



**DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 7:00 pm**

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

**Council Members Present:**

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

**Staff Present:**

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

Warden White called the meeting to order at 7:27 pm.

Warden White 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.

Upcoming committee meetings will be held in the Dufferin Room at 30 Centre St, Orangeville on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at the following times:

Infrastructure and Environmental Services – 9:00 am

General Government Services Committee – 11:00 am

Health & Human Services Committee – 1:00 pm

Community Development & Tourism Committee – 3:00 pm

1. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Council agreed to move Item #7.4 Senior Planner's Report – Official Plan Amendment No. 4 to the beginning of the Reports section in the agenda.

**Moved by Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Creelman**

**THAT the Agenda and any Addendum distributed for the March 14, 2024 meeting of Council, be approved.**

**-Carried-**

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

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

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

Councillor Taylor noted that the recorded votes for General Government Services Item #5 – Non-Union Total Compensation Review shows he is absent. He requested the recorded votes be amended to show he had declared a pecuniary interest.

**Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Little**

**THAT the minutes of the Council meeting of February 8, 2024, be adopted, as amended.**

**-Carried-**

**PROCLAMATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

4. **Proclamation & Delegation: Amyloidosis Awareness Month – March 2024**

Warden White proclaimed the month of March 2024 as Amyloidosis Awareness Month in the County of Dufferin.

Keith Dares, Canadian Amyloidosis Awareness Network, delegated regarding Amyloidosis, how it affects those with the disease and awareness initiatives.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions from the public.

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATIONS OF REPORTS**

6. **Senior Planner's Report – Official Plan Amendment No. 4**

A report from the Senior Planner, dated March 14, 2024, to outline Official Plan Amendment No. 4.

**Moved by Councillor Gerrits, seconded by Councillor Taylor**

**THAT the Dufferin County Official Plan Amendment No. 04 (Municipal Comprehensive Review, Phase III Land Use Policy Framework), dated March 14, 2024, be received;**

**AND THAT the necessary by-law be presented to County Council to adopt the proposed County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment No. 04 (Municipal Comprehensive Review, Phase III Land Use Policy Framework);**

**AND THAT Notice of Adoption of County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment No. 04 (Municipal Comprehensive Review, Phase III Land Use Policy Framework), be provided in accordance with the Planning Act;**

**AND THAT the Official Plan Amendment record of adoption be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for approval.**

**IN AMENDMENT**

**Moved by Councillor Gerrits, seconded by Councillor Taylor**

**THAT the wording in Policy 3.5.1.2 (f) Settlement Area Adjustments be amended to include communal systems.**

**-Carried-**

**MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED**

**THAT the Dufferin County Official Plan Amendment No. 04 (Municipal Comprehensive Review, Phase III Land Use Policy Framework), dated March 14, 2024, be received;**

**AND THAT the necessary by-law be presented to County Council to adopt the proposed County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment No. 04 (Municipal Comprehensive Review, Phase III Land Use Policy Framework), as amended;**

**AND THAT Notice of Adoption of County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment No. 04 (Municipal Comprehensive Review, Phase III Land Use Policy Framework), be provided in accordance with the Planning Act;**

**AND THAT the Official Plan Amendment record of adoption be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for approval.**

A recorded vote was requested and taken as follows:

	Yay	Nay
Councillor Creelman (3)	x	
Councillor Gardhouse (2)	x	
Councillor Gerrits (1)	x	
Councillor Hall (2)	x	
Councillor Hawkins (1)	x	
Councillor Horner (1)	x	
Councillor Little (1)	x	
Councillor McLean (1)	x	
Councillor Mills (2)	x	
Councillor Nix (2)	x	
Councillor Post (8)	x	
Councillor Rentsch (1)		x
Councillor Soloman (1)	x	
Councillor Taylor (7)	x	
Warden White (1)	x	
Total (34)	33	1
	<b>-MAIN MOTION CARRIED-</b>	

7. **General Government Services Minutes – February 22, 2024**

**Moved by Councillor Post, seconded by Councillor Mills**

**THAT the minutes of the General Government Services meeting held on February 22, 2024, be adopted.**

**-Carried-**

8. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #1  
Emergency Management Workshop – Wildfires

THAT the report of the Manager of Preparedness, 911 and Corporate Projects, titled 2024 Emergency Management Workshop – Wildfires, dated February 22, 2024, be received.

9. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #2  
2023 Investment Activity

THAT the report on 2023 Investment Activity, from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated February 22, 2024, be received.

10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #3  
2023 Council Remuneration

THAT the report on 2023 Statement of Council Remuneration and Expenses Paid, from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated February 22, 2024, be received as amended.

11. **Health & Human Services Minutes – February 22, 2024**

**Moved by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Nix**

**THAT the minutes of the Community Development and Tourism meeting held on February 22, 2024, be adopted.**

**-Carried-**

12. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #1  
Dufferin Oaks Declaration of Compliance

THAT the report of the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated February 22, 2024, regarding the Declaration of Compliance, be received;

AND THAT Council authorizes the Warden to sign the Declaration on behalf of Council for submission to Ontario Health – Central Region.

- 13. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #2  
Funding Increase for Community Support Services

THAT the report of the Administrator, dated February 22, 2024, regarding the funding increase to Community Support Services, be received.

- 14. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #3  
Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – Third & Fourth Quarter 2023

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – Third and Fourth Quarter, 2023, dated February 22, 2024, be received.

- 15. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #4  
Access and Inclusion Framework and Start Up Grants

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Access and Inclusion Framework and Start-Up Grants dated February 22, 2024, be received.

- 16. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – February 22, 2024 – ITEM #5  
Dufferin Men’s Shelter Update #3

THAT the report of the Director of Community Services, titled Dufferin Men’s Shelter Update 3, dated February 22, 2024, be received.

- 17. **Administrator of Dufferin Oaks’ Report – Additional Staff Request for Dufferin Oaks**

A report from the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated March 14, 2024, to seek a Social Worker as a permanent full-time employee for Dufferin Oaks.

**Moved by Councillor Gerrits, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse**

**THAT the report of the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated March 14, 2024, regarding the Additional Staff Request for Dufferin Oaks be received;**

**AND THAT a Social Worker position be approved as permanent full time;**

**AND THAT the additional cost for this position in 2024 be funded through the Rate Stabilization Reserve.**

**-Carried-**

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

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated March 14, 2024, to provide Council with an update of activities from outside boards and agencies.

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

**THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated March 14, 2024, with respect to Reports from Outside Boards, be received.**

**-Carried-**

19. **STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated March 14, 2024, to provide an update regarding the County’s Strategic Plan implementation.

**Moved by Councillor Gerrits, seconded by Councillor Mills**

**THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated March 14, 2024, with respect to Strategic Plan Monthly Update #5, be received.**

**-Carried-**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

20. **Environmental Defence**

Correspondence from Environmental Defence, dated February 12, 2024, requesting support regarding a recent Ontario Energy Board (OEB) decision.

**Moved by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Nix**

**THAT the correspondence from Environmental Defence, dated February 12, 2024, requesting support regarding a recent Ontario Energy Board (OEB) decision, be received.**

**-Carried-**

21. **BDO Canada LLP**

Correspondence from BDO Canada LLP, dated February 22, 2024, to outline the audit planning process.

**Moved by Councillor Creelman, seconded by Councillor Mills**

**THAT the correspondence from BDO Canada LLP, dated February 22, 2024, regarding audit planning, be received.**

**-Carried-**

**22. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**MOTIONS**

**23. Moved by Councillor Post, seconded by Councillor Mills**

**WHEREAS Dufferin County Council has identified our desire to create a community where everyone can live and thrive; and**

**WHEREAS the County of Dufferin as the upper tier government is the local service provider for Homelessness Prevention programs; and**

**WHEREAS the volatile economic situation has caused an influx in unhoused people in Dufferin County; and**

**WHEREAS creative solutions and advocacy are required to address the growing issue of homelessness in our community; and**

**WHEREAS a collaborative and comprehensive approach involving both community members and Council representatives working alongside County staff can contribute significantly to the development and implementation of effective solutions;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dufferin County Council directs staff to establish a Homelessness Task Force and begin recruitment efforts with a proposed start date of Fall 2024 with terms of reference (to be approved by Council) that address the following objectives:**

- 1. To assess the current state of homelessness in Dufferin County, including the factors contributing to the issue**
- 2. To identify and evaluate existing Homelessness Prevention programs and services to determine effectiveness and gaps**
- 3. To explore and develop innovative and sustainable solutions to address homelessness across the County**
- 4. To engage with various stakeholders, including lower tier municipalities, community members, and local organizations currently providing services to ensure diverse perspectives are considered in the discussions**



5. **To provide recommendations to Dufferin County Council for the implementation of effective strategies to prevent and alleviate homelessness**

**FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Homelessness Task Force shall consist of a balanced representation, including members from the community with expertise in social services, housing, mental health and addictions, and other relevant areas (i.e. Dufferin Men’s Shelter, Family Transition Place, Choices Youth Shelter, The Lighthouse, etc.).**

**-Carried-**

24. **CLOSED SESSION**

25. **BY-LAWS**

- 2024-10 A by-law to provide property tax rebates to eligible charities for the years 2023 and 2024.  
Authorization: Council – March 14, 2024
- 2024-11 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 Family Transition Place. (Lease Agreement – Mel Lloyd Centre)  
Authorization: Council – March 14, 2024
- 2024-12 A by-law to appoint Mark McConnell as a Building Inspector under the Building Code Act.  
Authorization: Council – March 14, 2024
- 2024-13 A by-law to appoint an acting Chief Building Official. (Doug Kopp, Kristina Millar, Aaron Ryckman, Michael Sutton)  
Authorization: Council – March 14, 2024
- 2024-14 A by-law to adopt Amendment No. 4 to the Official Plan for the County of Dufferin.  
Authorization: Council – March 14, 2024

**Moved by Councillor Soloman, seconded by Councillor Taylor**

**THAT By-Law 2024-10 through to By-Law 2024-14, inclusive, be read a first, second and third time and enacted.**

**-Carried-**

26. **OTHER BUSINESS**

27. **CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

2024-15 A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on March 14, 2024.

**Moved by Councillor Horner, seconded by Councillor Gerrits**

**THAT By-Law 2024-15 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.**

**-Carried-**

28. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Councillor Gardhouse, seconded by Councillor Post**

**THAT the meeting adjourn.**

**-Carried-**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 11, 2024  
Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre Street, Orangeville ON

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Darren White, Warden

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Michelle Dunne, Clerk