

APRIL 13, 2021 - MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Council Chambers, County Building
London, 1:00 pm, Tuesday, April 13, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WARDEN'S REMARKS

Warden Burghardt-Jesson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held electronically using Zoom.

Warden Burghardt-Jesson addressed Council as follows:

"Since our last council meeting there have been many changes. We have gone from being designated a Red Zone, to the Province declaring a new restriction level, by pulling an Emergency Brake, to now living under a Provincial Stay-at-Home order. The last couple of weeks remind me of the early days, when changes to restrictions seemed to happen every day and things changed very quickly. I don't know about you, but yesterday's announcement, keeping schools closed and offering online learning after the April break, really deflated me. I'm well beyond having kiddies in school, but keeping children home really sets the tone for how things may or may not be reopened when the Stay-at-Home is lifted. I felt yesterday that the finish line became further out of reach.

We do have to acknowledge the positives that we are experiencing. Vaccine availability has been expanded in the County to pharmacies in our communities. That does come with a caveat, as we need to understand that the rollout and logistics may take some work and time. I ask our residents to be patient. We are all advocating for our communities. The announcement is promising.

It does seem that everything these days is an effort. As leaders we are looked to for inspiration and a steadfast approach to keep going. This can be hard. To always have the stiff upper lip, to always be pulling ourselves up by the bootstraps can be difficult and it does take an emotional toll. I will be honest with you...there are mornings that all I want to do is pull the blanket up over my head and hope to wake up to different challenges!

This morning, the Women's Caucus met in preparation for the event we are hosting tomorrow evening. Councillor Warwick shared with us, words she opened her council meeting with yesterday. She borrowed them from Dr. Alex Summers from the Health Unit. I think we all agreed, it was an important reminder for all us personally and to share with our colleagues and residents.

It is important to know and realize...we are in the home stretch and we know that the home stretch is the hardest part of the race. I couldn't agree more with this.

Things this week seem incredibly daunting and overwhelming, but that finish line is there and as hard as it is some days...I know we will make it. Your leadership is important to your community. You have the honour of looking out for your communities, but you have to remember that all of this can weigh on you...to be the effective leader you want to be...yes, stay strong, but my friends...look after yourself as well."

2. PROVISION FOR DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

None

4. MINUTES

- a) Minutes of the Middlesex County Council meeting held on March 23, 2021

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor Richards

That the minutes of the Middlesex County Council meeting held on March 23, 2021 be approved as presented.

Carried.

5. DEPUTATIONS

- a) London Community Foundation
- Martha Powell, President and CEO, London Community Foundation made a presentation to County Council. Also in attendance was Ulyanna George, Executive Assistant.
- b) 2021 Benefits Renewal Overview
- Presentation by John Harkins, Partner/Right Path Advisor, Selectpath

6. ENQUIRIES OR NOTICES OF MOTION

- a) Updated Health Statistics for Middlesex County
Councillor Elliott inquired about getting an update on health statistics for Middlesex County. She noted that Dr. Mackie, MOH, Middlesex-London Health Unit provided County Council with a presentation and report at its February 18, 2020 meeting. She further noted that there some concerning statistics for ischaemic heart disease, dementia, alzheimers and lung cancer for Middlesex County residents and was looking for an update

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor Elliott

That a letter be forwarded to the Middlesex-London Health Unit requesting another update be made to County Council on health statistics in Middlesex County.

Carried.

7. REPORTS

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Benefit Renewal for April 2021 to March 2022
- Report from Jessica Ngai, Human Resource Manager

Moved by Councillor DeViet

Seconded by Councillor Brennan

That County Council receive this benefit renewal report for April 2021 to March 2022 for information.

Carried.

- b) "Middlesex Economic Resiliency Task Force – One Year Check-up
- Presentation by Warden Burghardt-Jesson and Cara Finn, Director of Economic Development.

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor Warwick

That we advocate for immediate vaccination reform – consistent with the best practices of other health units – mobile/multiple sites; supply; open access for Phase 2 groups who need and wish to be vaccinated;

That we advise province on catastrophic impacts of targeting and imposing restrictions on trade and commerce; particularly on small business and the workforce that is keeping the economy churning, following protocols, and not known to be contributing to the spread;

That we continue to offer marketing and training supports to Middlesex businesses;

That we advocate for tax breaks and simplified grants over complicated programs and borrowing; and
That we seek support from regional groups such as SCOR, WOWC and OCC to champion these causes

Carried.

9. COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

10. BY-LAWS

Moved by Councillor Elliott

Seconded by Councillor Richards

That first and second reading of the Confirming By-law be given:

Carried.

#7109 - A By-Law to confirm proceedings of the Council of The Corporation
of the County of Middlesex – April 13, 2021

Moved by Councillor Vanderheyden

Seconded by Councillor Smith

That third and final reading of the Confirming By-law be given.

Carried.

11. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A. DELEGATIONS / REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS

B. ACTION ITEMS

None.

C. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS

1. General Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$849,332.29
2. Planning Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$2,871.26
3. Electronic Payments for the month of March 2021 totalling \$2,296,909.60
4. Social Services Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$832,225.98
5. Strathmere Lodge Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$184,011.82
6. Road Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$1,124,652.21
7. MLPS Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$1,604,197.37
8. ITS Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$104,576.64

9. Economic Development Payables to April 2, 2021 totalling \$70,580.54

Moved by Councillor Cornelissen

Seconded by Councillor Elliott

That Items C.1 – CW through C.9 – CW, (Payables) be received for information.
Carried.

10. Strathmere Lodge Occupancy and Activity Report – February 2021
 - Report from Brent Kerwin, Strathmere Lodge Administrator
11. Road Closures 2021
 - Report from Ryan Hillinger, Engineering Supervisor
12. AMO Update entitled “Long-Term Care Modernization and Expansion, Asset Management Plan Timelines Extended, and Age-Friendly Community Planning” dated March 18, 2021
13. AMO Update entitled “OPP Detachment Board Composition Process, Personal Support Worker Temporary Pay Extended, and By-Name Lists” dated March 22, 2021
14. AMO Update entitled “Provincial Budget Highlights plus Bill 257 Referred to Committee” dated March 24, 2021
15. AMO Update entitled “Federal Gas Tax and Updated COVID-19 Regulations” dated March 25, 2021
16. AMO Update entitled “OCLIP Final Payment, AMO’s Bill 257 Submission, and Amended COVID-19 Orders” dated March 29, 2021
17. AMO Update entitled “Provincial COVID-19 Lock Down, Water Taking Changes, and Long-Term Care Medication Safety” dated April 1, 2021
18. Letter from MPAC with respect to changes to the Aggregate Resources Act. Applicants for a licence or permit must notify landowners within 120 metres and obtain the names and addresses from MPAC
19. Copy of a Presentation from Coco Paving and Dillion Consulting with respect to the 2021 Construction of the Highway 401/Westchester Bourne Interchange Improvements and Highway 401 Rehabilitation
20. 2021 Annual Repayment Limit
 - Report from Cindy Howard, Treasurer, General Manager of Finance and Community Services

21. Middlesex-London Board of Health Update for March 2021
22. Letter from the Minister of Finance providing an update on the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund
23. Newsletter from the Middlesex Centre Archives dated April 2021
24. Second Report of the Middlesex County Library Board Meeting held on March 23, 2021
25. Copy of the March 2021 FCM Report to Council
26. AMO Update entitled "Province Declares a Third State of Emergency and Issues a Province-Wide Stay-at-Home Order" dated April 7, 2021

Moved by Councillor Mayhew

Seconded by Councillor Elliott

That Items C.10 – CW through C.26 – CW be received for information.
Carried.

12. INQUIRIES

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Next County Council Meetings:
 - Tuesday, April 27, 2021
 - Tuesday, May 11, 2021
 - Tuesday, May 25, 2021
 - Tuesday, June 8, 2021
 - Tuesday, June 22, 2021
 - Tuesday, July 13, 2021
 - Tuesday, August 17, 2021
 - Tuesday, September 14, 2021
 - Tuesday, September 28, 2021
 - Tuesday, October 12, 2021
 - Tuesday, October 26, 2021
 - Tuesday, November 9, 2021
 - Tuesday, November 23, 2021
 - Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 4:00 pm - Inaugural
 - Tuesday, December 14, 2021

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Vanderheyden

Seconded by Councillor Elliott

That the meeting adjourn at 2:49 p.m.
Carried.

Kathleen Bunting, County Clerk

Cathy Burghardt-Jesson, Warden