



Haldimand
County

**THE CORPORATION OF HALDIMAND COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES**

Date: December 7, 2023
Time: 9:30 A.M.
Location: Haldimand County Administration Building

COUNCIL PRESENT

- S. Bentley, Mayor
- S. Patterson, Councillor
- J. Metcalfe, Councillor
- D. Lawrence, Councillor
- M. Trainer, Councillor
- R. Shirton, Councillor
- P. O'Neill, Councillor

STAFF PRESENT

- C. Case, Chief Administrative Officer
- M. Evers, General Manager, Community & Development Services
- T. Haedrich, General Manager, Engineering & Capital Works
- D. McKinnon, General Manager, Public Works Operations
- M. Merritt, General Manager, Financial & Data Services
- C. Burke, Senior Financial Analyst
- B. Hedges, Manager, Public Works Operations
- H. Love, Supervisor, Budget & Financial Planning
- T. Trewolla, Treasurer
- P. Wilson, Manager, Engineering & Capital Works
- T. Cassidy, Council Services Coordinator/Deputy Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bentley called the Special Council meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Metcalfe read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

C. ROLL CALL

The Mayor and all Members of Council were in attendance.

D. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1 Draft 2024 Rate Supported Budget

1.1 Opening Remarks

C. Case introduced the Draft Water and Wastewater Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast, noting that economic pressures, inflation, and increases in contract management costs and chemical prices are all drivers with this budget, although growth has been a factor as well.

1.2 Presentation - Overview of the Draft 2024 Rate Supported Budget

M. Merritt and T. Trewolla provided an overview of the Draft 2024 Rate Supported Budget, highlighting the financial principles and guidelines that are used in establishing rates. It was noted that the majority of cost increase has been offset by growth. Historical trends were noted along with rates from comparator municipalities.

1.3 Resolution Approval

Resolution 179-23

Moved By: Councillor Lawrence

Seconded By: Councillor O'Neill

1. THAT the 2024 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast, be received;
2. AND THAT the 2024 Rate Supported Water Operating Budget be approved, with a net revenue requirement from user rates of \$8,335,810;
3. AND THAT the 2024 Rate Supported Wastewater Operating Budget be approved, with a net revenue requirement from user rates of \$7,704,830;
4. AND THAT any 2024 rate supported net operating surpluses/deficits be contributed to or from the Water or Sewer Rate Stabilization Reserves, to a maximum reserve balance of 25% of applicable rate revenue, with amounts exceeding 25% for four years in a row contributed to the applicable Capital Replacement Reserve Fund;
5. AND THAT the appropriate by-laws be passed to reflect changes in User Fees and Miscellaneous Charges, as identified in Operating Appendix C, of the 2024 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast, effective January 1st, 2024;
6. AND THAT the budgets and related financing be approved for the proposed 2024 water and wastewater capital expenditures, in the amount of \$71,372,900, with projected debenture financing of \$0;

7. AND THAT the Capital Forecast for Rate Supported Services, for the years 2025 to 2033 be approved in principle, in the amount of \$156,256,040 with projected debenture financing of \$0;
8. AND THAT Development Related Debt be issued on existing and future projects as outlined in Capital Appendix E of the 2024 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast.

CARRIED

F. BY-LAWS

- 1 By-law 2479/23 to establish water and wastewater charges and to repeal By-law 2396/22

Resolution 180-23

Moved By: Councillor Metcalfe

Seconded By: Councillor Shirton

THAT By-law 1, as listed, be enacted.

CARRIED

G. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Resolution 181-23

Moved By: Councillor O'Neill

Seconded By: Councillor Trainer

THAT the Confirming By-law be enacted.

CARRIED

H. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 182-23

Moved By: Councillor Shirton

Seconded By: Councillor Patterson

THAT this meeting is now adjourned at 11:19 p.m.

CARRIED

MAYOR

DEPUTY CLERK