



MINUTES
Special Meeting of Council

November 19, 2024
9:00am
Town Hall, Council Chambers

Council Present: Mayor Strathdee
Councillor Aylward
Councillor Craigmile
Councillor Edney
Councillor Lucas
Councillor Luna
Councillor Pridham

Staff Present: **In-Person**
Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer
Jenna McCartney, Clerk
Andre Morin, Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer
Denise Feeney, Finance Manager / Deputy Treasurer

Conference Line
Richard Anderson, Director of Emergency Services / Fire Chief
Sarah Andrews, Library CEO
Grant Brouwer, Director of Building and Development
Stephanie Ishe, Director of Community Services
Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works
Jennifer Knechtel, Director of Human Resources

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution 2024-11-19-01

Moved By Councillor Craigmile

Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT the November 19, 2024 special meeting of Council agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

None.

4.1 Steve Lawton re: Pickleball

Resolution 2024-11-19-02

Moved By Councillor Lucas

Seconded By Councillor Aylward

THAT the correspondence from Steve Lawton regarding pickleball be received and referred for discussion during staff report COR 48-2024.

CARRIED

4.2 Dave Baxter re: Pickleball Support

Resolution 2024-11-12-03

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT the correspondence from Dave Baxter regarding pickleball support be received and referred for discussion during staff report COR 48-2024.

CARRIED

5. 2025 Budget Deliberations

5.1 External Transfer Requests

5.1.1 St. Marys Healthcare Foundation

Amanda McCurdy, Board Chair of St. Marys Healthcare Foundation, and Dr. Josh Burley presented the request to Council.

Resolution 2024-11-19-04

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT the presentation from the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation be received and referred for consideration during the review of draft operating budgets specific to Corporate Services.

CARRIED

5.1.2 St. Marys and Area Mobility Bus

Robert Hough, Board Chair and Amber Miners, Manager of the St. Marys and Area Mobility Bus presented to Council.

Resolution 2024-11-19-05

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT the presentation from the St. Marys and Area Mobility Bus be received and referred for consideration during the review of draft operating budgets specific to Corporate Services.

CARRIED

5.1.3 Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

Tracy Annett, General Manager of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority presented the 2025 draft budget to Council.

Resolution 2024-11-19-06

Moved By Councillor Craigmile

Seconded By Councillor Edney

THAT the presentation from the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority regarding the 2025 draft budget be received and referred for consideration during the review of draft operating budgets specific to Corporate Services.

CARRIED

5.1.4 St. Marys Public Library

Barb Tuer, Board Vice Chair of St. Marys Public Library, and Sarah Andrews, Library CEO, presented the annual budget to Council.

Resolution 2024-11-19-07

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT the presentation from the St. Marys Public Library be received.

CARRIED

Council took a brief break at 10:40 am.

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting back to order at 10:56 am.

5.2 Budget 2025 Updates to Date

5.2.1 COR 47-2024 Budget 2025 Updates

Resolution 2024-11-19-08

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Lucas

THAT COR 47-2024 Budget 2025 Updates report be received.

CARRIED

5.3 Review Draft Operating Budget

5.3.1 Administration

**5.3.1.1 ADMIN 55-2024 Supplemental Information
Regarding Staffing Changes Included in the 2025
Budget**

Resolution 2024-11-19-09

Moved By Councillor Craigmile

Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT ADMIN 55-2024 Supplemental Information
Regarding Staffing Changes Included in the 2025
Budget be received for information.

CARRIED

5.3.2 Building and Development

5.3.3 Community Services

Council took a brief break at 11:59 am.

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting back to order at 12:35 pm.

5.3.4 Corporate Services

**5.3.4.1 COR 49-2024 Hospital Foundation Funding
Requests**

Resolution 2024-11-19-10

Moved By Councillor Pridham
Seconded By Councillor Edney

THAT COR 49-2024 Hospital Foundation Funding Requests report be received; and

THAT Council commit \$125,000 to the 2025 budget for “Grant to Hospitals”; and

THAT Council provide the following direction on the request from the Stratford General Hospital Foundation to approve the pledge for \$300,000, to be funded over the next 6 years; and

THAT Council provide the following direction on the request from the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation to deny the request for \$100,000 and approve \$75,000 for 2025 for doctor recruitment, and request the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation to report on the Foundation's expenditures each year during the annual presentation.

CARRIED

6. CLOSED SESSION

Resolution 2024-11-19-11

Moved By Councillor Craigmile
Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT Council move into a session that is closed to the public at 1:25 pm as authorized under the *Municipal Act*, Section 239(2)(b) labour relations or employee negotiations.

CARRIED

7. RISE AND REPORT

Resolution 2024-11-19-12

Moved By Councillor Craigmile
Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT Council rise from a closed session at 2:01 pm.

CARRIED

Mayor Strathdee reported that a closed session was held with one matter related to labour negotiations being considered. Council will consider a motion related to the matter.

7.1 Staffing Position

Councillor Craigmile requested a recorded vote for resolution 2024-11-19-13.

Resolution 2024-11-19-13

Moved By Councillor Craigmile

Seconded By Councillor Aylward

THAT Council direct staff to remove the \$21,443 for the proposed Assistant to the Chief position from the draft 2025 budget.

Support (6): Mayor Strathdee, Councillor Aylward, Councillor Craigmile, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Luna, and Councillor Pridham

Oppose (1): Councillor Edney

CARRIED

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS

*All meetings are open to the public to attend in-person and may be live streamed to the Town's YouTube channel.

December 3, 2024 - 9:00 am, Special Council, Council Chambers

December 10, 2024 - 6:00 pm, Regular Council, Council Chambers *public engagement for 2025 draft budget

9. BY-LAWS

Resolution 2024-11-19-14

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Councillor Lucas

THAT By-Law 93-2024, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the November 19, 2024 special meeting of Council, be read a first, second and third time; and be finally passed by Council, and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 2024-11-19-15

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT this special meeting of Council be adjourned at 2:14 pm.

CARRIED

Al Strathdee, Mayor

Jenna McCartney, Clerk