



DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 23, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

W & M Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre Street, Orangeville ON

Council Members Present:

Warden Wade Mills (Shelburne)
Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)
Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)
Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)
Councillor James McLean (Melancthon)
Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
Councillor Lisa Post (Orangeville)(arrived at 9:46 a.m.)
Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)(arrived at 9:40 a.m.)
Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)
Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Council Members Absent:

Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)

Staff Present:

Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer
Michelle Dunne, Clerk
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity
Anna McGregor, Director of Community Services
Brenda Wagner, Administrator of Dufferin Oaks
Tom Reid, Chief Paramedic

Warden Mills called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Warden Mills announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast.

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Warden Mills shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

2. **ROLL CALL**

The Clerk verbally took a roll call of the Councillors in attendance.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Creelman

THAT the Agenda and any Addendum distributed for the November 23, 2023 meeting of Council, be approved.

-Carried-

4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

Councillor Taylor declared a pecuniary interest regarding Item #6 – 2024 Draft Budget Overview, discussion of cost-of-living adjustment as part of the General Government Services Committee budget package, noting a family member is employed by Dufferin County.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions from the public.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATIONS OF REPORTS

6. **2024 Draft Budget Overview**

The Chief Administrative Officer and the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, presented the 2024 draft budget overview, including how the budget supports the Strategic Plan.

Councillor Rentsch joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Councillor Post joined the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Council reviewed the draft 2024 operating and capital budget for the departments reporting to the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Committee. The draft budgets for the following departments were included in the presentation and discussion:

- Public Works
 - Operations
 - Engineering
 - Climate and Energy
 - Facilities

- Waste Services
- Forest

Council discussed making the following changes to the draft budget:

- A capital reduction of \$1,070,000 in relation to the resurfacing work on County Road 109 (South Arterial Road)
- A capital increase of \$272,000 in relation to work Culvert No. 510 rehabilitation and Bridge No. 1 rehabilitation
- A reserve transfer of \$600,000 in relation to the completion of the Environmental Assessment for County Road 109 (South Arterial Road)
- A reduction of \$110,000 by eliminating the loose leaf collection service

Warden Mills called a fifteen (15) minute recess. The meeting resumed at 11:18 a.m. Item #5.2 of the agenda (Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer's Report – Community Grant Program) was moved to allow for discussion preceding the budget package for the General Government Services Committee.

Council received a report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated November 23, 2023, to provide an overview of changes to the Community Grant program funding to date.

Moved by Councillor Creelman, seconded by Councillor White

THAT the report of the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated November 23, 2023, Council Grant Program, be received.

-Carried-

Council reviewed the draft 2024 operating and capital budget for the departments reporting to the General Government Services Committee. The draft budgets for the following departments were included in the presentation and discussion:

- Council
- Office of the CAO
 - Clerks
 - Communications
 - Emergency Management
- Corporate Services
 - Information Technology
 - Finance
 - Procurement
- People & Equity
 - Human Resources

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Learning and Organizational Development
- Health and Safety

Councillor Taylor declared a pecuniary interest regarding a discussion on the cost-of-living adjustment as part of the General Government Services Committee budget package and left the meeting at 12:33 p.m. Councillor Taylor rejoined the meeting at 12:56 p.m. following the completion of the discussion.

Councillor Nix left the meeting at 12:56 p.m.

Warden Mills called a twenty (20) minute recess. The meeting resumed at 1:35 p.m. Councillors Gerrits, Rentsch, and McLean left the meeting during the recess.

Council reviewed the draft 2024 operating and capital budget for the departments reporting to the Health and Human Services Committee. The draft budgets for the following departments were included in the presentation and discussion:

- Community Services
 - Early Years and Child Care
 - Housing Services
 - Ontario Works
- Dufferin Oaks
 - Long Term Care
 - Community Support Services
 - Mckelvie Burnside Village
 - Mel Lloyd Centre
- Paramedic Services
- Public Health

Council discussed reducing the capital levy contribution for Dufferin Oaks by \$150,000.

Council reviewed the draft 2024 operating and capital budget for the departments reporting to the Community Development and Tourism Committee. The drafts budgets for the following departments were included in the presentation and discussion:

- Development and Tourism
 - Building Services
 - Land Use Planning
 - Museum Services
 - Economic Development

Moved by Councillor Creelman, seconded by Councillor Hawkins

THAT the following revisions be made to the 2024 draft budget

Item	Type of Change	Dollar Amount
County Road 109 (SAR)	Capital Reduction	-\$1,070,000
Structures	Capital Increase	+\$272,000
Environmental Assessment	Reserve Transfer	-\$600,000
Dufferin Oaks Capital	Capital Reduction	-\$150,000

AND THAT the 2024 draft budget with the discussed revisions be brought back to the December 14, 2023 meeting of Council.

-Carried-

7. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

2023-56 A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on November 23, 2023.

Moved by Councillor Post, seconded by Councillor Hawkins

THAT By-Law 2023-56, be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

Carried-

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Post, seconded by Councillor Creelman

THAT the meeting adjourn.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 14, 2023
Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre Street, Orangeville ON

Wade Mills, Warden

Michelle Dunne, Clerk