Town of Lincoln

Committee of the Whole Minutes

Date: May 11, 2022
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Council Chambers/Hybrid Meeting

Members Present: Mayor Easton, Councillor Brunet, Councillor MacPherson, Councillor Mikolic, Councillor Pachereva, Councillor Reimer, Councillor Rintjema, Councillor Russell, Councillor Timmers

Staff Present: CAO Mike Kirkopoulos, L. Wagner, J. Kirkelos, T. Trewolla, M. Bruder, P. Di Ianni, B. Bazylewski, D. Graham, G. Harris, W. Neubauer, S. McKay, G. Hudson, D. Kripp, D. Phillips, IT Support

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Pachereva, Chair of the Community Services and Infrastructure, called to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of Council were in attendance.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Members confirmed the order of the agenda.

5. STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETINGS

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councillor MacPherson requested that item 6.3, Finance Customer Service Update, FN-04-22, be lifted for discussion and voted on separately. The item was moved to the General Business and Finance Committee Agenda.

Members concluded with the following motion:

6.1 Motion NO. CSI-2022-23

Moved by Councillor Rintjema

That all items listed under the heading of Consent Agenda for Wednesday, May 11, 2022, be adopted as recommended:

- Active Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes of March 24, 2022
- Age-Friendly Advisory Committee Minutes of April 7, 2022

CARRIED

7. COMMUNITY SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Councillor Pachereva, Chair of the Community Services and Infrastructure Committee, continued as Chair for this portion of the meeting.

7.1 DELEGATIONS

None.

7.2 REPORTS

7.2.1 Prudhommes Watermain Upgrades Project Update, PW-09-22

The Manager of Capital Projects provided introductory remarks, noting the importance of the Prudhommes Watermain Upgrades Project in supporting the growth of the community and added that they are near ready to begin construction upon Council's direction on next steps. Additionally, the Manager of Capital Projects commented on the higher than anticipated costs associated with the project, adding there are several factors that have contributed to this.

Members discussed the cost increase, the use and allocation of development charges to cover costs, agreements with developers and up-front financing, the cost inconsistencies between the Jordan Road and Victoria Avenue upgrades, potential impact on water rates, timing of construction, the current construction firm, geotechnical analysis, and exploring alternate forms of funding.

Members commented on the origin of the increased fees, with the Director of Public Works commenting on the numerous aging watermains that need upgrading, unrelated to population growth, and noting the increased market values that have driven up costs.

Members inquired regarding receiving an estimate of costs of projects related to the development with allocation of development charges, with the CAO confirming that staff will provide this.

Members concluded discussion with the following motion:

Motion NO. CSI-2022-24

Moved by Councillor Brunet

That Council direct staff to review the current financing strategy presented in Report PW-09-22 and evaluate front-end funding and financing options regarding costs associated to the watermain at the Prudhommes site by engaging with the associated developers, FBH and LJM; and

That staff report back to a future Committee of the Whole meeting in June 2022.

CARRIED

7.2.2 Water and Stormwater Database and GIS Enhancement Project Award, PW-10-22

Members commented on allocation of the budget balance, with the Director of Finance and Administration noting that any excess or surplus funds remain in the appropriate reserve. Members further discussed geographic information systems and Lincoln's progress compared to other, larger municipalities.

Motion NO. CSI-2022-25

Moved by Councillor Reimer

Receive and file Report PW-10-22 Water and Stormwater Database and GIS Enhancement Project Award; and

That Council approve GM BluePlan Engineering Limited to be retained to provide engineering services in the amount of $130,642.00 to complete the Water and Stormwater Database and GIS Enhancement project; and

That Council approve the Mayor and Clerk to sign and seal contract documents on behalf of the municipality.

CARRIED

7.2.3 Lincoln Avenue Road Reconstruction Detailed Design Award, PW-11-22

Members inquired regarding the Town's current design standards and impact on Active Transportation. The Manager of Capital Projects commented that the updated design standards include added streetscaping and a potential multi-use trail, along with traffic calming measures in response to community concerns.

Motion NO. CSI-2022-26

Moved by Councillor Russell

Receive and file Report PW11-22, Lincoln Avenue Road Reconstruction – Detailed Design Award for information; and

That Council approve CIMA Canada Inc. to be retained to provide engineering services for $312,210 to complete the detailed design for the Lincoln Avenue Road Reconstruction project; and

That Council approve the Mayor and Clerk to sign and seal contract documents on behalf of the municipality.

CARRIED

8. PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Councillor Brunet, Chair of the Planning and Economic Development Committee, assumed the Chair for this portion of the meeting.

8.1 DELEGATIONS

None.

8.2 REPORTS

8.2.1 2022 Niagara Benchlands Destination Development Grant Policy, AD-10-22

Members sought clarification on the origin of the funds for the grant, with the Director of Economic Development and Communications

and Tourism Coordinator commenting that funds are drawn from the Tourism Operating Budget.

Motion NO. PED-2022-45

Moved by Councillor Timmers

Receive and file for information Report AD-10-22, regarding the Niagara Benchlands Destination Development Grant Policy; and

Approve the Niagara Benchlands Destination Development Grant Policy, as outlined in this report.

CARRIED

8.2.2 Ontario Street Visioning and Master Planning Project Update, PD-30-22

Members discussed transitions and impact on adjacent properties, similar projects in other municipalities, and streetscaping. Members further commented on public engagement, traffic flow, and the potential of widening Ontario Street, with the Director of Planning and Development commenting that staff are working with the Region to determine what can be accommodated, and further noting that next steps include moving forward with formation of policy recommendations, corridor visuals and developing concepts, followed by public consultation.

Motion NO. PED-2022-46

Moved by Councillor Russell

Receive Report PD-30-22 that provides an update regarding the Ontario Street Visioning and Streetscape Master Plan project, including input received to date.

CARRIED

9. GENERAL BUSINESS & FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Councillor Russell, Chair of the General Business and Finance Committee, assumed the Chair for this portion of the meeting.

9.1 DELEGATIONS

None.

9.2 REPORTS

9.2.1 West Lincoln Memorial Hospital Contribution Update, FN-05-22

Members sought clarification on Lincoln's projected population growth and new residents' contributions to the funding for the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital, with the Director of Finance, Administration, and Innovation, commenting that there will be a separate funding line on the property tax levy for all Lincoln residents and will be allocated over all residents proportionately. Members further inquired regarding interest rate increases and the potential impact, with the Director of Finance, Administration, and Innovation remarking that staff anticipate the rising of rates and do their best to mitigate by setting aside funds to reduce borrowing. Further, the Director clarified that staff would require direction during deliberation of the 2023 budget to incorporate a one-time increase for the hospital.

Motion NO. GBF-2022-09

Moved by Councillor Brunet

Receive and file for information, Report FN-05-22 regarding the update for the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital funding; and

Direct Town staff in the 2023 budget to create a special time limited Hospital Tax levy to fund the Town of Lincoln's financial contribution.

CARRIED

9.2.2 Finance Customer Service Update, FN-04-22

Councillor MacPherson commented on the Finance Department's customer service improvements with a reduction in response time, aided by the implementation of Zen desk, which tracks customer inquiries.

Motion NO. GBF-2022-10

Moved by Councillor MacPherson

Receive and file for information, Report FN-04-22 regarding the Finance Customer Service Update.

CARRIED

10. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

None.

11. COMMITTEE REMARKS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Russell declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

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CHAIR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE, J.D. PACHEREVA

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CHAIR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, T. BRUNET

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CHAIR FOR GENERAL BUSINESS & FINANCE, A. RUSSELL

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CLERK, D. KRIPP