



MINUTES
Special Meeting of Council

October 15, 2024
9:00 am
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
Grant Brouwer, Director of Building and Development
Stephanie Ische, Director of Community Services
Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works
Jennifer Knechtel, Director of Human Resources
Dave Blake, Environmental Services Manager
Ray Cousineau, Facilities Manager
Doug LaPointe, Recreation Operations Manager
Jeff Wolfe, Infrastructure Services Manager

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

Public Input to follow agenda item 4.1.2.

Resolution 2024-10-15-01

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Councillor Craigmile

THAT the October 15, 2024 special meeting of Council agenda be accepted as amended.

CARRIED

4. SPECIAL MATTERS OF COUNCIL

4.1 2025 Budget Introduction

4.1.1 Chief Administrative Officer Comments

4.1.2 Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer Comments

Resolution 2024-10-15-02

Moved By Councillor Craigmile

Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT as a starting point in the 2025 draft budget deliberations, the internal transfer to self-funded departments of \$242,913.00 be directed to general / working capital reserves because this is real tax levy for the 2025 calendar year and then for final approval at budget consideration.

CARRIED

Council took a break at 10:22 am.

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting back to order at 10:32 am.

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Chantal Lynch, 144 Queen St. E., provided the correspondence in advance of the meeting related to "Lind Park Spend" which included the following overview:

- The Town has identified a capital project related to the Lind Park citing the need for a picnic area in the downtown
- Grant funding was awarded to the Town for the millrace (McGivern Island), funded by Schneider (now Maple Leaf Foods) several years ago
- Opinion that Lind Park is not a priority for tourism
- Recommends that the St. Marys Business Improvement Area be consulted for feedback before decisions are made about this project

Chantal Lynch, 144 Queen St. E., provided correspondence in advance of the meeting related to "Plaques 2025 - Budget Book Draft" which included the following overview:

- 144 Queen St. E. currently has "Stories of the Stores" information on business window
- Inquired how a plaque would replace the information already provided, and further, whether the plaques are in addition to the existing information
- Identified that there are over 100 buildings in the downtown, and inquired why there are 15-25 plaques being requested in the draft budget
- Inquired whether buildings have the option to decline a modification to facade if the plaque is to be placed on the building
- Proposed a QR code that could be printed and placed in windows of participating buildings. The code could link to existing "Stories of the Stores" information.

Mike Ferguson, representing St. Marys Pickleball Association as the Interim President / Treasurer, provided correspondence in advance of the meeting related to "St. Marys 2025 Budget Process" which included the following overview:

- Recognize that the Recreation, Culture and Leisure Master Plan is in progress and inquires whether recommendations from the Plan will have to wait until the 2026 budget for financial support
- The Association has 138 active members and stated that there is continued growth with more individuals playing the sport although not necessarily joining the organized club
- The Association has conducted clinics for over 150 people over the last two years and identified that many people claimed they did not know the Water Street courts could be used for pickleball
- Stated that the Town has painted lines at the courts in recent years for pickleball but has not provided nets. Pickleball players currently use existing tennis nets although there are key differences between the two.
- The Association recommended the following:
 - Ask Town staff to report back on the Plan's major findings for Council discussion during the 2025 budget process, and/or
 - Allocate funding in the 2025 budget to add more painted pickleball courts and high-quality roll on portable nets. This would properly support the

growing pickleball community in St. Marys and provide facilities comparable to other municipalities.

Resolution 2024-10-15-03

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT the correspondence from Chantal Lynch and St. Marys Pickleball Association be received with direction to staff to report back with responses at the next budget meeting.

CARRIED

4. SPECIAL MATTERS OF COUNCIL

4.2 Review Draft Capital Budget

4.2.1 Review of List of 2025 Capital Projects

4.2.1.1 DCS 56-2024 Additional Pool Items

Resolution 2024-10-15-04

Moved By Councillor Edney

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT DCS 56-2024 Additional Pool Items report be received; and

THAT Council authorizes staff to provide instructions to DEI Consulting Inc. to negotiate a change order with Elgin Contracting and Restoration Ltd to deliver 2025 Capital Project #4 and the 2024 approved replacement of the pool filtration system; and

THAT staff report back for Council’s approval of the change order.

CARRIED

4.2.1.2 DCS 55-2024 PRC Splash Pad

Resolution 2024-10-15-05

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Councillor Lucas

THAT DCS 55-2024 PRC Splash Pad report be received; and

THAT Option #2 (decommission the PRC splash pad, repurpose the area) be included in the draft 2025 capital budget.

CARRIED

4.2.1.3 DCS 54-2024 Pyramid Recreation Centre Standby Generator

Resolution 2024-10-15-06

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Lucas

THAT DCS 54-2024 Pyramid Recreation Centre Standby Generator report be received; and

THAT Option 3 (purchase a 150 kW Generator) be included in the draft 2025 capital budget.

CARRIED

Council took a break at 11:56 am.

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

4.2.1.4 PW 47-2025 5 Year Road Reconstruction Capital Plan

Resolution 2024-10-15-07

Moved By Councillor Luna

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT PW 47-2025 5 Year Road Reconstruction Capital Plan report be received.

CARRIED

Council completed a review of all capital projects listed on the draft 2025 budget.

6. UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 19, 2024 - 9:00 am, Special Council (Budget), Council Chambers

7. BY-LAWS

Resolution 2024-10-15-08

Moved By Councillor Craigmile

Seconded By Councillor Luna

THAT By-law 88-2024, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the October 15, 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

8. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 2024-10-15-09

Moved By Councillor Aylward

Seconded By Councillor Lucas

THAT this special meeting of Council be adjourned at 2:07 pm.

CARRIED

Al Stratheed, Mayor

Jenna McCartney, Clerk