



DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Video Conference

Council Members Present:

Warden Wade Mills (Shelburne)
Councillor Steve Anderson (Shelburne)
Councillor Sandy Brown (Orangeville)
Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)
Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)(joined at 7:21 p.m.)
Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Alternate Council Members Present:

Councillor Heather Foster (Amaranth)
Councillor Debbie Sherwood (Orangeville)

Council Members Absent:

Councillor Bob Currie (Amaranth)(prior notice)
Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)(prior notice)
Councillor Andy Macintosh (Orangeville)(prior notice)

Staff Present:

Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer
Michelle Dunne, Clerk
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
Cody Joudry, Director of Development & Tourism
Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity
Anna McGregor, Director of Community Services
Brenda Wagner, Administrator of Dufferin Oaks
Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
Sara MacRae, Manager of Climate & Energy
Steve Murphy, Manager – Preparedness, 911 and Corporate Projects

Warden Mills called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Warden Mills announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast. The recording of this meeting will also be available on our website in the future.

Warden Mills read the following statement:

“Like many today, I was saddened to hear of the passing of our Monarch, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. County Council and the residents of Dufferin County join people across the County, throughout the Commonwealth, and around the world in mourning the loss of our Queen and commemorating her remarkable life. For many of us, we have known no other Monarch and the Queen has served as a symbol of stability and constancy on the world stage over the course of her more than her 70 year reign. In a world that is sadly too often devoid of these virtues, Queen Elizabeth II served as a model of dignity, honour and civility. On behalf of the Dufferin County community, we extend our deepest condolences to the King and all members of the Royal family. We have lowered flags at all County buildings to half-mast. They will remain that way for the duration of the mourning period.”

Upcoming committee meetings will be held by video conference on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at the following times:

Infrastructure & Environmental Services Committee – 9:00 a.m.

General Government Services Committee – 11:00 a.m.

Health & Human Services Committee – 1:00 p.m.

Community Development & Tourism – 3:00 p.m.

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 Soloman, seconded by Councillor Creelman

THAT the Agenda and any Addendum distributed for the September 8, 2022 meeting of Council, be approved.

-Carried-

4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

Members of Council are required to state any pecuniary interest in accordance with the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Horner, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of Council of August 18, 2022, be adopted.

-Carried-

PROCLAMATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6. **Proclamation: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day – September 9, 2022**

Tara Leskey and Jennie Hilts, FASD Coordinators, Dufferin Child & Family Services, were in attendance to accept the proclamation.

7. **Proclamation & Presentation: Hunger Awareness Month – September 2022**

Councillor Rentsch joined the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Heather Hayes, Executive Director, Orangeville Foodbank, accepted the proclamation and discussed the role of the foodbank and food insecurity in Dufferin County. She requested Council review the budget allocation of the Food For Thought grant, as well as consider a County wide food system.

8. **Proclamation: Big Brothers Big Sisters Month – September 2022**

Nancy Stallmach, Executive Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin, accepted the proclamation. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin is celebrating their 50th Anniversary by holding a gala on September 24, 2022 at the Museum of Dufferin.

9. **Proclamation & Presentation: Energy Efficiency Day – October 5, 2022**

Sara MacRae, Manager of Climate & Energy, was in attendance to accept the proclamation.

10. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions received from the public.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATIONS OF REPORTS

11. **Infrastructure and Environmental Services Minutes – August 25, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Soloman

THAT the minutes of the Infrastructure and Environmental Services meeting held on August 25, 2022, and the recommendations set out excluding Item #5 – Township of Mulmur Resolution, be adopted.

-Carried-

12. INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #1
Capital Project Update – August 2022

THAT Report, Capital Project Update – August 2022, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated August 25, 2022, be received.

13. INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #2
Dufferin County Forest – Protected Areas Assessment

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Protected Areas Assessment, dated August 25, 2022, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, be received;

AND THAT staff pursue an agreement with Ontario Nature to conduct a Protected Areas Assessment for the County Forest properties designated as “natural forest”;

AND THAT if any areas of the County Forest meet the requirements of Protected Areas as a result of the assessment that they be added to the federal database.

14. INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #3
Financial Statements

THAT the report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated August 25, 2022, with July 2022 financial statements, be received.

- 15. INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #4
Municipal Engineers Association

THAT the correspondence from the Municipal Engineers Association, dated June 13, 2022, regarding the retention of professional engineers at Ontario municipalities, be received.

- 16. INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #5
Township of Mulmur

Moved by Councillor Horner, seconded by Councillor Nix

WHEREAS the earth is currently on track to warm by more than 3 degrees Celsius;

AND WHEREAS an October 8, 2018 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that it is necessary to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, rather than 2 degrees as previously understood, and that doing so “would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society,” and that we have until 2030 to undertake these changes;

AND WHEREAS the costs for mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change are significant, but not acting is more costly as every one dollar invested now will save six dollars of losses in future (FCM & IBC, 2020);

AND WHEREAS there is significant economic opportunity for communities leading the transition from a fossil fuel-based economy to a modern economy;

AND WHEREAS Dufferin County has taken action on climate change as a signatory to the Partners for Climate Protection in an effort to reduce local greenhouse gases (GHG)s;

AND WHEREAS residents, and especially youth, are demanding meaningful and just climate action that prioritizes sustainable economics, as well as the health and livability of the planet for future generations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council recognizes that climate change constitutes an emergency for Dufferin County;

AND THAT Dufferin County shall continue to pursue net-zero emissions by 2050 in ways that prioritize those most vulnerable to climate impacts and ensure the benefits of climate actions are shared equitably amongst all residents;

AND THAT Dufferin County shall continue to develop policy and demonstrate leadership that directs meaningful action on Dufferin County's Climate Emergency Declaration;

AND THAT Council re-affirms the commitment to the Dufferin Climate Action Plan (DCAP) with:

- **Local municipal climate implementation plans at each member municipality that align with the net-zero by 2050 goal of the Dufferin Climate Action Plan (DCAP) and the community resilience goals of the Climate Adaptation Plan by the end of 2023;**
- **Options to incentivize better building efficiency through Green Development Standards and a Home Energy Retrofit Program by the end of 2023;**
- **Public accessibility to electric vehicle charging infrastructure by pursuing a regional charging network by the end of 2023;**
- **A volunteer program to empower youth to take climate action in the community by the end of 2022;**
- **An annual report card to the public on the progress of the County's climate commitments;**

AND THAT Council further strengthens commitment to climate action by:

- **Developing a Climate Adaptation Plan that reflects the urgency of the climate emergency and ensures that Dufferin County is a resilient community that is ready to embrace new opportunities in a changing climate by the end of 2022;**
- **Creating a community greenhouse gas budget to be created to guide the update of the DCAP along with interim reduction targets for community-wide emissions that are in line with the long-term goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C as per the 2018 IPCC report, by the end of 2023;**
- **Developing a corporate climate plan to demonstrate leadership including municipal budgets and 5-year financial plans that reflect**

the urgency of climate change and prioritize taking action locally on mitigation and adaptation;

- **Incorporating climate priorities into all future corporate strategic plans;**
- **Ensuring climate considerations shall be clearly at the heart of all future staff reports and operations.**
- **Continuing to investigate new opportunities for additional climate actions.**

-Carried-

17. **General Government Services Minutes – August 25, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Gardhouse, seconded by Councillor Brown

THAT the minutes of the General Government Services meeting held on August 25, 2022, and the recommendations set out, be adopted.

-Carried-

18. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #1
Agricultural Trespassing

THAT Dufferin County Council establish a working group to investigate the options available in developing an agricultural trespass enforcement by-law;

AND THAT Dufferin County lobby the Provincial government to review how best to enforce the Trespass to Property Act and increase Part 1 set fines;

AND THAT Dufferin County Council approach the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus and Western Ontario Wardens Caucus for support to lobby the Province.

19. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #2
Headwaters Communities In Action – Mid-Year Report

THAT the report from Headwaters Communities In Action, dated August 25, 2022, with a mid-year report on activities, be received.

20. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #3
Anti-Nepotism Policy

THAT the report of the Director of People and Equity, dated August 25, 2022, titled Anti-Nepotism Policy, be received;

AND THAT the attached Anti-Nepotism Policy # 2-4-17 be approved.

21. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #4
Financial Statements

THAT the report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated August 25, 2022, regarding the July 2022 financial statements, be received.

22. **Health and Human Services Minutes – August 25, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Soloman, seconded by Councillor Foster

THAT the minutes of the Health and Human Services meeting held on August 25, 2022, and the recommendations set out, excluding Item #1 – Annual Rent Increase Guideline 2023, be adopted.

-Carried-

23. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #2
Housing – Centralised Wait List Local Policy Update

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, dated August 25, 2022, titled Housing – Centralised Wait List Local Policy Update, be received.

24. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #3
Early Years and Child Care Workforce Strategy Update

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Early Years and Child Care Workforce Strategy Update, dated August 25, 2022, be received.

25. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #4
Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – Second Quarter 2022

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – Second Quarter, 2022, dated August 25, 2022, be received.

26. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #5
Financial Statements

THAT the report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated August 25, 2022, regarding July 2022 financial statements, be received.

27. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – August 25, 2022 – ITEM #1
Annual Rent Increase Guideline 2023

Moved by Councillor Soloman, seconded by Councillor Foster

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, dated August 25, 2022, titled Annual Rent Increase Guideline 2023, be received;

AND THAT the 2023 Market Rents of County of Dufferin owned housing units be increased by the maximum level of 2.5% over the previous year.

-Carried-

Warden Mills called a five minute recess at 8:26 p.m.

28. **Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Service Optimization and Work Force Strategy Update – Space Needs Assessment**

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated September 8, 2022, to provide Council with the findings of the Space Needs Assessment, Reimagining our Workspace project, completed by DPAI Inc.

A presentation from Petra Matar, DPAI, to present the Office Space Assessment and Modernization Feasibility Report.

Moved by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Sherwood

THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated September 8, 2022, with respect to Service Optimization and Work Force Strategy Update – Space Needs Assessment Consultants Report, be received;

AND THAT the phased-construction recommendations contained in the Dufferin County Office Space Assessment and Modernization Feasibility Report prepared by DPAI be incorporated into future DRAFT budgets for consideration;

AND THAT staff be directed to prepare a report with respect to future options for surplus/under-utilized and tenant occupied/vacant space.

Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Nix

THAT the motion be deferred until January 2023.

-Carried-

29. **Manager – Preparedness, 911 & Corporate Projects’ Report – On-Demand Transit Pilot Project – Progress Update**

A report from the Manager – Preparedness, 911 and Corporate Projects, dated September 8, 2022, to update Council on the progress made toward implementation of the On-Demand Transit Pilot Project as approved by Council on May 12, 2022.

Moved by Councillor Horner, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report of the Manager – Preparedness, 911 & Corporate Projects, dated September 8, 2022, regarding an On-Demand Transit Pilot Project – Progress Update, be received;

AND THAT staff continue with the Request for Proposal process making award contingent upon approval of the 2023 budget;

AND THAT staff include revised cost estimates for the On-Demand Transit program in the 2023 draft budget submission.

Councillor White called a point of order on Councillor Nix, requesting that he not interrupt staff while they are speaking.

A recorded vote was requested on the motion and taken as follows:

	Yay	Nay
Councillor Anderson (1)	x	
Councillor Brown (7)	x	x
Councillor Creelman (3)	x	
Councillor Foster (1)		x
Councillor Gardhouse (2)	x	
Councillor Gerrits (1)	ABSENT	
Councillor Hawkins (1)		x
Councillor Horner (1)		x
Councillor Sherwood (7)	x	
Councillor Mills (2)	x	

	Yay	Nay
Councillor Nix (2)		x
Councillor Rentsch (1)		x
Councillor Soloman (1)	x	
Councillor White (2)	x	
Total (31)	25	6
	-CARRIED-	

30. **Chief Administrative Officer’s Report – Monthly Report from Outside Boards**

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated September 8, 2022, to provide Council with an update of activities from outside boards and agencies.

Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated September 8, 2022, with respect to Reports from Outside Boards, be received.

-Carried-

CORRESPONDENCE

31. **Resolutions – Creation of Draven Alert System**

Resolutions from the Township of Melancthon, dated July 19, 2022, and the Town of Grand Valley, dated August 30, 2022, regarding the creation of a Draven Alert system to protect vulnerable children who have not been abducted but are at high risk of danger, injury or death.

Moved by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Creelman

THAT the resolutions from the Township of Melancthon and the Town of Grand Valley regarding the creation of a Draven Alert system to protect vulnerable children who have not been abducted but are at high risk of danger, injury or death, be supported.

-Carried-

32. **Ombudsman Ontario**

Correspondence from Ombudsman Ontario, dated August 30, 2022, regarding the Closed Session investigation from the April 28, 2022 Infrastructure and Environmental Services meeting.

Moved by Councillor Horner, seconded by Councillor Hawkins

THAT the correspondence from Ombudsman Ontario, dated August 30, 2022, regarding the Closed Session investigation from the April 28, 2022 Infrastructure and Environmental Services meeting, be received.

-Carried-

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

33. **Moved by Warden Mills, seconded by Councillor Creelman**

THAT the notice provision be waived in accordance with Procedural By-Law 2015-24, Section 16.12 and 16.13.

-Carried-

34. **Moved by Councillor Creelman seconded by Councillor Soloman**

THAT Dufferin County strongly opposes the proposed change to Provincial and Federal riding boundaries that removes the Township of East Garafraxa and the Township of Mulmur from the same riding as the remainder of Dufferin County;

AND THAT staff and members of Council attend the virtual regional consultation session on September 28, 2022 to express opposition.

-Carried-

35. **MOTIONS**

Moved by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Anderson

THAT staff be directed to undertake a review of the land acknowledgment statement to ensure its accuracy given that many of our individual statements have recognitions that are not consistent with the statement of the County;

AND FURTHER THAT each local tier municipality be encouraged to review their land acknowledgement statement for accuracy.

-Carried-

36. **CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Brown

THAT Council moved into Closed Session (9:37 a.m.) in accordance with the Municipal Act Section 239 (2)(c) – Proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board, Section 239 (2)(d) – Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations, and Section 239 (f) – Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege.

-Carried-

While in Closed Session, Council reviewed the minutes of the Closed Session of Council on August 18, 2022 and a verbal report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding a lease for space at 10 Louisa St, Orangeville.

Councillor Anderson left the meeting at 9:47 p.m. while in Closed Session.

Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Creelman

THAT Council move into open session (9:48 p.m.).

-Carried-

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

37. **Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Rentsch**

THAT the Closed session minutes of Council from August 18,2022, be adopted.

-Carried-

38. **Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Hawkins**

THAT staff be directed to proceed as discussed in Closed Session.

-Carried-

39. **BY-LAWS**

- 2022-32 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Township of Amaranth. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-33 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Township of East Garafraxa. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-34 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-35 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-36 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Town of Mono. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-37 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022

- 2022-38 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-39 A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Corporation of the Town of Shelburne. (9-1-1 Service Agreement)
Authorization: General Government Services – April 28, 2022
- 2022-40 A by-law to appoint Michael Sutton as a Building Inspector under the Building Code Act.
Authorization: Council – September 8, 2022

Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Horner

THAT By-law 2022-32 through to 2022-40, inclusive, be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

-Carried-

40. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Brown noted the Dufferin Board of Trade will be hosting Dream Dufferin at Tony Rose Arena on September 14, 2022. The event will promote jobs in skilled trades and nontraditional jobs for women. Students from local area schools will be attending to hear a keynote speaker, an ironworker, and visit with 28 skilled trade employers.

Councillor Anderson rejoined the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

41. **CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

- 2022-41 A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on September 8, 2022.

Moved by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Nix

THAT By-Law 2022-41, be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

-Carried-

42. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Gardhouse, seconded by Councillor Creelman

THAT the meeting adjourn.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 13, 2022
 Video Conference

Wade Mills, Warden

Michelle Dunne, Clerk