



## **The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle**

### **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town of LaSalle Council**

December 10, 2024

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 Mark Carrick, Councillor Jeff Renaud, Councillor Anita Riccio-Spagnuolo

#### Members of Council Absent:

Councillor Sue Desjarlais

#### 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, P. Funaro, Director of Culture & Recreation, D. Hadre, Director of Strategy and Engagement, R. Hyra, Director of Human Resources, E. Thiessen, Director of Fire Service/Fire Chief, M. Cappucci, Manager of Engineering, D. Dadalt, Legal Counsel, N. DiGesù, Manager of IT, G. Ferraro, Manager of Finance & Deputy Treasurer, L. Jean, Deputy Clerk, M. Seguin, Deputy Fire Chief, M. Pearce, Chief of Police

#### **A. Opening Business**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Meloche called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

The Mayor read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Moment of Silent Reflection and Playing of National Anthem

#### **B. Adoption of Agenda**

283/24

Moved by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

Seconded by: Councillor Burns

That the December 10, 2024, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted as presented.

**Carried.**

**C. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

1. Deputy Mayor Akpata - Police Funding Resolution

He is bound by the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 through his employment and cannot be involved in any matter related to police budgets.

**D. Adoption of Minutes**

284/24

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Burns

That the Minutes of the Public Planning Meeting held on November 12, 2024, Closed Meeting of Council and Regular Meeting of Council held on November 26, 2024, be adopted as presented.

**Carried.**

**E. Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Meloche stated that this past weekend the Town hosted Breakfast with Santa and the Mayor. There were over 600 attendees who joined in on the holiday festivities. She expressed thanks to all staff who helped make the event successful.

Mayor Meloche highlighted that this weekend will be the last for Holiday Lights and Heritage Nights weekend programming which includes Family Fridays, Santa Saturdays, and Sunday Holiday Night Markets. All events are held from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. The lights will be on daily from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m. until January 4th. Full details are available on the Town's website.

Mayor Meloche advised that Municipal Offices will be closed from December 24th through January 1st and the Vollmer Centre will be closed from December 24th at noon until December 26th and closes early on December 31st at 3 p.m.

Mayor Meloche announced that this year's New Year's Eve Fireworks show will take place on December 31st at 7:30 p.m. More information can be found on the Town's new LaSalle Events webpage.

**F. Public Meetings and/or Hearings**

None.

**G. Presentations and Delegations**

1. Award to LaSalle Fire Services

Greg Grimes from the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary appeared before Council and presented an award and plaque to LaSalle Fire Service to honour and recognize a 35 year partnership.

Mr. Grimes also presented a 25 year certificate and trophy to Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit Leader and LaSalle Firefighter Randy Curtis acknowledging his dedication to supporting training and boating education goals.

**H. Staff Reports and Correspondence for Council's Action**

1. 2025 Insurance Renewal

T. Ferraro, Manager of Finance/Deputy Treasurer, presented the report.

285/24

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Councillor Carrick

That the report of the Director of Finance dated November 27, 2024 (FIN-34-2024) regarding the 2025 Insurance Renewal be received;

And that, Council authorizes the renewal of the annual insurance program with Intact Public Entities Inc. Company;

And that, Council authorizes the renewal of cyber insurance through CFC Underwriting Ltd.

**Carried.**

2. Regional IT Mutual Aid Agreement

N. DiGesù, Manager of Information Technology, presented the report.

286/24

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

That the report of the Manager of Information Technology dated December 10, 2024, FIN-31-2024 regarding "Regional IT Mutual Aid Agreement" be received;

And that, the Mayor and CAO be authorized to execute the Regional IT Mutual Aid Agreement.

**Carried.**

3. Vince Marcotte Bridge Improvements – Contract Award

M. Cappucci, Manager of Engineering, presented the report.

287/24

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

That the report of the Manager of Engineering dated November 21, 2024 (PW-39-2024) regarding the Vince Marcotte Bridge Improvements – Contract Award be received;

And that, Council awards the Contract to 2775738 Ontario Inc. for the bid price of \$288,984 plus HST.

**Carried.**

4. Fence By-law Repeal and Replace

D. Dadalt, Legal Counsel and E. O'Donnell, Paralegal, presented the report.

288/24

Moved by: Councillor Carrick

Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

That the report of the Paralegal dated November 22, 2024 (AD-2024-16) regarding updates made to the By-law to regular Fences, Swimming Pool

Enclosures, Hydro-Massage Pool and Outdoor Swimming Pool on Private Property within the Town of LaSalle (“Fence By-law”) be received;

And that, the Fence By-law be repealed and replaced during the By-law stage of the Agenda.

**Carried.**

5. Police Funding Resolution

Deputy Mayor Akpata declared a conflict on this item. (He is bound by the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 through his employment and cannot be involved in any matter related to police budgets.)

289/24

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Carrick

Whereas the Province recently proposed to provide over \$77 million in financial relief to municipalities that obtain policing services from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP);

And Whereas, this proposed financial relief is aimed at helping municipalities balance their budgets and offset the increased costs resulting from the collective bargaining agreement reached between the province and the OPP Association in July 2024;

And Whereas, notwithstanding the fact that the collective agreement negotiated between the province and the OPP Association directly impacts the negotiations between the Police Service Board and the local municipal police service association, the province has not proposed any similar financial commitment to municipalities that provide policing services through a municipal police service board;

And Whereas, municipalities that provide local policing have also experienced an increase to the cost of providing police services to their community;

And Whereas, these municipalities also face challenges balancing their budgets as they navigate the complexities of providing adequate and effective policing services within the Community Safety and Policing Act framework, while at the same time funding upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads, water/wastewater, municipally owned recreational facilities and other tangible capital assets;

Now Therefore It Is Resolved that the Town of LaSalle call on the Ontario Government to provide equitable funding to all police services;

And Further That, this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, MPP Leardi, all local MPPs in the area, and all municipalities with municipal police services.

**Carried.**

I. Consent Agenda

1. Correspondence

- a. The Corporation of the Town of Midland- Sustainable Funding for Small Urban Municipalities
- b. City of Cambridge- Homelessness, Mental Health, Safety and Addiction Crisis
- c. City of Toronto- Respecting Local Democracy and Cities
- d. The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay- Ambulance Shortages and Healthcare System Issues
- e. Township of Russell- Motion to request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding
- f. Township of Essa- Fair Share of Provincial and Federal Government Financial Support

290/24

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

That Council supports the Township of Essa's resolution regarding Fair Share of Provincial and Federal Government Financial Support;

And That, said support be circulated to the proper officials and entities.

**Carried.**

2. Summary of Reports to Council

291/24

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

That items 1(a) thru (e) and 2 on the Consent Agenda for December 10, 2024, be received.

**Carried.**

## **J. Committee Matters**

1. Essex County Council Highlights for November 20, 2024

292/24

Moved by: Councillor Burns

Seconded by: Councillor Carrick

That the Essex County Council Highlights for November 20, 2024 be received.

**Carried.**

2. Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting September 18, 2024

Councillor Riccio Spagnuolo highlighted that on September 18, 2024, National Best Selling Author and Founder of Accessible Solutions, Julie Sawchuk provided an informative and well-received presentation to the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

293/24

Moved by: Councillor Carrick

Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated September 18, 2024 be received.

**Carried.**

**K. Questions and Statements by Council Members**

294/24

Moved by: Councillor Carrick

Seconded by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

Whereas Section 259(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a member's office automatically becomes vacant if the member is absent from meetings of council for three successive months without being authorized to do so by resolution of council;

And Whereas Councillor Desjarlais has been unable to attend Council meetings for personal (health) reasons;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that Council formally grants Councillor Desjarlais a leave of absence and authorizes her absence from Council Meetings while she is dealing with her health matters;

And Further That, Councillor Desjarlais shall retain her seat on Council for the duration of this permitted absence.

**Carried.**

**L. Notices of Motion**

None.

**M. Closed Session**

None.

**N. By-laws**

295/24

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

Seconded by: Councillor Renaud

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

8940- A By-law to authorize the execution of an Agreement between Facca Incorporated and the Corporation of the Town of LaSalle for the Matchett Road Bridge Rehabilitation

8942- Being a By-law to adopt the Budget for year 2025

8943- A By-law to authorize the purchase of 621 Front Road; LaSalle from Yangyifan Liu

8944- Being a By-law to adopt Official Plan Amendment Number 1 to the Town of LaSalle Official Plan

8946- Being a By-law to regulate Fences, Decks, Pools and HydroMassage Pools on Private Property within the Town of LaSalle and to repeal By-law 8594 being a By-law to regulate Fences, Swimming Pool Enclosures, Hydro-massage Pool and Outdoor Swimming Pool on Private Property within the Town of LaSalle

**Carried.**

**O. Confirmatory By-law**

296/24

Moved by: Councillor Riccio-Spagnuolo

Seconded by: Councillor Carrick

That Confirmatory By-law 8947 be given a first, second, and third reading and finally passed.

**Carried.**

**Q. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair at 6:59 p.m.

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Mayor

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Clerk