

City of Pembroke Council Meeting

Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
February 2, 2021
6:54 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Present:

Mayor LeMay
Deputy Mayor Gervais (electronically)
Councillor Jacyno (electronically)
Councillor Lafreniere (electronically)
Councillor Plummer (electronically)
Councillor Reavie (electronically)

Regrets:

Councillor Abdallah

Also Present:

Terry Lapierre, CAO/Clerk
Heidi Martin, Recording Secretary

Mayor LeMay called the regular meeting of Council to order at 6:54 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer or Reflection

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

Councillor Plummer indicated that he declared a pecuniary interest for an agenda item at the Council in Caucus meeting held earlier this evening. The agenda item dealt with a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality and he left the meeting during that discussion as he is related to the interested applicant.

4. Minutes

- i. Approve minutes from Council
 - a. Regular Meeting of Council – January 19, 2021

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gervais
Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council of January 19, 2021 be approved as circulated.

Carried

- ii. Adopt minutes from Committees
 - a. Combined Committee – January 19, 2021

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere
Seconded by Councillor Jacyno
That the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting of the Combined Committee be adopted as circulated.

Carried

b. Finance & Administration Committee (Budget Meetings) – January 20, 2021 & January 27, 2021

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer
Seconded by Councillor Reavie
That the minutes of the January 20, 2021 and January 27, 2021 budget meetings of the Finance & Administration Committee be adopted as circulated.

Carried

iii. Receive minutes from Committees/Local Boards

- Pembroke Public Library – December 17, 2020

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer
Seconded by Councillor Jacyno
That the December 17, 2020 minutes of the Pembroke Public Library be received as circulated.

Carried

5. Staff & Committee Reports

a. Striking Committee in Caucus Report

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gervais
That the following individuals be appointed to the Pembroke Diversity Advisory Committee to the end of the current term of Council:

- Suli Adams
- Harry Alorgbey Sardina
- Duane Gastant Aucoin
- Elsa Lucas
- Julianna Morin
- Michael Parent
- Karthi Rajamani
- Garland Wong
- Deputy Mayor Gervais
- Councillor Reavie

And Further that the following individuals be appointed as resource persons to the Pembroke Diversity Advisory Committee until the end of the current term of Council:

- Shelly Sutherland (Algonquin College)
- Amy Johnson (RCDSB)
- Sandra Brannan (RCCDSB)

Carried**6. By-Laws****a.** 2021-05 – Purchase of Land (252 Pembroke Street West)**Motion:**

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That By-law 2021-05, being a By-law authorizing the execution of the necessary documents to transfer ownership of 252 Pembroke Street West from the Estate of James Gordon Wetherall to the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed,

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried**b.** 2021-06 – Amendment to By-law 2020-74 (Parking By-law)**Motion:**

Moved by Councillor Reavie

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

That By-law 2021-06, being a By-law to authorize the amendment of By-law 2020-74, a By-law to regulate and control the parking of vehicles in the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried**c.** 2021-07 – Agreement with owner of 133 Pembroke Street East**Motion:**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gervais

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That By-law 2021-07, being a By-law to authorize the entering into an agreement between Frank Galla and the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried**7. Motion****a.** Resolution 2020-001 – Community Improvement Plan Requests**Motion:**

Moved by Councillor Reavie

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

Whereas the Corporation of the City of Pembroke approve the following applications under the Community Improvement Plan.

- 162 Pembroke Street West for \$1,169
- Meridian Credit Union at 40 Pembroke Street West for \$1,100

- Johnson, Fraser & Conroy Lawyers at 259 Pembroke Street East for \$713.39
- myFM at 84 Isabella Street for \$980.47
- East Side Marios at 100 Pembroke Street East for \$2,338.17
- 120 Pembroke Street West for \$15,000
- The Grind at 122 Pembroke Street West for \$803.93

The applicants must comply with grant guidelines and will have the lesser of 18 months or until the COVID-19 Business Support Grant is discontinued to complete all work and submit receipts in order to receive the grant.

The total commitment to grant recipients is \$22,104.96

Carried

- b. Resolution 2021-002 – Reserve Transfers 2019 Accumulated Surplus

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

That the Corporation of the City of Pembroke deems it expedient to transfer the 2019 Accumulated Surplus to Reserves or Reserve Funds during the 2020 fiscal year as follows:

- Transfer \$903,465.26 to the General Capital Reserve Fund; and
- Transfer \$200,000 to a new City Legal Contingency Reserve; and
- Transfer \$390,179 a new Operating Contingency Reserve for COVID-19.

Should any of this contingency funding not be required, any remaining balance in this reserve shall be transferred to the Aquatic Centre Reserve Fund.

Carried

8. Mayor's Report

Mayor LeMay attended the Rural Ontario Municipal Association virtual conference held on January 25th and 26th. He indicated that the Premier, the leader of the Official Opposition, and the Liberal leader all spoke briefly and COVID-19 and the difficulty the virus is creating was the main topic of their presentations. Mayor LeMay indicated that there were many questions around finances that municipalities require to help with critical infrastructure funding as well as relief funding for small businesses and individuals affected by the 2nd shut down of the province. He urged the local business community to apply for funding. Mayor LeMay and the Manager of Operations had a virtual meeting with the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure and the Deputy Minister of the Ministry to request funding for two City projects; Townline Forcemain which services Pembroke and properties within Laurentian Valley and the second for Nelson Street and Howard Street Reconstruction. Minister Yakabuski also participated in the meeting and was very supportive of the City's request.

Mayor LeMay indicated that February is Black History Month across Canada as our nation recognizes and celebrates the contributions and achievements of Black Canadians. The theme for this year is “The Future is Now”. He mentioned that it is fitting that Council’s Striking Committee has approved moving ahead with Pembroke’s Diversity Advisory Committee at the start of Black History Month.

Mayor LeMay indicated that it is important to comply with the Ontario declaration of emergency and public health guidelines; wear a mask, wash your hands frequently and stay home unless you are working or shopping for essential items. He indicated that new federal international travel restrictions were recently announced and will remain in place until April 30th and that it is recommended to cancel any planned trips. He thanked our local teachers and education teams for the successful reopening of our schools and ensuring safe learning environments for our students. Mayor LeMay stated that it’s a positive sign that the first vaccines have arrived in Renfrew County however cautioned that we must be vigilant against the virus as it will probably be later in 2021 before everyone who wishes a vaccine will be able to get one. He thanked front-line workers, local business owners and all Pembroke citizens for continuing to do what is required to keep our community safe during these difficult times. He warned that the fight against the virus is far from over and that a threat of a COVID outbreak in Pembroke is still very real especially as new COVID variants have been detected in Ontario. He encouraged everyone to continue to work together to keep our community and our citizens safe.

9. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

10. Councillor Updates

Deputy Mayor Gervais reported that the Community Watch Program continues to move forward, slower due to the pandemic, but indicated that signs have been purchased with the Community Watch logo, as well as display stickers for the doors of participating individuals. The Local Immigration Partnership has graciously agreed to offer two online information sessions on February 13th and February 27th. Additional information on these sessions will be available on the City’s website and Facebook page.

Councillor Reavie indicated that the Renfrew County and District Health Unit has seen a handful of new cases this past week, which were all outside of the Pembroke area, as a result of business transgressions outside of the district. Schools are back and the hope is that our area will continue to remain stable. In response to Council’s query in regards to OPP billing and Calls for Service. She indicated that calls are directly charged to the municipality not by postal address but based on a mapped geographical area. She stated that the Upper Ottawa Valley Detachment area is broken into zones and the City of Pembroke has its own zone. When a call comes to the OPP Communications Centre, the address is plotted on the mapping system and sent to Officers assigned to that zone.

OPP Inspector Neufeld will be presenting his annual report to Council within the near future and will be able to answer any further questions.

11. Closed Session

Mayor LeMay indicated that a Striking Committee in Caucus was held earlier to discuss personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees. He also stated that a Council in Caucus meeting was held earlier to discuss proposed or pending acquisitions or dispositions of land by the municipality; and personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees.

12. Business Arising from Closed Session

Mayor LeMay indicated that a report was provided to Council earlier this evening in regards to the Striking Committee in Caucus. He also stated that Councillor Plummer declared a pecuniary interest at the Council in Caucus meeting in regards to a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality as he is related to the interested applicant and left the meeting during that discussion. Mayor LeMay indicated that there was nothing further to report from the meetings.

13. Confirming By-law

- Confirming By-law 03-2021

Motion

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gervais

That By-law 03-2021 to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council of February 2, 2021 be adopted and passed; and

Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

14. Adjournment

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gervais

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the February 2, 2021 regular meeting of Council adjourn at 7:16u p.m.

Carried

Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

Mayor