



The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town of LaSalle Council

November 28, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, LaSalle Civic Centre, 5950 Malden Road

Members of Council Present:

Mayor Crystal Meloche, Deputy Mayor Michael Akpata, Councillor Terry Burns, Councillor Sue Desjarlais, Councillor Jeff Renaud, Councillor Anita Riccio-Spagnuolo

Members of Council Absent:

Councillor Mark Carrick

Administration Present:

J. Milicia, Chief Administrative Officer, P. Marra, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, J. Astrologo, Director of Council Services/Clerk, G. Beggs, Director of Planning and Development, D. Davies, Chief of Police, P. Funaro, Director of Culture & Recreation, D. Hadre, Director of Strategy and Engagement, D. Langlois, Director of Finance and Treasurer, J. Osborne, Director of Public Works, E. Thiessen, Director of Fire Service/Fire Chief, M. Beggs, Manager of Roads & Parks, D. Dadalt, Legal Counsel, N. DiGesù, Manager of IT, G. Ferraro, Manager of Finance & Deputy Treasurer, L. Jean, Deputy Clerk, K. Brcic, Manager of Planning & Development

A. Opening Business

1. Call to Order

Mayor Meloche called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor Meloche read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Moment of Silent Reflection and Playing of National Anthem

B. Adoption of Agenda

250/23

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

That the November 28, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried.

C. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

D. Adoption of Minutes

251/23

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Desjarlais

That the Minutes of the Closed and Regular Meetings of Council held November 14, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

E. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Meloche stated that the Town had its 3rd Annual Heritage Nights Tree Lighting ceremony last Friday. She expressed thanks to all staff for making LaSalle look beautiful from the lights at the Civic Centre, the Event Centre and on Laurier Drive. She also thanked staff for planning the Family Fridays, Sounds of the Season Saturdays and Sunday Holiday Night Markets at the Event Centre. The Lights will be on daily from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m.

Mayor Meloche reminded residents that tomorrow, the Town is hosting a Budget Open House at the Vollmer Recreation Centre from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. She also highlighted that this Saturday is breakfast with Santa and the Mayor.

Mayor Meloche announced that next Wednesday is our 2023 Budget Session. Comments from the public regarding the budget are encouraged and must be submitted in writing to the Clerk by noon this Friday, December 1st.

F. Public Meetings and/or Hearings

None.

G. Presentations and Delegations

None.

H. Staff Reports and Correspondence for Council's Action

1. Howard/Bouffard Master Drainage Study – Notice of Study Completion

P. Marra, Deputy CAO, presented the report.

Mark Hernandez reviewed his presentation for Council.

Dr. Tabib and Mr. Krutsch appeared jointly in support of the Master Drainage Study stating outstanding concerns regarding the scale of some of the features included in the preliminary plan. They requested that specific language be incorporated within the EA Report that allows appropriate refinement during detail design as they see opportunities for cost savings to all stakeholders.

Mr. DeMarco appeared before Council to express concern about the Master Drainage Study and the Howard Bouffard Secondary Plan. He expressed concern that the natural environment will be built over, never to be restored again.

252/23

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

That the report of the Deputy CAO dated November 10, 2023 (AD-2023-14) regarding the Howard/Bouffard Master Drainage Study be received;

And that Council approves in principle the summary findings of the master drainage study report and authorizes administration to issue the Notice of Study Completion.

Carried.

2. Howard Bouffard Secondary Plan: Emerging Preferred Plan

G. Beggs, Director of Planning and Development, presented the report.

Mr. Palmer of The Planning Partnership presented an overview of the Howard Bouffard Secondary Plan, the elements contained therein, and the process moving forward, which includes a public consultation component.

Mr. Kauffman of LGL Consulting reviewed the process undertaken by LGL to inform the natural heritage system protection policy recommendations, explaining the sources of data collected, the policies reviewed, and the natural heritage features examined. He explained that there will be a consultation phase with stakeholders before the recommendations are refined and finalized for consideration.

Ms. Derbyshire presented before Council to express concerns about the lack of ecological corridors in the Plan. She explained the benefits of ecological corridors and that designing natural spaces that connect with other natural spaces helps wildlife move from one space to another for food and reproduction without crossing through developed areas.

Ms. Mills supported the presentation of Ms. Derbyshire and also explained that the Secondary Plan design should include ecological corridors and that the community's natural heritage features should be preserved. She urged for the completion of an environmental impact assessment report and was concerned that the current plan would eliminate important natural heritage lands that should be protected and conserved.

253/23

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Desjarlais

That the report of the Director of Planning & Development dated November 10, 2023 (PD-41-2023) regarding the Emerging Preferred Plan for the Howard Bouffard Planning Districts be received;

And that, Administration proceeds with the public consultation phase of the Secondary Plan Process.

Carried.

3. Appointment of Integrity Commissioner

J. Astrologo, Director of Council Services/Clerk, presented the report.

254/23

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

That the report of the Director of Council Services, dated November 7, 2023 (CS-2023-06) regarding the Appointment of an Integrity Commissioner be received;

And that, Davies Howe LLP be appointed as the Town's Integrity Commissioner effective January 1, 2024, for a three (3) year term, subject to the execution of an Agreement between the parties, which agreement shall be to the satisfaction of the Town's Legal Counsel;

And that, the Mayor and Director of Council Services be authorized to execute said Agreement.

Carried.

4. Committee Framework

J. Astrologo, Director of Council Services/Clerk, presented the report.

255/23

Moved by: Councillor Desjarlais

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

That the report of the Director of Council Services/Clerk dated July 14, 2023 (CS-2023-05) regarding the Committee Framework be received;

And that, the Committee Governance Policy be adopted, which policy shall replace the Committee Appointments Policy (G-GEN-002) and any other policy currently in force with respect to Town established committees;

And that, the Terms of Reference for the Accessibility Advisory Committee, Committee of Adjustment, Court of Revision, Parks, Recreation and Events Committee, Personnel Committee, Public Planning Meeting Committee, and the Water/Wastewater Committee be adopted and replace any Terms of Reference previously adopted by Council.

Carried.

I. Consent Agenda

1. Q3 2023 LaSalle Fire Service Report

2. Correspondence

a. Municipality of Wawa - Resolution of Support of Bill C-310

3. Summary of Reports to Council

256/23

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Burns

That the correspondence received from the Municipality of Wawa dated November 7, 2023, requesting support for Bill C-310, be supported.

Carried.

257/23

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

Seconded by: Councillor Desjarlais

That items 1 and 3 on the Consent Agenda for November 28 2023, be received.

Carried.

J. Committee Matters

1. Essex County Council Highlights - November 1, 2023

258/23

Moved by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

Seconded by: Councillor Burns

That the Essex County Council highlights for November 1, 2023, be received.

Carried.

K. Questions and Statements by Council Members

Deputy Mayor Akpata inquired about the purpose of the holes drilled into the floor of steps at the Vollmer and if it was for installing a railing. J. Osborne, Director of Public Works, responded that he does not believe there are any plans to install a railing, but he will confirm.

L. Notices of Motion

None.

M. Closed Session

None.

N. By-laws

259/23

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

That the following By-law be given a first, second, and third reading and finally passed:

8836 - A By-law to authorize the execution of a Developer's Subdivision Agreement with 1000048263 Ontario Limited.

Carried.

O. Confirmatory By-law

260/23

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Burns

That Confirmatory By-law 8837 be given a first, second, and third reading and finally passed.

Carried.

P. Schedule of Meetings

Budget Deliberations, December 6, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Budget Deliberations, December 7, 2023, 9:30 a.m. (scheduled if additional time is required)

Regular Council Meeting, December 12, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Police Services Board Public Meeting, December 18, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

Q. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair at 8:27 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk