

Township of Clearview Council Meeting Minutes

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Clearview met in a hybrid in-person (Council Chambers, 217 Gideon Street) and virtual zoom session on October 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

Mayor: Douglas Measures

Deputy Mayor: Paul Van Staveren

Councillors: Ward 1 – Councillor Phyllis Dineen
Ward 2 – Councillor Robert McArthur
Ward 3 – Councillor John Broderick
Ward 4 – Councillor Robert Walker
Ward 5 – Councillor Marty Beelen

Staff: CAO, John Ferguson
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services, Sasha Helmkey
Director of Finance/Treasurer, Kelly McDonald
Director of Planning & Building, Amy Cann
Director of Human Resources, Tammy Gill
Fire Chief, Scott Davison
Deputy Clerk, Krista Pascoe
Manager of Planning, Rossalyn Workman
Community Planner, Nick Ainley
By-law Enforcement Officer, Kevin Harrod

1. Closed Session (4:00 p.m.)

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Be It Resolved that the next portion of the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with s. 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001:

(2) (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

Topic for discussion: Township Facility Opportunity

(2) (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board

Topic for discussion: Developer Water Funding Agreements. Motion Carried.

Mayor Measures began the regular meeting by reading the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda (5:30 p.m.)

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Beelen, Seconded by Councillor Dineen, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby approve the Agenda dated October 7, 2024 as presented. Motion Carried.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Deputy Mayor Van Staveren declared a conflict on the Closed Session Item relating to the Township Facility opportunity.

4. Public Participation

None.

5. Deputations and Presentations

No Items.

6. Public Meetings

No Items.

7. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Van Staveren, Seconded by Councillor McArthur, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby approve the Minutes of the September 23, 2024, Council Meeting as presented. Motion Carried.

8. Business arising from Minutes (if any)

None.

9. Communications from the Mayor

9.1. Closed Session Report

Township Facility Opportunity

Deputy Mayor Van Staveren moved from the dais and did not vote on the next item.

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Dineen, Seconded by Councillor Walker, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby direct staff to act in accordance with the direction provided in closed session regarding the Township Facility opportunity. Motion Carried.

Deputy Mayor Van Staveren returned to the dais for the remainder of the meeting.

Developer Water Funding Agreements**Resolution:**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Van Staveren, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby direct staff to act in accordance with the direction provided in closed session regarding the Developer Water Funding Agreements. Motion Carried.

9.2. Request for Support - Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act**Resolution:**

Moved by Councillor Broderick, Seconded by Councillor Walker, Whereas, elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections.

Whereas, legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process,

Whereas, the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities.

Whereas, the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026.

Whereas, the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the *Assessment Act, 1990* and the *Education Act, 1990* also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario.

Whereas, with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the *MEA* containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill.

Whereas, the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce.

Whereas, while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges.

Whereas, to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities.

Whereas, the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration.

And Whereas, AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections.

Therefore, Be It Resolved That Council of the Corporation of the Township of Clearview calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections.

And Be It Further Resolved that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca), the Minister of Education (minister.edu@ontario.ca), the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery (todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca), Minister of Finance (Minister.fin@ontario.ca) the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca), Simcoe-Grey MPP (brian.saunderson@pc.ola.org) and AMCTO (advocacy@amcto.com). Motion Carried.

9.3 Proclamation – International Day of Rural Women

Mayor Measures proclaimed October 15th as International Day of Rural Women and thanked Council for their support.

10. County Reports and Information

10.1 Advisory – County of Simcoe to Launch New Medical Dispatch Triage System

Deputy Mayor Van Staveren stated that the new MDTS coming into effect on November 13th is an improved dispatching system that aims to deliver a better dispatch system.

10.2 Joint Release - CONTACT Community Services and the South Georgian Bay Community Health Clinic team up to operate and manage Supportive Rapid Rehousing Program in the Town of Collingwood

10.3 Release – Simcoe County to Participate in the Fourth Nationally Coordinated Point-In-Time Homeless Count

10.4 Empowering Accessibility: County Secures Funding for New Wheelchair Tandem Bicycles

10.5 Release – Fall bi-weekly leaf and yard waste collection returns October 7

11. Council Reports and Community Announcements

11.1. Ward Reports

Councillor Dineen

- Stated that her Grandmother was a long standing member of the Marberg Women's Institute which covered Simcoe, Port Dover and Norfolk County
- Commended the workers and stated that the old Nottawa School is now demolished

Councillor Beelen

- Attended the Station on the Green board meeting

Councillor Walker

- Stated that the Clearview Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting and the Public Library Board meeting is coming up

Deputy Mayor Van Staveren

- Attended the Agricultural Advisory meeting and noted that the Province is mandating an update to the GIS system, changes will come forward soon
- Attended the NVCA meeting and stated that the budget coming forward will include 2 additional Planning staff members to assist in application response times
- Attended the Small Hall events

Councillor McArthur

- Attended the 40th Anniversary for the Stayner Care Centre and the Ontario Association of Committees of Adjustment and Consent Authorities
- Spent a day with Reinhart's working with the Habitat for Humanity on a house for a local family from Duntroon

Councillor Broderick

- Attended the Creemore BIA meeting, Stayner Care Centre's 40th Anniversary, the 10th Anniversary for the Small Halls and the memorial forest dedication and the Emergency/Priority of Council

Mayor Measures

- Provided opening remarks for the AMCTO Zone 2 meeting
- Attended the tree dedication for the 10th Anniversary of the Small Halls and Music Market & Park-it event

12. Department Reports and By-laws

Planning & Building

Report # PB-027-2024 – Draft Plan of Subdivision Extension – Manortown Homes Inc.

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Broderick, Seconded by Deputy Mayor Van Staveren, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report PB-027-2024 (Draft Plan of Subdivision Extension – Manortown Homes Inc.) dated October 7, 2024; and,

- 1) That Council approves the extension of the Manortown Homes Inc. Draft Plan of Subdivision being file 2017-063-SD, legally described as Plan 51M-541, for an additional one (1) year period; and,
- 2) That Council approves amendments to the existing draft plan conditions as outlined in Schedule 'E' of Staff Report PB-027-2024; and
- 3) That notice be given in accordance with the Planning Act. Motion Carried.

Report # PB-028-2024 – Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) 2024

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor McArthur, Seconded by Councillor Walker, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report PB-028-2024 (Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) 2024) dated October 7, 2024, for information. Motion Carried.

Report # PB-029-2024 – Mannington Investments Corp – Lift of Hold

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor McArthur, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report PB-029-2024 (Mannington Investments Corp Lift of Hold) dated October 7, 2024; and,

- 1) That Council direct the Mayor and Clerk to execute By-law 24-69 for the removal of 'Hold (H25)' for the lands municipally known as 143-145 Mill Street, Creemore, once the Site Plan Agreement for Mannington Investments Corp. has been executed to the satisfaction of the municipality. Motion Carried.

Emergency Services

Report # FD-003-2024 – Division Chief – Fire Prevention

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Beelen, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report FD-003-2024 (Division Chief – Fire Prevention) dated October 7, 2024; and,

- 1) That Council approve the organizational change in the Fire Department to upgrade the Fire Prevention Officer position to a Division Chief - Fire Prevention. Motion Carried.

Legislative Services

Report # LS-027-2024 – Procedure By-law Review – Council Feedback Meeting

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Broderick, Seconded by Councillor Dineen, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report LS-027- 2024 (Procedure By-law Review – Council Feedback Meeting) dated October 7, 2024; and,

- 1) That Council supports the changes outlined in this report and shown in the Draft Procedure By-law attached as Appendix A; and,
- 2) That the final version of the Procedure By-law encompassing these changes, be presented to Council for consideration at the October 21, 2024, meeting for approval. Motion Carried.

Report # LS-028-2024 – 2024 Community Assistance Grant & Sponsorship – 2nd Intake Period

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Van Staveren, Seconded by Councillor Dineen, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report LS-028-2024 (2024 Community Assistance Grant & Sponsorship – 2nd Intake Period) dated October 7, 2024; and,

- 1) That Council approve the distribution of the 2024 Community Assistance Grant & Sponsorships 2nd Intake as outlined in Appendix “A” to this report; and,
- 2) That Council approve carrying the remaining \$25,150 of the 2024 Grant & Sponsorship budget over to the 2025 Grant & Sponsorship budget year. Motion Carried.

By-laws

By-law 24-67 Amend Appointment By-law 22-101 – Schedule A

Recommendation:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Beelen, Be It Resolved that By-law 24-67, being a By-law to amend Schedule “A” of By-law 22-101, appointing members to the Township of Clearview Committees and Boards, be presented and read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 7th day of October, 2024. Motion Carried.

By-law 24-69 – Zoning By-law Amendment (143-145 Mill Street)

Recommendation:

Moved by Councillor McArthur, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Be It Resolved that By-law 24-69, being a By-law to regulate the use of land and the character, location and use of buildings and structures on lands municipally known as 143 -145 Mill Street, Creemore, be presented and read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 7th day of October, 2024. Motion Carried.

13. Notice of Motion/New Business

None.

14. By-law to Confirm Proceedings of Council Meeting

Resolution:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Van Staveren, Seconded by Councillor Dineen, Be It Resolved that By-Law 24-68, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the October 7th, 2024, Council Meeting, be presented and read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 7th day of October, 2024. Motion Carried.

15. Motion to Adjourn

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor Beelen, Seconded by Councillor McArthur, Be It Resolved that the Council Meeting adjourn at 6:34 p.m. Motion Carried

Original Signed by:

Douglas Measures, Mayor

Original Signed by:

Sasha Helmkay, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services