a critical deficiency in Wellington County, and most rural municipalities. The County has had some success in addressing the issue. The Ride Well ride share service started in March 2019 with access throughout the County five days a week. The latest monthly figures show that ridership is growing with 775 rides provided across the County in March. The GOST fixed route service is another transit service that began at the same time going between Owen Sound and Guelph with stops at locations in between twice a day. Wellington County is not involved with GOST. Both projects are pilot projects funded by the province. Provincial funding is set to run out in 2025. The County is faced with the difficult decision regarding continuing the service after the funding runs out, and if they do continue what should the service look like and how much is it going to cost. One of the biggest complaints with Ride Well is the lack of service after 7:00 p.m. and on weekends. Communication is an issue as a lot of people do not know about the service. The County has decisions to make regarding subsidizing through taxes, making changes to the service to make it more financially viable, increasing hours of operation, and the public paying higher fares. There will be a meeting in Fergus on May 16th to discuss what direction they will take with public transportation, and what kind of transportation is most suitable for our rural area. The province recently announced \$5 million in transit funding for underserved areas, particularly rural areas. However, that funding is for the whole province. The County continues to lobby for sustainable funding. Decisions should be made in June.

Mayor Lennox commented that he met with the Ministry of Transportation at the OGRA Conference regarding transit funding. It was indicated that the recent budget announcement included some permanent funding for this type of transit; however, he is not sure if Wellington County is eligible or what the details are.

QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No registration of questions on agenda items.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND PUBLIC MEETING

1. Regular Meeting of Council, April 8, 2024
2. Public Meeting, April 8, 2024

RESOLUTION: 2024-129

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council and the Public Meeting held on April 8, 2024 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

3a, 3b, 3c, 4b, 5a, 6a, 7a, 8a, 8b, 8d

ADOPTION OF ALL ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

RESOLUTION: 2024-130

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT all items listed under Items For Consideration on the April 22, 2024 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 Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee meeting held on April 2, 2024.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Mount Forest Business Improvement Association meeting held on April 9, 2024.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CBO 2024-005 being the Building Permit Review for the month of March 2024.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Vendor Cheque Register Report dated April 15, 2024.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Emergency Management Ontario memorandum dated April 9, 2024 regarding Ontario's Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan: 2023 Annual Report.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Emergency Management Ontario correspondence dated April 15, 2024 regarding Township of Wellington North compliance with Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) requirements in 2023.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Upper Grand District School Board correspondence dated April 11, 2024 regarding 2023-24 Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) Comprehensive Report.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the County of Wellington, Notice of Study Completion Schedule "C" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study, Wellington Road 109 Bridges from Highway 6 to Sideroad 7, Township of Wellington North, issued April 4, 2024

CARRIED

CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION

RESOLUTION: 2024-131

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report C&ED 2024-016 being a report on the Grants and Donations Community Development Program;

AND THAT Council, in recognition of the important role that not-for-profit organizations and community groups play in our municipality, approves the recommendation to advance \$61,635.82 in grants to the following organizations:

GROUP	RECOMMENDED
Arthur Agricultural Society	\$ 500.00
Arthur By the Fire	\$ 1,000.00
Arthur Chamber of Commerce	\$ 3,700.00
Arthur and District Horticultural Society	\$ 600.00
Arthur Lions Club (fee waiver)	\$ 685.00
Arthur Optimist Club	\$ 2,500.00
Arthur Opti-Mrs. Club	\$ 500.00
Arthur St Andrew's Presbyterian Church	\$ 750.00
Arthur SU Sports Camp (fee waiver)	\$ 663.70
Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Wellington (fee waiver)	\$ 740.00
<u>Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Wellington</u>	\$ 1,000.00
Christmastime in Arthur (fee waiver)	\$ 500.00
Community Resource Centre of North and Centre Wellington	\$ 3,825.00
Friends of Bill Walker "Git Yer Hillbilly On" Ribfest (fee waiver)	\$ 385.00
Hayden's Hope Foundation (fee waiver)	\$ 1,689.12
Hospice Wellington – Walking Group (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Hospice Wellington – Coffee and Caregivers Program (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest Senior Group - Kay Ayres	\$ 500.00
Mount Forest Chamber of Commerce	\$ 2,500.00
Mount Forest Community Garden	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest & District Arts Council	\$ 350.00
Mount Forest Family Health Team – Gentle Movement Program (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest Fireworks Festival	\$ 2,500.00
Mount Forest Horticultural Society	\$ 1,500.00
Mount Forest Leos Club (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest Lions Club (\$1,155 fee waiver, \$500 donation)	\$ 1,655.00
Mount Forest Louise Marshall Hospital Auxiliary (fee waiver)	\$ 945.00
Mount Forest Louise Marshall Hospital Foundation – (fee waiver)	\$ 3,038.00
North Wellington Health Care Recruitment	\$10,000.00
Seniors' Centre for Excellence	\$10,000.00

The Raw Carrot Gourmet Soup Enterprise	\$ 500.00
VON Smart Program - Arthur (fee waiver)	\$ 1,560.00
Wellington Heights Secondary School – Warm Winter Wishes	\$ 650.00
Wellington Heights Secondary School – Scholarships	\$ 900.00
York Soaring Association	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL REQUESTS/GRANTS - \$15,360.82 (fee waivers) - \$46,275.00 (donations)	\$61,635.82

AND FURTHER THAT Council, provide direction to staff regarding the six applications outlined below, that require council review and decision;

GROUP	REQUEST	RECOMMENDED
Arthur Minor Hockey Association	\$ 1,494.00	
Arthur Public School Parent Council	\$10,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
Arthur – St. John’s Catholic School	\$ 9,000.00	\$12,500.00
Green Wave Soccer Mount Forest	\$ 6,764.00	
Mount Forest Air Cadets	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Wellington North-Wide Yard Sale	\$ 1,370.00	\$ 1,370.00
	\$36,128.00	\$22,370.00

MOTION TO AMEND

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Burke

That Council not provide funding in the form of a fee waiver for the Wellington North-Wide Yard Sale as suggested by staff.

CARRIED

GROUP	REQUEST	RECOMMENDED	APPROVED
Arthur Minor Hockey Association	\$ 1,494.00		
Arthur Public School Parent Council	\$10,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
Arthur – St. John’s Catholic School	\$ 9,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
Green Wave Soccer Mount Forest	\$ 6,764.00		
Mount Forest Air Cadets	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Wellington North-Wide Yard Sale	\$ 1,370.00	\$ 1,370.00	
	\$36,128.00	\$22,370.00	\$21,000.00

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to review the delivery of the Grants and Donations Community Development Program for 2025.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-132

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive for information Report C&ED 2024-017 on Recreation Programs Update.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-133

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report C&ED 2024-019 on the 25th Anniversary of Amalgamation Celebrations;

AND THAT Council, in recognition of the 25th anniversary of amalgamation, approves the recommendation on activities and budget as outlined below:

Item/Event	Cost	Budget Allocation
BBQ Lunch and Open House	\$4,500	Council Directed Initiatives
Time Capsule	\$500	Council Directed Initiatives
Event Presence	\$500	C&ED/Admin Operating Budget - Marketing
Celebratory Swag and Giveaways	\$5,000	HR/Admin Operating Budget
Total	\$10,500	

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-134

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report TR 2024-004 being a report on the Township's asset retirement obligation policy.

AND THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North adopt the asset retirement obligation policy.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-135

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report FIRE 2024-001 for information and adopt the 2024 workplan as outlined;

1. Community Risk Assessment Completion and Submission
2. Master Fire Plan Data Collection and Framework
3. Mount Forest Fire Station Review
4. Recruitment and Retention

AND THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North appoint Mayor Lennox to be the Wellington North Council representative on the Fire Service Partnership Committee.

CARRIED

Councillor Burke left the meeting as she had declared a pecuniary interest with this item.

RESOLUTION: 2024-136

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report INF 2024-008 2024 Sewage Allocation;

AND THAT Council review and adopt the 2024 Reserve Capacity Calculations for Arthur and Mount Forest as prepared by Triton Engineering Services Limited dated April 8, 2024;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to work towards entering a sewage allocation agreement with the following developers in Wellington North:

- Marlanna Homes – Newfoundland Subdivision – 18 Units;
- John Welton Custom Homebuilding Ltd. – Sunvale Homes Subdivision (NW Corner of Cork and Martin Streets) – 41 Units; and
- Wilson Developments Inc. – 440 Wellington Street East – 28 Units.

AND FURTHER THAT Council award the necessary units to allow the Building Department to have twenty (20) units of sewage allocation for each urban centre, Arthur and Mount Forest, for distribution during 2024 for infill lots;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign any by-laws to enter into the any necessary agreements;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to submit a copy of this resolution, copies of the reports prepared by Triton Engineering Services Limited, and the resolution from this report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks.

CARRIED

Councillor Burke returned to the meeting.

RESOLUTION: 2024-137

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CAO 2024-005 Emergency Management Programme Committee (EMPC) Structure Update for information;

AND THAT Council revise the Emergency Management Programme Committee for the Township of Wellington North to include:

- Mayor
- CAO
- Clerk
- Township Fire Department (Fire Chief)
- Wellington North Power (Chief Executive Officer)
- Wellington County OPP (Inspector or Staff Sergeants, Sergeants)
- Guelph Wellington EMS (Chief, Acting Chief, Supervisors)

- Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health (Public Health Managers, Health and Safety Coordinator/Inspectors)
- Wellington County Emergency Management (CEMC)

And FURTHER THAT any other persons or agency representatives that may be appointed by Council from time to time;

And FURTHER THAT Council designates authority to the Committee to appoint the CAO as Chair on behalf of the members;

AND FURTHER THAT the Committee is responsible for overseeing the development of the Township's Emergency Management Programme ensuring that appropriate public education activities, training for emergency management officials and staff, and emergency management exercises are undertaken on an annual basis;

AND FURTHER THAT the CEMC shall provide Council with an annual report on the status of the Township of Wellington North's Emergency Management Programme for their review, consideration, and approval.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-138

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the County of Wellington Planning Committee Report dated March 14, 2024 regarding 2023 Residential Development Monitoring.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-139

Moved: Councillor Hern

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the County of Wellington Planning Committee Report dated April 11, 2024 regarding County Official Plan Review - Housing Focused: A Housing Policy Review in Wellington County.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2024-140

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive correspondence from Barclay Nap, President, Wellington Federation of Agriculture regarding the importance of Minimum Distance Separation requirements.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION

No notice of motion tabled.

COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING PROGRAM REPORT

Mayor Lennox

- Volunteer Appreciation and Newcomer event held on April 18 was very successful

CULTURAL MOMENT

- Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Amalgamation

This year, 2024, marks the 25th anniversary of the amalgamation that resulted in the creation of the Township of Wellington North.

Events are currently being planned for later in the year to celebrate this milestone.

“Stronger Together Since 1999” is the 25th anniversary slogan.

The Township of Wellington North, to quote the municipal website, “was created in 1999 from the Town of Mount Forest, the Village of Arthur, the Townships of West Luther and Arthur, as well some of the outlying areas in the Townships of Peel and West Garafraxa. Stretching over 526 square kilometres, it is now home to over 12,500 people. Wellington North is expected to grow to approximately 20,500 people by 2051 (an increase of more than 64 per cent).”

An amalgamation means one governing body and one budget instead of many smaller ones. It means a stronger voice and a more powerful financial position. It means a diversity of backgrounds and skills and knowledge with which we can go “Semper Porro” – Latin for “Always Forward” – which is our municipal motto.

Wellington North’s strengths include our strong agricultural base. We can enjoy food straight from the source in many cases. We are close enough to the services we need but far away enough to escape the noise and light pollution. We can choose to live within walking distance of conveniences or in a place where we can walk for hours without meeting anyone.

This year, join together to celebrate our home.

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable

CONFIRMING BY-LAW

RESOLUTION: 2024-141

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT By-law Number 033-2024 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 April 22, 2024 be read and passed.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

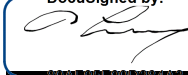
RESOLUTION: 2024-142

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Regular Council meeting of April 22, 2024 be adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

CARRIED

DocuSigned by:

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MAYOR

DocuSigned by:
Karren Wallace
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CLERK