



Date: February 27, 2025
Time: 9:30 A.M.
Location: Haldimand County Administration Building - Council Chambers

Council Present R. Shirton, Deputy Mayor
J. Metcalfe, Councillor
D. Lawrence, Councillor
P. O'Neill, Councillor

Staff Present C. Case, Chief Administrative Officer (participated electronically)
M. Evers, General Manager, Community & Development Services
T. Haedrich, General Manager, Engineering & Capital Works
M. Jamieson, General Manager, Corporate & Social Services
D. McKinnon, General Manager, Public Works Operations
M. Merritt, General Manager, Financial & Data Services
A. Chamberlin, Project Manager, Forestry
P. Diette, CEO, Haldimand County Libraries
T. El-Ahmed, Treasurer
J. Gallagher, Manager, Emergency Services/Fire Chief
H. Love, Supervisor, Budget & Financial Planning
L. Romanuk, Manager, Economic Development & Tourism
C. Curtis, Municipal Clerk

A. Call to Order

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

B. Land Acknowledgement

Deputy Mayor Shirton read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

C. Roll Call

The Deputy Mayor and all Members of Council were in attendance except for Mayor Bentley.

D. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

None.

E. New Business

1 2025 Draft Tax Supported Operating Budget

1.1 Opening Remarks

C. Case, Chief Administrative Officer, provided opening remarks for the 2025 Tax Supported Operating Budget development.

1.2 Overview of the 2025 Draft Tax Supported Operating Budget

M. Merritt, General Manager, Financial & Data Services spoke to the current financial pressures and potential future impacts of the budget.

T. El-Ahmed, Treasurer, provided an overview of the budget guidelines and unbudgeted expenditures.

H. Love, Supervisor, Budgets & Financial Planning provided a detailed review of the 2025 Draft Tax Supported Operating Budget.

Council asked questions and received answers regarding:

- Update on Municipal Property Assessment Corporation assessment values;
- Clarification on inter-functional adjustments;
- An update on online payment options for parking in Port Maitland;
- Rationale for Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority levy increases;
- Update on the Business Retention and Expansion program;
- Clarification on increases to the Ontario Provincial Police contract;
- The Continuous Improvement initiative included in the budget; and
- Overview of the role of the Project Manager – Roads Operation.

1.2.1 EMS-M02-2025 Firefighter Stipends

M. Evers, General Manager, Community & Development Services provided a high-level overview of the memorandum.

Council asked questions and received answers regarding:

- Whether Haldimand's stipend practice is comparable to other fire services across the province; and
- Distribution of stipends across each of the twelve (12) stations.

Resolution 32-25

Moved By: Councillor Lawrence

Seconded By: Councillor Metcalfe

THAT Memorandum EMS-M02-2025 Firefighter Stipends be received.

CARRIED

1.2.2 CDS-02-2025 Hagersville Active Living Centre

M. Evers, General Manager, Community & Development Services provided an overview of the report and a status update on the construction of the facility.

Council asked questions and received answers regarding the transition plan for the new Hagersville Acting Living Centre.

Resolution 33-25

Moved By: Councillor O'Neill

Seconded By: Councillor Lawrence

THAT Report CDS-01-2025 Hagersville Active Living Centre be received.

CARRIED

1.3 Resolution Approval

Resolution 34-25

Moved By: Councillor Lawrence

Seconded By: Councillor O'Neill

1. THAT the 2025 Draft Tax Supported Operating Budget document be received;
2. AND THAT the 2025 Tax Supported Operating Budget be approved at a net levy of \$92,200,590;
3. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from 2025 Public Health be transferred to or from the Contingency Reserve;
4. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from 2025 Social Assistance be transferred to or from the Social Assistance Stabilization Reserve;
5. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from 2025 Child Care be transferred to or from the Social Assistance Stabilization Reserve;

6. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from 2025 Social Housing be transferred to or from the Social Housing Reserve;
7. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from 2025 Library Operations be transferred to or from the Library Reserve Fund;
8. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from 2025 Emergency Measures operations be transferred to or from the Climate Change and Emergency Response Reserve;
9. AND THAT any net surplus/deficit from the remaining 2025 Tax Supported Operations, be transferred to or from the Contingency Reserve;
10. AND THAT User Fee By-law 2560/24 be amended to reflect all new and revised user fees as included in the budget;
11. AND THAT the budget for Hagersville Business Improvement Area be approved with a levy requirement of \$14,400;
12. AND THAT the budget for Dunnville Business Improvement Area be approved with a levy requirement of \$40,000;
13. AND THAT the budget for Caledonia Business Improvement Area be approved with a levy requirement of \$54,280;
14. AND THAT the revised salary grid framework covering CUPE employees, presented through Report HRD-01-2025, be formally adopted with an effective date of February 28, 2025, subject to approval by CUPE representatives.

CARRIED

Resolution 35-25

Moved By: Councillor Metcalfe

Seconded By: Councillor Lawrence

THAT, as the following initiatives have been approved in the 2025 Tax Supported Operating Budget, the following amendments to the Capital Budget be approved as outlined below:

- Permanent, Full-time Coordinator, HRMS/Projects - Human Resources
 - IT Equipment \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology

- Permanent, Full-time Purchasing Agent - Legal & Support Services
 - IT Equipment totalling \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Permanent, Full-time Communications Advisor - Customer Experience & Communications
 - IT Equipment totalling \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Permanent, Full-time Supervisor Development Engineering and GIS - Planning & Development;
 - IT Equipment totalling \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Three (3) Permanent, Full-time FTE Community Recreation Programmers - Community Development & Partnerships;
 - IT Equipment totalling \$10,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Permanent, Full-time Coordinator, Festivals, Events & Special Projects - Community Development & Partnerships
 - IT Equipment totalling \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Permanent, Full-time Project Manager - Roads Operations
 - IT Equipment totalling \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Permanent, Full-time Supervisor, Cemeteries & Trails - Facilities, Parks, Cemeteries and Forestry Operations
 - IT Equipment totalling \$5,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
- Permanent, Full-time Senior By-law Enforcement Officer and 0.33 Student FTE – Building and Municipal Enforcement
 - IT Equipment totalling \$10,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology
 - Vehicle purchase totalling \$45,000, funded from CRR-Other Fleet

- Continuous Improvement and Staffing Initiative
 - IT Equipment totalling \$15,000, funded from CRR-Information Technology

CARRIED

Resolution 36-25

Moved By: Councillor Metcalfe

Seconded By: Councillor O'Neill

1. THAT the Treasurer's Report included in the 2025 Draft Tax Supported Operating Budget document be received;
2. AND THAT, as a result of financial reporting amendments under the Public Sector Accounting Board guidelines, expenditures for amortization expenses related to capital assets, post-employment benefits and solid waste landfill closure and post closure expenses, as outlined in the Treasurer's Report, have been excluded from the 2025 Tax Supported Operating Budget.

CARRIED

F. Closed Session

None.

G. By-laws

- 1 By-law 2590/25 to amend Schedules "A", "O" and "Q" of By-law 2560/24 User Fees and Service Charges By-law

Resolution 37-25

Moved By: Councillor Lawrence

Seconded By: Councillor O'Neill

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

CARRIED

H. Confirming By-law

By-law 2591/25 to confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County

Resolution 38-25

Moved By: Councillor O'Neill

Seconded By: Councillor Metcalfe

THAT the Confirmation By-law for the February 27, 2025 Special Council meeting be enacted.

CARRIED

I. Adjournment

Resolution 39-25

Moved By: Councillor O'Neill

Seconded By: Councillor Lawrence

THAT this meeting is now adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

CARRIED

DEPUTY MAYOR

CLERK