Huron-Kinloss

A unified, engaged and caring community that cultivates opportunities and embraces our rural lifestyle. We deliver services that responsibly utilize resources, respect our environment, and foster a community ready to shape its future.

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: February 3, 2025

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Council Chambers

Members Present Don Murray, Mayor

Jim Hanna, Deputy Mayor Larry Allison, Councillor Shari Flett, Councillor Ed McGugan, Councillor Carl Sloetjes, Councillor

Members Absent Scott Gibson, Councillor

Staff Present Jennifer White, Clerk

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer

Jeff Bradley, Fire Chief

Christine Heinisch, Manager of Financial Services/Treasurer

1. Call to Order

Mayor Murray called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None disclosed.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025- 01

Moved By Jim Hanna Seconded By Shari Flett

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting January 13, 2025 and Council meeting of January 13, 2025 be adopted as presented.

4. Public Meeting Under the Drainage Act

4.1 Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain

Presentation from the Engineer

Neal Morris, P. Eng, K.Smart Associates Limited presented the Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain Report. Council considered an engineers report for this matter on August 14, 2023, and referred the matter back to the engineer. Following reconsideration, the Engineer has addressed concerns regarding standing water, the extension of the drain, and a potential expansion of the watershed boundary.

This revised report reflects current watershed boundary conditions, including the Township Road allowance and relevant drainage assessments. Updates to the tile design include an additional 169 meters of drainage tile and one catch basin to capture surface water between properties. The proposed design maintains a 1.5" drainage coefficient.

Presentations from the Public

All property owners affected by the drain had the opportunity to influence Council's decision.

Any petitioner had the right to withdraw from the petition. Other owners in the area requesting drainage have the right to sign the petition. No petitioners withdrew their names, no names were added to the petition.

Tina Metske requested clarification from the engineer on why when the drain functioned before, it isn't now. Metske reported that work had been done on an adjoining property, and the drain did not function following that work being completed.

The Drainage Superintendent noted that this petition had been signed before their appointment to the Drainage Superintendent position, and they could not speak to why the petition was originally requested. However once the petition is signed and the process begins, a legislative process must complete.

Staff explained that drain maintenance only would require restoration to the previous standard, however this new proposed design for improvement should address current conditions and provide benefit to all landowners. The drain is designed to permit regular rainfall events from crossing property boundaries.

Metske reported that 5-10 years ago, they had requested maintenance which they do not believe was completed.

The Engineer reported that no catch basins existed in the original Drain report although private catch basins may have existed. Morris spoke to improved standards in drainage design since the original report was written and clarified the Engineer does not have the authority under the Drainage Act to apply punitive measures, and is only able to design the drain and assess cost and benefit as designed.

Questions and Clarification from Council

Council inquired about a line item including Dickies Creek. Morris confirmed that debris and beaver dam removal is required for the drain to function properly. Morris noted that the Drainage Superintendent no longer has the authority to remove beaver dams upstream of municipal drains.

The Conservation Authority supported incorporating this area of Dickies Creek to allow for the removal of beaver dams. This line item is included to permit future maintenance works, which are not currently required based on the current water levels.

5. Financial Reports

5.1 Previous Month Actual Accounts – January 2025, TRE-2025-06

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 02

Moved By Shari Flett

Seconded By Carl Sloetjes

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby ratifies and confirms payment of the January 2025 accounts in the amount of \$1,584,247.10.

Carried

6. Staff Report

6.1 Drainage

a. Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain Engineers Report 2025, DRA-2025-06

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 03

Moved By Carl Sloetjes Seconded By Jim Hanna

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council accepts the Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain Report, dated November 29, 2024, prepared by K. Smart & Associates Limited;

AND FURTHER authorizes a provisional by-law to be brought forward as Matters Arising;

AND FURTHER appoints Deputy Mayor Jim Hanna as Chair of the Court of Revision (CoR) and sets the CoR date for March 17, 2025, pending confirmation of availability from the appointed Engineer and CoR members.

Carried

7. By-Laws and Agreements

7.1 Appoint District Fire Chief

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 04

Moved By Shari Flett Seconded By Carl Sloetjes

THAT the "Appoint District Fire Chief" By-law be deemed to be read a first, second, third time and finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025-11.

Carried

7.2 Holding Removal - 412 Winnebago Rd

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 05

Moved By Carl Sloetjes Seconded By Shari Flett

THAT the "Holding Removal - 412 Winnebago Rd By-law" be deemed to be read a first, second, third time and finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025-12.

7.3 Appoint Vanderkolk as Landfill Worker

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 06

Moved By Shari Flett Seconded By Jim Hanna

THAT the "Appoint Vandervolk as Landfill Worker By-law" be deemed to be read a first, second, third time and finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025-15.

Carried

8. Matters Arising

8.1 Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 07

Moved By Jim Hanna Seconded By Carl Sloetjes

THAT the "Gaunt-Laidlaw Municipal Drain By-law" be deemed to be read a first and second time and Provisionally adopted and numbered as By-law No. 2025-13.

Carried

9. Township Committee Minutes Received

The representative for the Lucknow and Community Health Centre Board provided a verbal and written update to Council on the activities of the Board, noting that the incentives offered are less than other locations. The written update will be included as an addendum to the agenda document.

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 08

Moved By Carl Sloetjes Seconded By Jim Hanna

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby receives for information all items listed in Section 9.

9.1 Lucknow and District Joint Recreation Board

9.2 Lucknow and Community Health Centre Board

10. Other Agency Minutes and Reports Received

Council inquired as to the reasoning behind the notation in the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority minutes of November 21, for the Vice chair to assume the Chair if the Chair was present for the meeting. The Board representative indicated this was undertaken to assist in training the Vice Chair, and for the Chair to participate in discussions as a member of the Board not as the Chair of the meeting.

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 09

Moved By Jim Hanna Seconded By Shari Flett

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby receives for information all items listed in Section 10.

Carried

- 10.1 Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling
- 10.2 Municipal Innovation Council
- 10.3 Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

11. New Business/ Council Reports

Staff reported that meetings had been held at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association's conferences with the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness. It is anticipated that any response from these advocacy efforts will not be provided late spring, due to restrictions on provincial agencies while the provincial election cycle completes.

12. Closed Session

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 10

Moved By Ed McGugan Seconded By Shari Flett THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council move into closed meeting at 1:32 p.m. for the purpose of considering

- 1) labour relations or employee negotiations (union negotiations);
- 2) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or a local board (Ripley Industrial Park);

pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended;

AND FURTHER THAT Council return to regular open meeting upon completion.

Carried

13. Business Arising from the Closed Session

Council arose from closed session at 1:46 p.m.

The Chair reported that a closed meeting had been held and information was received and direction provided to staff on a potential disposition of land and direction was provided to staff on union negotiations.

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 11

Moved By Jim Hanna Seconded By Ed McGugan

THAT the "Collective Bargaining Agreement 2025 By-law" be deemed to be read a first, second, third time and finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025 - 14.

Carried

14. Confirming By-Law

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 12

Moved By Shari Flett

Seconded By Carl Sloetjes

THAT the "Confirmatory February 2025" By-law be deemed to be read a first, second, third time and finally passed and numbered as By-law No. 2025-16.

Carried

15. Adjournment

Moved By Jim Hanna Seconded By Carl Sloetjes		
THAT this meeting adjourn at 1:48 p.m.		
		Carried
Mayor	Clerk	

Resolution No.: 02/03/2025 - 13