



The Municipal Corporation of the
Town of Fort Erie

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 23, 2023

Council Chambers

Meetings are being held in-person and via Video Teleconference as may be permitted. All meetings can be viewed at: Town's Website:

<https://www.forterie.ca/pages/CouncilAgendasandMinutes>

Town's YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/townofforterie

or click on the YouTube icon on the home page of the Town's website (www.forterie.ca) or Cogeco "YourTV"

Call to Order

Mayor Redekop called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Redekop acknowledged the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the Credit, and Anishinaabe people, many of whom continue to reside in this area.

1. Invocation

The Clerk read the Invocation.

2. Roll Call

Present: His Worship Mayor Redekop and Councillors Christensen, Dubanow, Flagg, Lewis, McDermott and Noyes

Staff: A. Carter, A. Herlovitch, J. Janzen, C. McQueen, C. Patton, C. Schofield, and K. Walsh

Also Present: Regional Councillor Insinna

3. Announcements/Addenda

There was one Addendum as follows:

- 1) Deletion under Item No.7(c) – Presentations and Delegations:
Russ Young, 2000 Jewson Road re: December 2022 Storm & Priorities

Mayor Redekop made the following announcements:

- **Emergency Debrief**

This evening's agenda contains a memo from the CAO regarding the debriefing in progress following the December 2022 emergency operations. To date, Town staff have been gathering information, analyzing data and discussing emergency activities with other agencies and participants. Members of Council and staff have received numerous communications from residents and businesses suggesting changes or improvements to the Town's Emergency Plan. All of this information will be considered when the Town conducts the debriefing and staff reports to Council at the end of February.

- **Region and Town Budgets**

Both the Town and Region are proceeding through their 2023 budget processes. Although the municipality collects all property taxes, about 44% of the taxes collected remain with the Town, while about 43% go to the Region and the balance to the school boards. This year will see a shift in those proportions as public transit will be removed from the Town portion of the tax bill and appears as a new levy in favour of the Niagara Regional Transit Commission, which is now responsible for public transit throughout Niagara.

The Town budgets are impacted by what the Region does with respect to its general levy, rates for waste management and Water/Wastewater and funding of agencies such as the Niagara Regional Police Services, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, Niagara Regional Housing and the new Niagara Region Transit Commission. To date, Regional Council has approved its Waste Management Budget (a 5.5% increase) and its Water/Wastewater budget (8.59% increase). The overall increase for Fort Erie residents for Water and Wastewater, 61% of which relates to charges from the Region, will be an average of 4.25%, taking into account a less than 1% increase for the Town's portion of that bill. In doing so, the Town has been able to manage its obligations to provide safe drinking water and reliable wastewater service, maintain our infrastructure and recognize the financial hardships facing many residents.

The Region will next be dealing with its Agencies, Boards and Commissions budgets, to be followed by general levy deliberations. The

ultimate change in tax bills received by residents of Fort Erie will be a reflection of the prudent financial stewardship of the Town versus the significant increase projected by the Region. The Town will continue to provide the services expected by our residents, invest in our infrastructure and keep taxes low in a time of inflation, supply challenges, significant costs for capital projects and the need to address growth. In essence, the Town will buffer residents as much as possible against the likely significant tax increase from the Region, although I and all Regional Councillors, will continue to impress upon the Region the realities that our taxpayers are facing in 2023. Both budget processes should be finalized by the end of February.

- **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

The Town continues to work with the Fort Erie Coalition on Diversity and Inclusion to ensure that Fort Erie is a welcoming and caring community for all. Next steps will involve refinement of the Coalition's mandate and inclusion of EDI objectives in the Council's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Flagg declared a conflict of interest with Item No. 13 By-law No. 12-2023 To Amend Zoning By-law No 129-1990, as amended – Peace Bridge Village Phase 4 Subdivision (0-1-268 Louisa Street) – Ashton Homes (Western) Ltd. (Aldo Vercillo) – Owner, as his son is employed by the company through a contract. He abstained from discussing and voting on the matter.

5. Notice of Upcoming Public Meetings

(a) 2023 Budget Meeting Schedule

Re: Council-in-Budget Committee Meetings: #3 - Wednesday, February 15, 2023 - Library, General Levy Operating Budget & Assessment Analysis; #4 - Wednesday, February 22, 2023 (if required). All Budget Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. Budget By-laws: Monday, February 27, 2023 - General Levy Budget By-law and General Capital Budget By-law.

(b) Open House

Re: Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment - 4409 Erie Road - Applicant: Mary Lou Tanner (NPG Planning Solutions) - Owner: Crystal Bay Cottages Inc. (Bryan Keenan) - Tuesday, January 24, 2023 - 5:00 p.m. - Town Hall Atrium

(c) Open House

Re: Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment - 0-17100, 0-17101 & 0-17102 Schooley Road - Applicant: Marz Homes (Crystal Beach) Inc. (Dan Gabriele) - Agent: A. J. Clarke and Associates Ltd. (Stephen Fraser) - Monday, January 30 2023 - 5:00 p.m. - Town Hall Atrium

(d) Open House

Re: Short Term Rental Land Use Study - February 1, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Town Hall Atrium

(e) Public Meeting - Proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment

Re: 613 Helena Street - Owner: SS Fort Erie Inc. (Hunain Siddiqui & Mohammad Feroz) - Agent: IBI Group (Tracy Tucker) - Monday, February 13, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Council Chambers, Town Hall. The information report will be available by 5:00 p.m. on February 8, 2023.

(f) Public Meeting - Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

Re: 533 & 549 Ridge Road North - Owner: 1855838 Ontario Inc. / Richard James Dekorte - Agent: Upper Canada Consultants (Ethan Laman) - Monday, February 13, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Council Chambers, Town Hall. The information report will be available by 5:00 p.m. on February 8, 2023.

(g) Public Meeting - Proposed Combined Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendment

Re: 271 Ridgeway Road - Applicant: Michael Allen (ACK Architects Studio Inc.) - Owner: DCS Niagara Developments Inc. (Rick Boivin) - Monday, February 13, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Council Chambers, Town Hall. The information report will be available by 5:00 p.m. on February 8, 2023.

6. Regional Councillor Report

Regional Councillor Insinna gave the following report:

- **Region of Niagara – Committee Representation**

I would like to advise Council that I have been selected to represent the Region on the Niagara Parks Commission, the Niagara Source Water Protection Committee, and once again, the Board of Directors for

Niagara Regional Housing. I will continue my work on the Public Health and Social Services Committee along with being the Vice-Chair of the Public Works Committee.

- **Budget**

As Town Council has been working on the 2023 budget so too has the Region. With Mayor Redekop at the helm of the Budget Committee proceedings are moving along, some more favourable than others. The rates for Waste Management and the Water/Wastewater have been established and By-laws have been approved. The Transit budget has been sent back to Committee for a further review with the Police, NPCA, Niagara Regional Housing and Court Services budget being next in the cue. A final budget is expected by the end of February.

- **Niagara Regional Housing**

The NRH build on Crescent Rd has been delayed. Tenders were sent out and came back at a much higher rate than expected. Modifications were made to the plan and tenders are again being sought; hopefully, bringing the cost down. As of now the project is scheduled to break ground in March, CMHC has approved the delay as they are the funding agency for the development and providing operating funds.

- **Niagara EMS**

Concerns still exist around Niagara EMS, the Province is responsible for funding for the Emergency Medical Service and the levels of funding have not kept up to the needs. Currently, the Region has funded 2 more ambulances (24/7) to the end of this year and 4 Communication Officers, which is set to run out in March of this year. If funds are not provided by the Province for the Communications Officers, monies will have to come from the levy or the positions will be lost. These officers are the folks that answer the 911 calls. With a decrease, we can expect further delays in service with reduced efficiencies. Niagara EMS continues to have issues related to offload wait times at Emergency Rooms. There are reported cases of ambulances waiting to offload patients for 8 hours in part due to lack of hospital staff and beds. We have not had a situation where there have been no ambulances available, but have come close. To the residents who believe that if they go to the Emergency Department via ambulance that the wait time will be shorter, this is not the case, patients are seen on a priority basis. I will continue to update Council as this has a direct affect on members of our community.

7. Presentations and Delegations

All visual and oral presentations can be viewed as recorded at:
www.youtube.com/townofforterie

* *Presenter's speaking notes retained in Clerk's office*

- (a) Geoffrey Aldridge, 3765 Rebstock Road (*Via Zoom*)

Re: Mission of the Town of Fort Erie

Mr. Aldridge provided a PowerPoint Presentation which can be found on the Town's website.

- (b) * Casey Bruyns, Ridgeway Lions Club

Re: Use of Crystal Ridge Community Centre (CRCC) -
Emergency Shelter

Mr. Bruyns requested that Council reconsider the Ridgeway Lions Club past offer to use the CRCC as an emergency shelter during emergency situations, and partner to provide a generator for that purpose.

- (c) Greg Hunter, 3735 Sussex Lane

Re: Stevensville-Douglastown Sewage Lagoon

Mr. Hunter provided a PowerPoint Presentation which can be found on the Town's website.

Resolution No. A

Moved by: Councillor Noyes

Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: The delegation's time be extended by three (3) minutes.

(Carried)

- (d) Phill Lambert, Director, Infrastructure Planning & Development
Engineering, Niagara Region (*Via Zoom*)

Re: Stevensville-Douglastown Sewage Lagoon

Mr. Lambert provided a PowerPoint Presentation which can be found on the Town's website.

- (e) Dan Favero, 136 Lakeshore Road

Re: Town Policies vs. Law

Mr. Favero referred to his Committee of Adjustment application that was adjourned. Mayor Redekop advised that he could appeal the Decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal. Mayor Redekop advised that Mr. Favero could come back at a later date to discuss policies that are in conflict of law, if Mr. Favero is not successful with the Tribunal.

8. Consent Agenda Items

8.1 Request to Remove Consent Agenda Items

8.2 Consent Agenda Items for Approval

1. Minutes

- (a) Approve - Regular Council Meeting - December 12, 2022
- (b) Approve - Special Council Meeting - January 16, 2023
- (c) Approve - Council-in-Committee Meeting - January 16, 2023
- (d) Approve - Council-in-Budget Committee Meeting No. 2 - January 18, 2023

2. Correspondence

- (a) Receive - FORTIS Ontario - Letter of Appreciation - December 2022 Winter Storm
(Carried)

3. Board/Committee Minutes

- (a) Receive - Affordable Housing Committee - December 14, 2022
- (b) Receive - Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee - June 13, 2022
- (c) Receive - Senior Citizens Advisory Committee - December 7, 2022
- (d) Receive - Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area Board of Management - January 12, 2023

4. Other Matters

Consent Agenda Resolution

Resolution No. 1

Moved by: Councillor Flagg

Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: Council approves the Consent Agenda Items as recommended. **(Carried)**

8.3 Items Removed to be Dealt with Separately

None.

9. Reports

PDS-78-1-2022

Supplemental Recommendation Report - Proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision and Combined Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment - Spring Creek Estates - 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road - 5009823 Ontario Inc. - Mitch William and Mike Colosimo (Owners) - Upper Canada Consultants - Matt Kernahan (Agent) ***(Postponed from January 16, 2023 Council-in-Committee Meeting - Previously Moved by Mayor Redekop as Recommendation No. 3)***

That: Council approves the amendments to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw No. 129-90 as detailed in Report No. PDS-78-1-2022 for the lands known as 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road, and further

That: Council approves the Draft Plan of Subdivision for 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road, revised on December 16, 2022, showing 54 lots for single detached dwellings, 8 blocks for semi-detached dwellings, 12 blocks for street townhouse dwellings, 1 block for condominium townhouse dwellings, 1 block for an apartment dwelling, 1 block for a stormwater management pond, 5 blocks for 0.3 m reserves, and 1 block for a 20 m reserve, as detailed in Appendix "2" of Report No. PDS-78-1-2022, in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. P. 13 and the Regulations thereunder, subject to the conditions

contained in Appendix “6” of Report No. PDS-78-1-2022, and further

That: Council directs staff to circulate the Conditions of Draft Plan Approval in Appendix “6” of Report No. PDS-78-1-2022 to the applicable agencies in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act, and further

That: Council directs Staff to submit the necessary by-laws.

Resolution No. 1A

Moved by: Councillor Noyes

Seconded by: Councillor Christensen

That: There be no access to Netherby Road unless approved by the Ministry of Transportation.

(Carried)

Following approval of the amendment, Recommendation No. 3, previously moved January 16, 2023, was voted on, as amended, as follows:

That: Council approves the amendments to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw No. 129-90 as detailed in Report No. PDS-78-1-2022 for the lands known as 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road, and further

That: Council approves the Draft Plan of Subdivision for 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road, revised on December 16, 2022, showing 54 lots for single detached dwellings, 8 blocks for semi-detached dwellings, 12 blocks for street townhouse dwellings, 1 block for condominium townhouse dwellings, 1 block for an apartment dwelling, 1 block for a stormwater management pond, 5 blocks for 0.3 m reserves, and 1 block for a 20 m reserve, as detailed in Appendix “2” of Report No. PDS-78-1-2022, in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. P. 13 and the Regulations thereunder, subject to the conditions contained in Appendix “6” of Report No. PDS-78-1-2022, subject to there being no access to Netherby

Road unless approved by the Ministry of Transportation, and further

That: Council directs staff to circulate the Conditions of Draft Plan Approval in Appendix “6” of Report No. PDS-78-1-2022 to the applicable agencies in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act, and further

That: There be no access to Netherby Road unless approved by the Ministry of Transportation.

That: Council directs Staff to submit the necessary by-laws. **(Carried)**

PDS-78-2022

Proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision and Combined Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment - Spring Creek Estates - 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road - 5009823 Ontario Inc. - Mitch William and Mike Colosimo (Owners) - Upper Canada Consultants - Matt Kernahan (Agent) **(Postponed from December 12, 2022 Regular Council Meeting - Previously Moved by Councillor Noyes and Seconded by Councillor Dubanow as Resolution No. 2, postponed from the January 16, 2023 Council-in-Committee Meeting to the January 23, 2023 Regular Council Meeting)**

That: Council approves the amendments to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw No. 129-90 as detailed in Report No. PDS-78-2022 for the lands known as 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road, and further

That: Council approves the Draft Plan of Subdivision for 0-17482 and 0-17484 Black Creek Road, dated December 9, 2021, showing 54 lots for single-detached dwellings, 8 blocks for semi-detached dwellings, 13 blocks for street townhouse dwellings, 1 block for condominium townhouse dwellings, 1 block for an apartment dwelling/stacked townhouses, 1 block for a stormwater management pond, and 5 blocks for 0.3 m reserves, as attached as Appendix “2” of Report No. PDS-78-2022, in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. P. 13 and the Regulations

thereunder, subject to the conditions contained in Appendix "5" of Report No. PDS-78-2022, and further

That: Council directs staff to circulate the Conditions of Draft Plan Approval in Appendix "5" of Report No. PDS-78-2022 to the applicable agencies in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning Act*, and further

That: Council directs Staff to submit the necessary by-laws. **(Lost)**

PDS-04-2023

Proposed Combined Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment - 97 Gorham Road - Urban Environments - Greg Hynde (Agent) - Bomofive Inc. - Ross Boncore & Kam Mofid (Owners)

Resolution No. 2

Moved by: Councillor Lewis

Seconded by: Councillor McDermott

That: Council approves the amendments to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw as detailed in Report No. PDS-04-2023 for the lands known as 97 Gorham Road, and further

That: Council directs staff to prepare the necessary by-laws.

Resolution No. 2A

Moved by: Councillor Noyes

Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: Council directs that short-term rentals not be permitted. **(Carried)**

Following approval of the amendment, Resolution No. 2 was voted on, as amended, as follows:

That: Council approves the amendments to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw as detailed in Report No. PDS-04-2023 for the lands known as 97 Gorham Road, subject to Council directs that short-term rentals not be permitted, and further

That: Council directs staff to prepare the necessary by-laws. **(Carried)**

PDS-05-2023

Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment - 63
Idylewylde Street - Urban Environments - Greg
Hynde (Agent) - Frank Alessio (Owner)

Resolution No. 3

Moved by: Councillor Dubanow

Seconded by: Councillor McDermott

That: Council approves the amendments to the Town's Zoning By-law No. 129-90 as detailed in Report No. PDS-05-2023 for the lands known as 63 Idylewylde Street, and further

That: Council directs staff to prepare the necessary by-law. **(Carried)**

COS-01-2023

Town of Fort Erie Committees of Council Review

Resolution No. 4

Moved by: Councillor McDermott

Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: Council directs that the Cemetery Advisory Committee is dissolved; and further

That: Council directs that the Communities-in-Bloom Committee is dissolved and directs Staff to submit a by-law to Council to repeal By-law Nos. 24-2020 and 1-2019; and further

That: Council directs that the Transit Advisory Committee is dissolved and directs Staff to submit a by-law to Council to repeal By-law No. 143-2016; and further

That: Council directs that the Parks and Open Space Master Plan Working Group, the Short-Term Rental Options Roundtable and Waverly Beach Ad Hoc Committee are dissolved; and further

That: Council directs Staff to continue with the review of the remaining Committees and submit future reports for Council's consideration of Staff's recommendations; and further

That: Council appoints Councillor Noyes, Councillor Christensen, and Councillor Flagg to the Court of Revision and Councillor Lewis and Councillor McDermott as Alternates; and further

That: Council appoints Councillor Dubanow, Councillor Noyes, and Councillor Christensen to the Gaming Appeals Committee and Councillor McDermott and Councillor Flagg as Alternates; and further

That: Council appoints Councillor Noyes, Councillor Dubanow, and Mayor Redekop to the Dangerous Dog Appeals Committee and Councillor McDermott and Councillor Lewis as Alternates; and further

That: Council appoints Councillor Noyes to the Traffic Coordinating Committee and Councillor Flagg as an Alternate; and further

That: Council appoints Councillor Lewis to the Street Naming and Way Finding Committee and Councillor Dubanow as an Alternate.

(Carried)

10. New Business/Enquiries

- (a) Appointment - Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee - Weston Allen

Resolution No. 5

Moved by: Councillor Christensen

Seconded by: Councillor McDermott

That: Council appoints Weston Allen to the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee for the period ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

(Carried)

- (b) Appointment - Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area Board of Management - Chris Hawkswell

Resolution No. 6

Moved by: Councillor Lewis
Seconded by: Councillor Christensen

That: Council appoints Chris Hawkswell to the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area Board of Management for the period ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed. **(Carried)**

- (c) Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative - Freshwater Health Campaign

Resolution No. 7
Moved by: Councillor Noyes
Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

Whereas the Town of Fort Erie, as a member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, supports: protecting source water, planning for climate change impacts and shoreline resilience, ensuring safe and affordable water services for all our residents, and building up a sustainable blue economy in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, and

Whereas ensuring healthy communities and a strong economy for Canadians depend on securing Canada's source water, which includes addressing water quality issues, contaminants and pollution, supporting biodiversity and reversing wetland and fish and wildlife habitat loss and improving community knowledge to empower citizens to safeguard this essential resource, and

Whereas a Freshwater Action Plan and the Great Lakes Protection Initiative it supported were first announced in the 2017 Canadian federal budget with a \$44.84 million investment over five years, and

Whereas the Freshwater Action Plan has combined science and action to address priorities in the Great Lakes such as preventing toxic and nuisance algae, enhancing the resilience of coastal wetlands in the Great Lakes, restoring Great Lakes Areas of Concern and supporting Canada's commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, among other priorities, and

Whereas a commitment was made by the Liberal Party of Canada in the 2021 federal election to strengthen the Freshwater Action Plan with an historic investment of \$1 billion

over ten years to restore and protect large lakes and river systems starting with the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, and

Whereas the federal government only committed \$19.6 million in funding in the 2022 Budget for the Freshwater Action Plan, falling short of the aforementioned commitment, and

Whereas the United States has invested \$1.8 billion in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) since 2017 and will see accelerated funding with the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, and

Whereas a 2018 University of Michigan study shows that for every dollar of federal spending on GLRI projects between 2010 and 2016, yielded \$3.35 in additional economic activity, and

Whereas nearly half of Canada's population lives in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, a region that will continue to see accelerated growth, resulting in greater land and resource use pressures that will further contribute to water availability and quality issues, and

Whereas the Stockholm Resilience Centre recently identified the importance of wetlands as carbon sinks and fresh water's role in climate mitigation, and

Whereas the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Collaborative outlined 30 recommendations to Environment and Climate Change Canada as part of a ten-year, \$2.2 billion Action Plan 2020-2030 to protect the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence (Action Plan 2020-2030), addressing shoreline erosion, outdated infrastructure, invasive species, exposure to toxins and beach contamination, following an 18-month consultation with First Nations, NGOs, academics and other experts, and

Whereas the recommendations outlined in Action Plan 2020-2030 should serve as the basis of programming for strengthened federal action in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin through its strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, and

Whereas the newly established Canada Water Agency should play a role in accelerating the rollout of funding made available through a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, and

Whereas Freshwater Action Plan funding should largely be directed to community groups, local governments and First Nations to ensure that investments made will have the biggest local impact and empower action at the local level, rather than being held back for federal administration and operations, and

Whereas it is critical to implement a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, including accelerating a \$1 billion over five years, and to creating a Canada Water Agency to consolidate and coordinate federal water efforts and support provinces and territories in addressing systemic issues impacting the viability of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin and the communities dependent upon the region's source water;

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Town of Fort Erie calls on the federal government to:

- Commit \$1 billion in funding over five years for a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan in Budget 2023, and further
- Guide its Freshwater Action Plan funding to implement recommendations in the Action Plan 2020-2030
- Direct priority funding under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan to projects in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin.
- Make municipalities eligible for future funding in programs announced under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, and further

That: The Town of Fort Erie directs its staff to submit this resolution to the Federal Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of Finance; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change; the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (responsible for the Canada Water Agency), and local Member of Parliament.

Mayor Redekop requested a friendly amendment to the last substantive clause by changing "local Member of Parliament" to "Niagara's Member of Parliament, Local Area Municipalities and Niagara Region" which was accepted by Councillor Noyes and her Seconder.

Following approval of the friendly amendment, Resolution No. 7, as amended, was voted on as follows:

Whereas the Town of Fort Erie, as a member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, supports: protecting source water, planning for climate change impacts and shoreline resilience, ensuring safe and affordable water services for all our residents, and building up a sustainable blue economy in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, and

Whereas ensuring healthy communities and a strong economy for Canadians depend on securing Canada's source water, which includes addressing water quality issues, contaminants and pollution, supporting biodiversity and reversing wetland and fish and wildlife habitat loss and improving community knowledge to empower citizens to safeguard this essential resource, and

Whereas a Freshwater Action Plan and the Great Lakes Protection Initiative it supported were first announced in the 2017 Canadian federal budget with a \$44.84 million investment over five years, and

Whereas the Freshwater Action Plan has combined science and action to address priorities in the Great Lakes such as preventing toxic and nuisance algae, enhancing the resilience of coastal wetlands in the Great Lakes, restoring Great Lakes Areas of Concern and supporting Canada's commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, among other priorities, and

Whereas a commitment was made by the Liberal Party of Canada in the 2021 federal election to strengthen the Freshwater Action Plan with an historic investment of \$1 billion over ten years to restore and protect large lakes and river systems starting with the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, and

Whereas the federal government only committed \$19.6 million in funding in the 2022 Budget for the Freshwater Action Plan, falling short of the aforementioned commitment, and

Whereas the United States has invested \$1.8 billion in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) since 2017 and will see accelerated funding with the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, and

Whereas a 2018 University of Michigan study shows that for every dollar of federal spending on GLRI projects between 2010 and 2016, yielded \$3.35 in additional economic activity, and

Whereas nearly half of Canada's population lives in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin, a region that will continue to see accelerated growth, resulting in greater land and resource use pressures that will further contribute to water availability and quality issues, and

Whereas the Stockholm Resilience Centre recently identified the importance of wetlands as carbon sinks and fresh water's role in climate mitigation, and

Whereas the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Collaborative outlined 30 recommendations to Environment and Climate Change Canada as part of a ten-year, \$2.2 billion Action Plan 2020-2030 to protect the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence (Action Plan 2020-2030), addressing shoreline erosion, outdated infrastructure, invasive species, exposure to toxins and beach contamination, following an 18-month consultation with First Nations, NGOs, academics and other experts, and

Whereas the recommendations outlined in Action Plan 2020-2030 should serve as the basis of programming for strengthened federal action in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin through its strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, and

Whereas the newly established Canada Water Agency should play a role in accelerating the rollout of funding made available through a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, and

Whereas Freshwater Action Plan funding should largely be directed to community groups, local governments and First Nations to ensure that investments made will have the biggest local impact and empower action at the local level, rather than being held back for federal administration and operations, and

Whereas it is critical to implement a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, including accelerating a \$1 billion over five years, and to creating a Canada Water Agency to consolidate and coordinate federal water efforts and support provinces and territories in addressing systemic issues impacting the viability of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin and the communities dependent upon the region's source water;

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Town of Fort Erie calls on the federal government to:

- Commit \$1 billion in funding over five years for a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan in Budget 2023, and further
- Guide its Freshwater Action Plan funding to implement recommendations in the Action Plan 2020-2030
- Direct priority funding under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan to projects in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin.
- Make municipalities eligible for future funding in programs announced under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, and further

That: The Town of Fort Erie directs its staff to submit this resolution to the Federal Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of Finance; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change; the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (responsible for the Canada Water Agency), and Niagara's Member of Parliament, Local Area Municipalities and Niagara Region. **(Carried)**

(d) Memorandum - Chris McQueen, Chief Administrative Officer - 2022 Winter Storm Debriefing

(e) Mayor Redekop

Mayor Redekop requested staff to verify that there are steps being taken with respect to a Class 3 Environmental Assessment with respect to Six Mile Creek and its floodplain.

Mr. Walsh responded that Council would see that information in the budget presentation.

(f) Councillor Noyes

Councillor Noyes enquired whether a generator for the Crystal Ridge Community Centre would be consideration in the budget.

Mr. McQueen suggested that this subject be referred to the operational debrief that will be held, just for consideration. He further stated that there are some considerations with respect to locations and also with some of our own Town facilities where we'll be do doing some follow up regarding generators, generator capacity, and costs for both Town-owned facilities, but

we can certainly add this and if there is any budget follow up from that, we certainly would look to bring that forward to Council.

11. Motions

(a) Mayor Redekop

Re: Town's Official Plan and Zoning By-law Revisions

Mayor Redekop gave the Chair to Councillor Dubanow in order to bring forward his motion.

Resolution No. 8

Moved by: Mayor Redekop

Seconded by: Councillor Christensen

That: Staff be directed to expedite the revisions to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning By-law to gain compliance with the new Regional Official Plan and to address misalignments with the Town's planning documents and Council's Strategic Plan and Vision. **(Carried)**

Councillor Dubanow returned the Chair to Mayor Redekop.

12. Notice of Motion

None.

13. Consideration of By-laws

By-law No. 12-2023 was removed from the package due to Councillor Flagg's declared pecuniary interest.

Resolution No. 9

Moved by: Councillor Noyes

Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: The by-law package containing:

2-2023: To Provide for Interim Taxes for the Year 2023

Regular Council - 23 Jan 2023 Meeting Minutes

3-2023: To Authorize the Mayor or Acting Mayor and the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of the Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie to Borrow Certain Sums to Meet Expenses for the Year 2023

4-2023: To Adopt the 2023 Water and Wastewater Budget, to Adopt Rates, Fees and Charges For The Year 2023

5-2023: To Rename a Portion of Commerce Parkway to Harbor Court

6-2023: To Accept and Declare Lands as Public Highway on the North-West Corner of Catharine Street and Ellen Street - (82 Ellen Street – Sam Passero, Estate Trustee of the Estates of Frank & Maria Passero)

7-2023: To Exempt a Certain Block in Plan 59M-452 from Part Lot Control - Alderson Court - Block 1 (Parklane Place Subdivision) Park Lane Home Builders Limited

8-2023: To Enact an Amendment to the Official Plan Adopted by By-law No. 150-06 for the Town of Fort Erie Planning Area – Amendment No. 65 – 315 and 0-350 Garrison Road - 2717041 Ontario Inc. (Vijaykumar Patel) – Owner

9-2023: To Amend Zoning By-law No. 129-90, as amended - 315 and 0-350 Garrison Road - 2717041 Ontario Inc. (Vijaykumar Patel) – Owner

10-2023: To Accept and Declare Lands as Public Highway on the South-West Corner of Mathewson Avenue and Dovercourt Road - 3815 Mathewson Avenue - Seguro Import Export Ltd. (R. El Fakih)

11-2023: To Appoint Kennedy Lidstone as a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer and Repeal By-law No. 120-2021

is given first and second reading.

(Carried)

Resolution No. 10

Moved by: Councillor Dubanow

Seconded by: Councillor Noyes

That: By-laws:

2-2023

3-2023

4-2023

5-2023

6-2023

7-2023

8-2023
9-2023
10-2023
11-2023

are given third and final reading to be signed by the Mayor and Clerk under the corporate seal. **(Carried)**

Resolution No. 10A
Moved by: Councillor Noyes
Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: By-law No. 12-2023: To Amend Zoning By-law No. 129-90, as amended - Peace Bridge Village Phase 4 Subdivision (0-10268 Louisa Street) - Ashton Homes (Western) Ltd. (Aldo Vercillo) – Owner, is given first and second reading. **(Carried)**

Resolution No. 10B
Moved by: Councillor Dubanow
Seconded by: Councillor Noyes

That: By-law No. 12-2023 is given third and final reading to be signed by the Mayor and Clerk under the corporate seal. **(Carried)**

Resolution No. 11
Moved by: Councillor McDermott
Seconded by: Councillor Dubanow

That: By-law No. 13-2023: To Confirm the Actions of Council at its Council-in-Committee Meeting Held on January 16, 2023, Council-in-Budget Committee Meeting No. 2 Held on January 18, 2023 and its Council Meeting Held on January 23, 2023, is given first and second reading. **(Carried)**

Resolution No. 12
Moved by: Councillor Christensen
Seconded by: Councillor Lewis

That: By-law No. 13-2023 is given third and final reading to be signed by the Mayor and Clerk under the corporate seal. **(Carried)**

14. Scheduling of Meetings

- Infrastructure Services Business Sub-Committee, Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room No. 1, Town Hall

- Community Gaming and Development Corporation, Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 5:30 p.m., Conference Room No. 2, Town Hall
- Community Health Care Services Committee, Tuesday, February 14 3:00 p.m., Conference Room No. 1, Town Hall
- Planning and Development Services Business Sub-Committee, Wednesday February 1, 2023 3:00 p.m., Conference Room No. 1, Town Hall

15. Adjournment

Resolution No. 13

Moved by: Councillor Dubanow

Seconded by: Councillor McDermott

That: Council adjourns at 8:38 p.m. to reconvene into a Regular Meeting of Council on February 27, 2023. **(Carried)**

Mayor

Clerk