



The Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 6:00 pm
Council Chambers, 5 Main Street North, Grand Valley

Council Present: Mayor Steve Soloman
Deputy Mayor Philip Rentsch
Councillor Lorne Dart
Councillor James Jonker
Councillor Paul Latam

Staff Present: Meghan Townsend, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Matthew Bos, Director Public Works
Steven Freitas, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Mark Kluge, Town Planner
Helena Snider, Secretary/Treasurer Grand Valley and District
Fire Board
Donna Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Soloman called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
Mayor Soloman announced that the meeting is being livestreamed and publicly broadcast with the recording of the meeting to be available on the Town's website.

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk conducted a Roll Call.
Councillor Paul Latam attended the meeting virtually.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution: 2025-01-01

Moved by: P. Latam
Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopts the agenda and any addendums dated Tuesday, January 14, 2025 as amended, addition of closed meeting.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

No pecuniary interest was declared.

4. Closed Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Resolution: 2025-01-02

Moved by: P. Rentsch
Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council resolve itself into closed session at 6:03 p.m. under the provisions of the Municipal Act, to discuss matters pertaining to section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board - Grand Valley Staffing Update.

CARRIED

The following items were discussed:

- 4.1 Call to Order
- 4.2 Approval of Closed Agenda
- 4.3 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof
- 4.4 Items for Consideration
 - 4.4.1 Grand Valley Staffing Update

5. Open Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

Council rose from its closed meeting at 6:30 p.m. and resumed its open meeting.

6. Rise and Report

Council reported on its closed meeting as follows:

Resolution: 2025-01-03

Moved by: L. Dart
Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the confidential verbal update Grand Valley Staffing, from Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk regarding personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board be received; and staff proceed as directed.

CARRIED

7. Approval of Previous Minutes

Council discussed the December 10, 2024 Regular and Special Council Meeting minutes with no requests for amendments.

Resolution: 2025-01-04

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the December 10, 2024 Regular and Special Council Meetings be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

7.1 December 10, 2024 - Regular Council Minutes

7.2 December 10, 2024 - Special Council - 2025 Capital Budget Minutes

8. Announcements

There were no announcements.

9. Deputations/Presentations

There were no deputations or presentations.

10. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

11. Unfinished Business

None.

12. Staff Reports

12.1 CAO/Clerk

12.1.1 ServiceOntario – Marriage Licence Modernization Program, 2025-002

Donna Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator presented the report providing highlights on the ServiceOntario Marriage Modernization Program, benefits for the Town and its residents and future delivery of ServiceOntario programs.

Council discussed the report and did not provide any questions.

Resolution: 2025-01-05

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report – ServiceOntario Marriage Modernization Program.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to prepare and present the necessary By-law for adoption.

CARRIED

12.1.2 Costs Agreement – Dufferin Common Elements Condominium Corporation No. 37, 2025-001

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk presented the report with a summary of the need for the costs agreement.

Council discussed the report and sought clarification regarding costs covered under the agreement.

Resolution: 2025-01-06

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report – Costs Agreement – Dufferin Common Elements Condominium Corporation No. 37.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to prepare and present the necessary By-Law for adoption.

CARRIED

12.1.3 Fire Protection Grant 2024-25 Transfer Payment Agreement, 2025-005

CAO Townsend presented the report advising grant funds would be used by the Grand Valley Fire Department to purchase safety equipment.

Council discussed the report and inquired as to whether Grand Valley's municipal partners could also submit grant applications. Staff advised applications were restricted to one application per fire services department with approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000 in grant funding available based on the number of applications received.

Resolution: 2025-01-07

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report – Fire Protection Grant 2024-25 Transfer Payment Agreement.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Transfer Payment Agreement as presented, authorizes signing by the Mayor and Clerk

and directs staff to prepare and present the necessary by-law for passing.

CARRIED

12.1.4 CAO Progress Update, 2025-004

CAO Townsend presented the report including a verbal update on the completion of the Water Rehabilitation Project, the Town's upcoming receipt of ICIP - Green Infrastructure funding and the installation of signage for the Automated Speed Cameras which would be completed the last week of January. She advised she would be removing the Municipal Services Committee from the list of CAO items.

Council inquired as to the estimated completion date of Spring 2025 for the sale of the gravel pit lands in Southgate Township. CAO Townsend advised staff will provide information regarding this timeline as part of the January 28th Operating Budget discussions.

Deputy Mayor Rentsch requested staff add to the list of CAO items arranging a discussion meeting with Kyle Seebeck, MP. He suggested discussion topics include Federal Municipal reporting and gas tax spending requirements.

Resolution: 2025-01-08

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report- CAO Progress Update for information purposes.

CARRIED

12.2 Director of Public Works

12.2.1 Public Works Update Report January, 2025, 2025-003

Matt Bos, Director of Public Works presented his report which included a summary of the public works ongoing and future activities.

Council provided thanks to the Director and Public Works staff on their winter control efforts.

Resolution: 2025-01-09

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Report- Public Works Update, January, 2025 for information purposes.

CARRIED

12.3 Director of Finance/Treasurer

Council sought an update on the status of tax bills and notification to affected residents of changes to the Town's Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Program (PAP).

Steven Freitas, Director of Finance/Treasurer provided an update, advising that affected PAP Program users feedback has been generally positive. He advised that following Council's approval to the PAP Program on December 10th, the twelve-month PAP users were advised of the changes to the program by a number of methods including email, regular mail or contacted directly by telephone. He added a Notice was also inserted in two local newspapers and information was included on the Town's website. Many twelve-month PAP users have completed new application forms with many requesting the new ten-month plan. Mr. Freitas stated the deadline for submission of new PAP agreements is January 15th and Interim Tax bills will be mailed to all taxpayers in the coming week.

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk added that all affected twelve-month PAP users have been contacted by the Town regarding changes to the PAP Program.

12.4 Planner

There were no Planning Reports.

12.5 By-Law and Property Standards Enforcement

There were no By-Law and Property Standards Enforcement Reports.

12.6 Parks and Recreation

There were no Parks and Recreation Reports.

Council inquired as to why ball diamond lighting installation was not completed along the westside. Staff advise due ground conditions, the crane was unable to complete the west side. Installation will resume once the area freezes and becomes more stable.

13. Public Meeting

There were no Public Meetings.

14. Pending Items

There were no pending items.

15. Correspondence

Council discussed the correspondence.

Resolution: 2025-01-10

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the correspondence listed on the Tuesday, January 14, 2025, Council Agenda.

CARRIED

The following correspondence items were listed:

- 15.1 Township of Melancthon - Resolution Multi-Jurisdiction Fire Services Support Option 1 Uploading of fire services to the County to create a County of Dufferin Fire Department dated December 12, 2024
- 15.2 Town of Orangeville - Resolution Orangeville Fire Services Model and Staff Report dated December 17, 2024
- 15.3 Town of Orangeville - Resolution Request to Provincial and Federal Government Regarding Distribution of Taxes on Property Transactions - November 21, 2024
- 15.4 Township of Amaranth - Resolution Requesting Redistribution of Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding - dated December 24, 2024
- 15.5 Township of East Garafraxa - Resolution Regulating Exotic Animals and Licensing Zoos dated December 13, 2024
- 15.6 Grand Valley and District Public Library Board - Silent Auction Donation Thank You dated December 10, 2024
- 15.7 Grand River Conservation Authority - 2025 Municipal Apportionment and Budget Vote Meetings dated December 20, 2024
- 15.8 Dufferin O.P.P. Detachment Board Melancthon Township, Town of Mono, Mulmur Township - Resolution to Support efforts to collect unpaid POA Fines dated December 3, 2024

16. County Council Report

Mayor Soloman provided a County Council update. He advised County Council met on the January 9th where there was a presentation from the OPP regarding the February 17th Polar Plunge Challenge to support the Special Olympics and the County discussed the 2025 Budget. Mayor Soloman advised a Special Council meeting will be held on January 30th for further County Budget discussions.

17. Council Updates

Councillor Jonker provided an update on the Grand Valley Library Board's January 8th meeting. He advised the Library Board approved the 2025 Budget, which will be presented to Council at a future meeting. The Board has begun its annual policy reviews and updates and receive an update on the successful silent auction fundraiser.

Deputy Mayor Rentsch and Mayor Soloman provided an update on their meeting before the holidays with the Executive Director of the Dufferin Community Foundation where they discussed potential projects to be funded by the foundation.

Mayor Soloman provided an update on his attendance at the Grand Valley Lion's Polar Dip on January 4th and that he would be attending the Community Centre Board meeting on Thursday.

Councillor Latam and Councillor Dart provided an update on the Fire Board meeting. They advised the Board met to discuss their 2025 Budget and that Councillor Latam has been elected the Chair of the Fire Board.

18. Boards and Committees

18.1 Minutes

Council discussed the board and committee minutes.

Resolution: 2025-01-11

Moved by: J. Jonker

Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Board and Committee Minutes listed on the Tuesday, January 14, 2025, Council Agenda.

CARRIED

The following Board and Committee Minutes were listed:

18.1.1 Grand Valley and District Medical Dental Board Minutes September 23, 2024

18.1.2 Grand Valley Business Improvement Area Board of Management Minutes November 5, 2024

18.1.3 Grand Valley and District Public Library Board Minutes November 13 , 2024

18.1.4 Grand Valley and District Fire Board Minutes November 25, 2024

18.2 Recommendations

Council discussed the Board and Committee recommendations.

Resolution: 2025-01-12

Moved by: J. Jonker
Seconded by: P. Rentsch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the resolutions received from the Township of East Garafraxa regarding the Grand Valley and District Fire Board;

CARRIED

The following recommendations were listed:

18.2.1 Grand Valley and District Fire Board

18.2.1.1 Township of East Garafraxa - Resolution Formal Notice to Withdraw from the Grand Valley and District Fire Board dated December 23, 2024

18.2.1.2 Township of East Garafraxa - Resolution Multi-Jurisdiction Fire Services Support Option 3 Dissolution of Grand Valley and District Fire Board dated December 10, 2024

19. New Business

There was no new business.

20. Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

21. By-laws

Resolution: 2025-01-13

Moved by: P. Rentsch
Seconded by: L. Dart

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to introduce the by-laws listed on the Tuesday, January 14, 2025 agenda as items 21.1 to 21.6;

AND FURTHER THAT the By-laws be given the necessary reading and passed and numbered as By-laws 2025-01 to 2025-06.

CARRIED

The following by-laws were listed:

21.1 2025-XXX Being a By-law to Authorize Temporary Borrowing from time to time to meeting current expenditures during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025.

21.2 2025-XXX Being a By-Law to Authorize the Collection of Business Improvement Area Levies

- 21.3 2025-XXX Being a By-law to appoint officials for the Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley for the year 2025 and set remuneration for Members of Council.
- 21.4 2025-XXX Being a By-law to Authorize the Execution of the Costs Agreement with Dufferin Common Elements Condominium Corporation No. 37
- 21.5 2025-XXX Being an By-Law to Authorize the Execution of a Marriage Licence Modernization Phase 2 Participation Agreement
- 21.6 2025-XXX Being a By-Law Authorizing the Execution of a Transfer Payment Agreement with Minister of Solicitor General for the Town of Grand Valley Fire Protection Grant 2024-25

22. Confirm Proceedings

Resolution: 2025-01-14

Moved by: J. Jonker
Seconded by: P. Latam

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to introduce a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 and that it be given the necessary readings and be passed and numbered as By-Law 2025-07.

CARRIED

- 22.1 2025-XXX Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley at its meeting held on January 14, 2025.

23. Adjournment

Resolution: 2025-01-15

Moved by: L. Dart
Seconded by: J. Jonker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn this meeting of Council at 7:42 p.m. to meet again for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. or at the call of the Mayor.

CARRIED

Steve Soloman, Mayor

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk

