



**DUFFERIN COUNTY INAUGURAL COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Monora Park, Banquet Room**

**500 Monora Park Drive, Mono**

**Council Members Present:**

Warden Wade Mills (Shelburne)  
Councillor John Creelman (Mono)  
Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)  
Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)  
Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)  
Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)  
Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)  
Councillor James McLean (Melancthon)  
Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)  
Councillor Lisa Post (Orangeville)  
Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)  
Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)  
Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)  
Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

**Council Members Absent:**

Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)(prior notice)

**Staff Present:**

Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer  
Michelle Dunne, Clerk  
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk  
Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer  
Cody Joudry, Director of Development & Tourism  
Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity  
Anna McGregor, Director of Community Services  
Brenda Wagner, Administrator of Dufferin Oaks  
Tom Reid, Chief Paramedic

Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1. New Council Procession**

The procession was led by the 1849 Lorne Scots Cadet Honour Guard.

**2. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

The Chief Administrative Officer shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**3. O Canada**

The singing of the national anthem was led by Aliyah Morant.

**4. Honour Song**

The Honour Song was performed by invited drum, Ashunyang.

**5. Introductions of Members of Council**

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Councillors sitting on Dufferin County Council for the 2022 – 2026 term.

**6. Introductions of Past Wardens**

The past Wardens in attendance were introduced:

- Ed Crewson – 1999 and 2000 (Mayor, Shelburne)
- Keith Thompson – 2004 (Mayor, Mono)
- John Oosterhof – 2005, 2007 and 2008 (Mayor, Grand Valley)
- Walter Kolodziechuk – 2012 (Deputy Mayor, Amaranth)
- Paul Mills – 2018 (Mayor, Mulmur)

Past Wardens currently on Council:

- John Creelman – 2001 and 2002 (Mayor, Mono)
- Wade Mills – 2022 (Mayor, Shelburne)
- Darren White – 2017, 2019, 2020, and 2021 (Mayor, Melancthon)

**7. Oaths of Office for Members of Council**

Michelle Dunne, Clerk, administered the Oaths of Office for members of Council.

**8. Election of 2023 Warden**

The Clerk noted that nominations for the 2023 Warden were to be submitted to the Clerk's Office prior to December 2, 2022.

One nomination was received for the position of Warden: Councillor Mills, moved by Councillor Gerrits, seconded by Councillor White.

Councillor Mills was declared to be the Warden by acclamation for the 2023 term.

**9. Oath of Office for 2023 Warden**

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office for the Warden.

**10. Presentation of the Chain of Office, Gavel and Warden's Pin**

The Chain of Office, gavel and Warden's pin were presented to the Warden by the Chief Administrative Officer. The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Warden Mills will be the 146<sup>th</sup> Warden of the County of Dufferin.

**11. Remarks by the 2023 Warden**

Warden Mills offered his congratulations to the new Council. He thanked his family for their ongoing support. He also thanked Council for supporting him as Warden for a second term. The County will see a number of challenges over the coming term, including economic uncertainties, but Warden Mills would like to see Council reimagine the way services are offered and take a bold approach to face these challenges.

**12. Clerk's Report – Allocation of Votes on County Council – 2022-2026**

A report from the Clerk, dated December 8, 2022, to report to provide information on the allocation of votes on County Council as a result of the municipal elections on October 24, 2022.

**Moved by Councillor Post, seconded by Councillor Soloman**

**THAT the report of the Clerk, dated December 8, 2022, regarding the allocation of votes on County Council for the 2022-2026 Term, be received.**

**-Carried-**

**13. Selection of Committee Chairs and Committee Members**

The Warden called for nominations for Committee Chairs starting with the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Committee.

**Moved by Councillor Rentsch, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse**

**THAT Councillor Gerrits be nominated for the position of Chair for the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Committee for the year 2023.**

Councillor Gerrits has informed the Clerk that he is willing to accept the nomination. The Warden asked if there were any other nominations for position of Chair of the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Committee. No other nominations were presented.

The Warden announced Councillor Gerrits as Chair of the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Committee.

The Warden then called for nominations for the Chair of the General Government Services Committee.

**Moved by Warden Mills, seconded by Councillor White**

**THAT Councillor Creelman be nominated for the position of Chair for the General Government Services Committee for the year 2023.**

Councillor Creelman accepted the nomination.

The Warden asked if there were any other nominations for position of Chair of the General Government Services Committee. No other nominations were presented.

The Warden announced Councillor Creelman as Chair of the General Government Services Committee.

The Warden then called for nominations for the Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee

**Moved by Councillor Horner, seconded by Warden Mills**

**THAT Councillor White be nominated for the position of Chair for the Health**

**and Human Services Committee for the year 2023.**

Councillor White accepted the nomination.

The Warden asked if there were any other nominations for position of Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee. No other nominations were presented.

The Warden announced Councillor White as Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee.

The Warden then called for nominations for the Chair of the Community Development and Tourism Committee.

**Moved by Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Little**

**THAT Councillor Horner be nominated for the position of Chair for the Community Development and Tourism Committee for the year 2023.**

Councillor Horner accepted the nomination.

The Warden asked if there were any other nominations for position of Chair of the Community Development and Tourism Committee. No other nominations were presented.

The Warden announced Councillor Horner as Chair of the Community Development and Tourism Committee.

**Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Little**

**THAT the slate of Committee membership as set out below, be adopted:**

**Infrastructure and Environmental Services**

Councillor Gerrits  
Councillor Hall  
Councillor Horner  
Councillor McLean  
Councillor Nix  
Councillor Soloman  
Councillor Taylor

**General Government Services**

Councillor Creelman  
Councillor Gardhouse  
Councillor Gerrits  
Councillor Hall  
Councillor Rentsch  
Councillor Soloman  
Councillor Taylor

**Health and Human Services**

Councillor Gardhouse  
Councillor Hawkins  
Councillor Little  
Councillor McLean  
Councillor Nix  
Councillor Post  
Councillor Rentsch  
Councillor White

**Community Development and Tourism**

Councillor Creelman  
Councillor Hawkins  
Councillor Horner  
Councillor Little  
Councillor Post  
Councillor White

**-Carried-**

**14. Clerk's Report – Appointments to Outside Boards**

A report from the Clerk, dated December 8, 2022, to provide information on the various outside boards that Dufferin County Council must appoint a representative(s) to sit on.

**Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Creelman**

**THAT the report of the Clerk, dated December 8, 2022, with respect to appointing County representatives to outside boards, be received;**

**AND THAT Councillor McLean be appointed to the Dufferin Board of Trade**

**Board;**

**AND THAT Councillor Rentsch be appointed to the Headwaters Communities in Action Leadership Council;**

**AND THAT Councillor Gardhouse and Mono Councillor Manktelow be appointed to the Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health Unit Board;**

**AND THAT Councillor Horner and Councillor Post's names be submitted as candidates to be appointed to the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC);**

**AND THAT Councillor Gerrits be appointed as Dufferin County Council's representative on the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Board.**

**-Carried-**

**15. Clerk's Report – Resume In-Person Council Meetings**

A report from the Clerk, dated December 8, 2022, to consider a return to in-person Council meetings.

**Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor McLean**

**THAT the report from the Clerk, dated December 8, 2022, regarding resumption of in-person Council meetings, be received;**

**AND THAT Council resume in-person meetings for Council and continue with virtual meetings for Committees;**

**AND THAT staff investigate rental options to accommodate Council meetings in the short term.**

**-Carried-**

**16. Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Submission to Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) regarding Bill 23**

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated December 8, 2022, to provide a draft submission to the ERO in response to Bill 23, *More Homes Faster Act, 2022*, which received Royal Assent on November 28, 2022.

**Moved by Councillor Post, seconded by Councillor Horner**

**THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated December 8, 2022, regarding the submission to ERO regarding Bill 23, be received;**

**AND THAT Council direct staff to submit the attached submission and circulate the correspondence to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the local MPP/Minister of Health;**

**AND THAT Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health, MPP Dufferin-Caledon, be asked to attend an upcoming Council meeting to address Council regarding Bill 23, More Homes Faster Act, 2022.**

**-Carried-**

**17. Confirmatory By-Law**

2022-49      A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on December 8, 2022.

**Moved by Councillor Little, seconded by Councillor Taylor**

**THAT By-Law 2022-49 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.**

**-Carried-**

**18. Adjournment**

**Moved by Councillor Gardhouse, seconded by Councillor Taylor**

**THAT the meeting adjourn.**

**-Carried-**

Invited drum, Ashunyung, performed a travelling song.

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.



Next meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.  
Location to be determined

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Wade Mills, Warden

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Michelle Dunne, Clerk