

**Township of South-West Oxford
Council Minutes
October 3, 2023**

Members Present:

Mayor: Mayor David Mayberry, Paul
Councillors: Buchner (Ward 1), Peter Ypma
(Ward 2), Valerie Durston (Ward 3),
George Way (Ward 4), Jim Pickard
(Ward 5), Craig Gillis (Ward 6)

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Mary Ellen Greb, CAO/Deputy Clerk
Julie Middleton, Clerk/Deputy CAO
Adam Prouse, Works Superintendent
Howard Leaver, Chief Building Official
Rob Serson, Fire Chief and CEMC
Nicole Chambers, Records Management Co-
ordinator/Clerk's Assistant

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mayor David Mayberry and a quorum was present.

Motion to Accept Agenda

Resolution No. Moved by George Way
Seconded by Jim Pickard

RESOLVED that the regular meeting agenda for the
October 3rd, 2023 meeting of council be approved.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Minutes

September 19th, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Resolution No. Moved by Paul Buchner
Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that the regular minutes of the September 19th, 2023 council meeting be approved, as amended.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

CL 48-2023: Business Arising from the Minutes of the September 19th Council Meeting

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with an overview of the staff actions arising from the minutes of the last Council meeting.

Resolution No. Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 48-2023 Summary of Staff Actions Related to Business Arising from the Minutes of September 19th, 2023 as information.

APPROVED

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Staff Reports

CL 49-2023: Integrity Commissioner Agreement (January, 2024 to December, 2026)

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to seek their authorization to enter into a service agreement between the Township of South-West Oxford and Robert J. Swayze (Integrity Commissioner and Closed Meeting Investigator). She advised Council that the Township's agreement with Gregory Stewart will end at the end of 2023.

Resolution No. Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive report CL 49-2023: Integrity Commissioner Agreement (January, 2024 to December, 2026) as information;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to execute a service agreement for Integrity Commissioner and Closed Meeting Investigator services with Robert J. Swayze in the same form as attached to this report as Appendix 'A'.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CL 50-2023: Request for Letter of Support - Boralex Renewable Energy

Clerk Julie Middleton provided Council with a report to provide them with follow up information in relation to the presentation received by Council at the September 5th meeting from Boralex regarding a proposed battery storage facility in South-West Oxford. Boralex has requested a letter of support for this project from Council.

Members of Council discussed this proposal and expressed some concerns in relation to the life cycle of the batteries and fire protection. It was noted that Boralex will need to work with Township and County staff to ensure compliance with the County's Official Plan and the Township's Zoning By-law.

It was noted that the letter of support requested from Council is intended to act as Council's support-in-principle to the project to support Boralex's application to the IESO.

Chief Building Official Howard Leaver advised that he recently spoke with Canadian Regional NFPA Director, Laura King. She has offered to come to give a presentation to Council regarding NFPA regulations for battery storage facilities.

Resolution No. Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by Craig Gillis

WHEREAS Boralex Inc. (the "Proponent") is proposing to construct and operate a Long-Term Reliability Project, as defined and with the characteristics outlined in the table below, under the Long-Term Request for Proposals ("LT1 RFP") issued by the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO") or any other long-term procurement initiatives of the IESO that are subsequent to the LT1 RFP. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this resolution have the respective meanings ascribed to them in the LT1 RFP:

Name of the Long-Term Reliability Project: Oxford
Battery Energy Storage Project

Technology of the Long-Term Reliability Project:
Battery Energy Storage

Maximum Contract Capacity of the Long-Term
Reliability Project (in MW): 125MW or up to 125MW

Property Identification Number (PIN), or if PIN is not available, municipal address or legal description of the portion of the Project Site that is located on lands subject to the authority of one or more Municipalities: PT LT 3 PL 501; PT RDAL BTN LT 1 & THE GORE WEST OXFORD CLOSED BY 214016; AS IN 230407, 230406, 229365 & 229364; S/T INTEREST OF THE MUNICIPALITY; DESCRIPTION MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE IN FUTURE; S/T A76724; SW OXFORD/WOODSTOCK Now Known as PIN 00086-0048 (LT) (the "Municipal Lands")

WHEREAS pursuant to the LT1 RFP, Proposals that receive the formal support of the local jurisdictional authorities of all the project communities in which the Long-Term Reliability Project is located in the form of a support resolution will be awarded Rated Criteria points for the purpose of ranking the Proposal in relation to other Proposals for a contract under the LT1 RFP;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford supports the development, construction, and operation of the Long-Term Reliability Project on the Municipal Lands for purposes of the requirements of the LT1 RFP or any other long-term procurement initiatives of the IESO that are subsequent to the LT1 RFP;

AND FURTHER THAT one of the purposes of this resolution is to enable the Proponent to receive Rated Criteria Points under LT1 RFP or to satisfy its obligations under any awarded LT1 Contract. Rated Criteria points will be used to rank the Proponent's Proposal in relation to other Proposals received by the IESO under the LT1 RFP. This resolution can also be used to enable the Proponent to receive Rated Criteria Points and/or demonstrate Municipal Support Confirmation under any other long-term procurement

initiatives of the IESO that are subsequent to the LT1 RFP.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Appointments

9:15 a.m. – Nicole Killaire - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford County - 2024 Community Grant Application

Nicole Killaire, on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford County, presented their 2024 grant request to Council. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford County is requesting \$3,500 from the Township in 2024 to support mentoring programs. Big Brothers Big Sisters programs build resiliency by enabling life-changing mentoring relationships that ignite the power and potential of mentees. Mentoring programs are also grounded in intentional, purposeful relationship building with youth. They take pride in updating and developing programs based on the needs of the individual child and the individual community. Mentoring services allows them to gain privileged insight into the lives of families and children across South-West Oxford. They have already seen a 16% increase in new applications for support at mid-year in 2023 then they had for the entirety of last year.

Discussion took place regarding the number of youths waiting for matches and the match process. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford serves over 600 young people and 30 in South-West Oxford alone. Group programming is also offered to keep individuals on waitlists engaged and to help in the match process. It was also discussed that many mentees that go through the program become mentors as they get older.

Administration costs for the organization were discussed. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford previously received office space at a discounted rate but they no longer receive this discount. Demand for services has also increased which has resulted in the hiring of more staff to accommodate this need. The organization applies for various grants on a regular basis however they are not in receipt of consistent provincial funding.

Demand for services has expanded into rural communities over the last several years, particularly in relation to social isolation. Virtual programming has been introduced to accommodate some of these needs. Youth from various demographics between the ages of 6 to 18 utilize their services – needs are specific to the individual.

9:30 a.m. - Tillsonburg & District Multi-Service Centre - 2024 Community Grant Application

Jen Olcsvary, on behalf of the Tillsonburg & District Multi-Service Centre, presented their 2024 grant application to Council. They are requesting \$987.00 in 2024. The funds are used to support their Home Support Team to assist seniors facing food insecurities by providing them with access to healthy, affordable food through their Meals on Wheels program. The funds are also used to support their affordable transportation program to help individuals attend medical appointments and other personal commitments. The funds also support the Multi-Service Centre employment services and literacy team.

She advised that their fundraising goal is less this year as a result of less employment services clients – there has been an increase in literacy clients. The organization considers the number of from different areas/municipalities when determining the amount of funds to request through grants. She noted that the majority of their clients are from within Tillsonburg.

Councillor Ypma asked a question about increased expenses for wages and benefits. Jen will ask their accounting director to provide him with this information.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Mayberry, Jen advised that since the pandemic there has been an increased number of individuals enrolling in tablet and computer classes to enhance information and technology skills. She thanked Council for their support in 2023.

9:45 a.m. - Darlene Graham and Darlene Julian - Beachville Legion - 2024 Grant Application

Darlene Graham and Darlene Julian, on behalf of the Beachville Legion, presented their 2024 grant application to Council. They are seeking funding in the amount of \$5,000 from the Township in 2024 to support ongoing upgrades and upkeep to the Beachville Legion building. They advised that Council's support will continue to be used towards building upgrades – they have been working on improving the accessibility of the building (i.e., walkway, elevator).

Ms. Graham thanked Council for their support over the years. The annual Remembrance Day ceremony will take place at the Beachville Legion on November 11th starting at 10:45 a.m.

Discussion Items

Mock Council Meeting - Oxford Reformed Christian School (Local Government Week)

Clerk Julie Middleton advised Council that she is working on setting up a mock Council meeting to recognize Local Government Week with the Oxford Reformed Christian School. She asked members of Council to advise as their availability on October 24th.

Agenda Items & Correspondence

#170 - Oxford County Council Report - September, 2023

#171 - Town of Ingersoll Council Resolution re: Strong Mayor Powers

#172 - Township of Norwich Resolution re: support Oxford County Council's resolution re: Strong Mayors

#173 - Catfish Creek Conservation Authority - Programs and Services, Inventory of Programs and Services

Resolution No. Moved by Paul Buchner
Seconded by George Way



RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive agenda and correspondence items #170 to #173 inclusive as information and that they be noted and filed.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Accounts Payable Report

October 3rd, 2023 - Accounts Payable Report

Resolution No. Moved by Jim Pickard
Seconded by Peter Ypma

RESOLVED that the following Accounts be approved for payment:

Accounts Payable for September 17 th to 30 th , 2023	\$2,082,741.63
Bi-Weekly Payroll #19	\$50,348.62
Fire Pay #9	\$21,353.77

Council Pay #9	\$8,430.77
Total:	\$2,162,874.79

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Information Items & Correspondence

#174 - City of Cambridge Resolution re: Declaring Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic

#175 - Township of Carlow/Mayo Resolution re: OHIP coverage for chronic pain treatments

Resolution No.	Moved by Peter Ypma Seconded by George Way
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RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford receive information and correspondence items #174 and #175 as information and that they be noted and filed.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

New Business

Dumping on Township Property

Members of Council discussed recent dumping that has been hazardous on or near Township roads and road allowances. It was suggested that communication be prepared on this matter to inform residents that delivery of sand, dirt and gravel must be dumped on personal property and not Township roads and road allowances.

Clean Yards By-law Amendment

Council questioned the wording in the recently amended Clean Yards By-law. It was suggested that 'calendar year' be replaced with '12-month period'. Staff will discuss with enforcement staff and bring back a further amendment for Council's consideration.

2024 Conferences

Councillor Ypma expressed an interested in attending the AMO Conference in 2024. Mayor Mayberry expressed an interest in attending the ROMA Conference and Councillor Buchner expressed an interest in attending the

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Confirmatory By-law

By-Law No. 58-2023 - To confirm all actions and proceedings of Council (October 3rd, 2023)

Resolution No. Moved by Paul Buchner
 Seconded by George Way

RESOLVED that By-law 58-2023 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council held Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 be read a first, second and third time this 3rd day of October, 2023.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the By-law and affix the corporate seal.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Adjournment

Resolution No. Moved by Craig Gillis
 Seconded by Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Council meeting be adjourned at 10:46 a.m. to meet again on Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

CLERK: Julie Middleton

MAYOR: David Mayberry

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.