



## **The Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley**

### **Council Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 10:00 am  
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  
Brad Haines, By-Law Enforcement Officer  
Donna Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator

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#### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Mayor Soloman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Soloman announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast with the recording of the meeting to be available on the Town's website.

#### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

**Resolution: 2025-03-31**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council adopts the agenda and any addendums dated Tuesday, March 25, 2025 as circulated.

CARRIED

#### **3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

No pecuniary interest was declared.

**4. Closed Meeting - 10:05 a.m.**

**Resolution: 2025-03-32**

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: J. Jonker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council resolve itself into a meeting that is closed to the public at 10:02 a.m. pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001, section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees - Public Appointment to Dufferin South West OPP Detachment Board.

CARRIED

The following items were discussed:

4.1 Call to Order

4.2 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

4.3 Items for Discussion

4.3.1 Confidential Report - Public Appointment to Dufferin South West OPP Detachment Board, 2025-055

4.4 Closed Minutes

4.4.1 March 11, 2025 Closed Council Minutes

**5. Open Meeting - 10:30 a.m.**

Council recessed its open meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Deputy Mayor Rentsch arrived at 10:06 a.m.

Councillor Dart arrived at 10:15 a.m.

Council resumed its open meeting at 10:30 a.m.

**6. Rise and Report**

Council rose from its closed meeting to report as follows:

**Resolution: 2025-03-33**

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approves the Closed Session minutes dated March 11, 2025 as presented in closed session, as amended.

CARRIED

**Resolution: 2025-03-34**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the Confidential Report Public Appointment to the Dufferin South West OPP Detachment Board (DSWODB) - Vacant Grand Valley Position;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council appoints Tom Stuckey as the Grand Valley Board Member for the Dufferin South West OPP Detachment Board (DSWODB), for a term ending November, 2026 or until a successor is appointed.

CARRIED

**7. Approval of Previous Minutes**

**Resolution: 2025-03-35**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the March 11, 2025 Regular and Special Council - 2025 Budget meetings be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

7.1 March 11, 2025 - Council Minutes

7.2 March 11, 2025 - Special Council - 2025 Budget Minutes

**8. Announcements**

8.1 Proclamation - World Autism Day - April 2, 2025

Mayor Soloman read the proclamation recognizing April 2nd as World Autism Day in the Town of Grand Valley.

8.2 Economic Development Survey- Second Gift Card Draw

Mayor Soloman conducted a draw to select a winner from the Economic Development Committee Survey entrants and advised staff would be contacting the winner.

**9. Deputations/Presentations**

9.1 10:35 a.m. - 2024 Grand Valley Annual Water Reporting

**Resolution: 2025-03-36**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** leave be given to Joe Miedema, P. Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited to address Council regarding the 2024 Grand Valley Annual Water Reporting.

CARRIED

9.1.1 Joe Miedema, P. Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited - Presentation - 2024 Grand Valley Annual Water Reporting

Joe Miedema, P. Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited came before Council to present a summary of the information contained in the legislated and annual Drinking Water System reports. He informed Council based on the presented reports no non-compliance issues were reported during inspections in 2024.

**Resolution: 2025-03-37**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the presentation from Joe Miedema, P. Eng. General Manager, Dufferin Water Company Limited and directs that the reports be posted on the website.

CARRIED

9.1.1.1 Ontario Drinking Water Systems Regulation O. Reg 170/03-Annual Report

9.1.1.2 2024 Grand Valley Water Systems Annual Summary Report

**10. Public Questions**

**11. Unfinished Business**

**Union Cemetery Entrance**

Councillor Jonker requested an update regarding Jim Rowe's request to reconfiguration the Union Cemetery entrance. Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk advised staff will be preparing a report outlining options.

**12. Staff Reports**

**12.1 CAO/Clerk**

**12.1.1 Final 2025 Budget, 2025-059**

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk presented the report advising Council's requests for budget amendments had been completed and staff are presenting the 2025 final budget and corresponding Budget By-Law for Council's approval.

Council provided the following budget questions:

Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) revenues. Staff advised ASE revenues will be used to offset general costs of law enforcement.

CAO Townsend, sought Council's direction on staff's future budget recommendations.

Council discussed the future budget recommendations. Discussions included budget meeting formats, budget process and approval for separate capital and operating budgets, preparation and use of budget forecasts and public education regarding the budget process.

A recorded vote was requested.

**Resolution: 2025-03-38**

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the Report – Final 2025 Budget,

**AND THAT** Council approves the 2025 Budget as presented and directs staff to prepare and present the necessary by-laws for passing.

For (5): S. Soloman, P. Rentsch, L. Dart, J. Jonker, and P. Latam

CARRIED (5 to 0)

12.2 Director of Finance/Treasurer

12.2.1 Treasurer's Update, 2025-054

Steven Frietas, Director of Finance, presented a summary of the report.

Council discussed the report and inquired as to whether there had been a increase in late payment notices. Staff advised there had been an increase in late payment notices and inquiries as taxpayers are adjusting to Council's direction to enforce late payments in accordance with the Town's Tax By-Law.

Council requested future procurement summaries include the tender quote amounts . Staff advised quotes will be included.

Council requested future update reports include variance reports. Staff advised variance reports would be provided with future monthly Treasurer's updates.

**Resolution: 2025-03-39**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receive the Report – Treasurer's Update for information purposes.

CARRIED

### 12.3 By-Law and Property Standards Enforcement

#### 12.3.1 By-Law Enforcement Status Update - February 2025, 2025-052

Brad Haines, By-Law Enforcement and Property Standards Officer presented his report which included a summary of potential by-law enforcement revenue opportunities.

Council discussed the report and raised questions regarding administrative penalties, potential for a By-Law for hire service and the processes to increase set fines. Staff advised future potential revenue opportunities would require further research and reporting.

**Resolution: 2025-03-40**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives Report – By-law Enforcement Status Update – February 2025, for information purposes.

CARRIED

### 12.4 Parks and Recreation

#### 12.4.1 Recreation Department Hirings, 2025-056

#### 12.4.2 Recreation Update - March 2025, 2025-057

CAO Townsend presented the report.

Council discussed the report and inquired as to the commencement date for the Community Centre renovations. Staff advised that Town staff meet with the contractors at a construction kick-off with commencement of construction to begin once the construction site has been secured and permits received.

**Resolution: 2025-03-41**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the Report Recreation Update - March 2025 for information purposes.

CARRIED

12.5 Director of Public Works

There were no reports.

12.6 Manager of Planning

There were no reports.

**13. Public Meeting**

**14. Pending Items**

**15. Correspondence**

**Resolution: 2025-03-44**

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the correspondence listed on the Tuesday, March 25, 2025, Council Agenda.

CARRIED

15.1 Sponsorship Request Grand Valley Santa Claus Parade dated March 7, 2025

Council discussed the sponsorship request and their participation in the parade.

**Resolution: 2025-03-42**

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the correspondence from the Grand Valley Santa Claus Parade;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council approves the sponsorship request in the amount of \$400.00 and directs staff to advise the parade committee as requested.

**AND FURTHER THAT** Grand Valley participate with a float.

CARRIED

- 15.2 Township of Amaranth Resolution - Funding the Crime Stoppers Program dated February 21, 2025
- 15.3 Township of Melancthon - Support Resolution - Township of Amaranth - Funding the Crime Stoppers Program dated March 7, 2025
- 15.4 Township of Melancthon - Resolution - Request MPP Sylvia Jones to attend Township of Melancthon Council dated March 7, 2025
- 15.5 Township of Amaranth - Resolution - Planning Authority dated March 13, 2025

Council discussed the resolution.

Mark Kluge, Manager of Planning provided comments.

**Resolution: 2025-03-43**

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: J. Jonker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Grand Valley Council supports the resolution from Amaranth regarding Planning Authority.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be distributed to all Dufferin County Municipalities, Minster of Municipal Affairs and Housing and MP, Sylvia Jones.

CARRIED

- 15.6 Township of East Garafraxa - Support Resolution - Town of Orangeville - Provincial and Federal distribution of taxes on property transactions dated March 19, 2025

**16. Council Updates**

Mayor Soloman provided an update on Ontario Corp.'s assistance during the recent Town flooding. His update included his assistance with sand bagging and Ontario Corp.'s availability of dam devices that could be provided by Ontario Corp. should there be future flooding in the Town.

Council discussed the flooding and requested a representative from the Grand River Conservation Authority attend a future Council meeting regarding the flooding and to provide a debrief report. Staff advised a contact would be made with the Conservation Authority and a debrief report would be prepared and provided to Council.

**17. County Council Report**

Deputy Mayor Rentsch provided an update on Dufferin County Council's approval of an amendment to the County's Procurement By-law to include buy Canadian clauses.

- 17.1 Dufferin County Council Resolution - Advance Turn at the Intersection of Highway 10 and Dufferin Road 7 (Hockley Road)/Dufferin Road 16 dated March 18, 2025
- 17.2 Dufferin County Council Resolution - Request to Ministry of Education for Recalibration of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care System Formula dated March 20, 2025

**18. Boards and Committees**

18.1 Board Minutes

**Resolution: 2025-03-45**

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the Board and Committee Minutes listed on the Tuesday, March 25, 2025, Council Agenda.

CARRIED

18.1.1 Grand Valley and District Fire Department Minutes - February 10, 2025

18.1.2 Grand Valley Public Library Minutes - February 12, 2025

18.2 Board Recommendations

18.2.1 Grand Community Centre 2025 Fee Waiver Request - Grand Valley Public Library

Council discussed the fee waiver request.

**Resolution: 2025-03-46**

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receives the Grand Valley Community Centre - 2025 Fee Waiver Request from the Grand Valley Library;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council approves/denies the library's fee waiver request for the 2025 library programs as indicated and staff be directed to advise the library.

CARRIED

**19. New Business**

There was no new business.

**20. Notice of Motion**

There were no Notices of Motion.

**21. By-laws**

**Resolution: 2025-03-47**

Moved by: P. Rentsch

Seconded by: L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** leave be given to introduce the by-laws listed on the Tuesday, March 25, 2025 agenda as items 21.1 and 21.2 and that the By-laws be given the necessary reading and passed and numbered as By-laws 2025-22 and 2025-23.

CARRIED

21.1 2025-XXX Being a By-law to provide for the adoption of budgetary estimates for the year 2025.

21.2 2025-XXX Being a By-Law to Amended By-Law Number 2018-48, as amended, being a By-Law to establish the Fees and Charges for various services to include Schedule K - Town of Grand Valley Ball Diamond Fee Schedule - 2025 and 2026

**22. Confirm Proceedings**

**Resolution: 2025-03-48**

Moved by: P. Latam

Seconded by: J. Jonker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** leave be given to introduce a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 and that it be given the necessary readings and be passed and numbered as By-Law 2025-24.

CARRIED

22.1 2025-XXX - A By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley at the Regular Meeting held on March 25, 2025

**23. Adjournment**

**Resolution: 2025-03-49**

Moved by: L. Dart

Seconded by: P. Rentsch

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now adjourn this meeting of Council at 1:07 p.m. to meet again for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.

CARRIED

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Steve Soloman, Mayor

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Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk