

**TOWNSHIP OF BLANDFORD-BLENHEIM
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday August 2, 2017
Township Council Chambers
47 Wilmot Street South, Drumbo
4:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome**
2. **Call to Order**
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
4. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**
5. **Consideration of Minutes**
 - a. July 5, 2017 Regular meeting of Council
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
7. **Delegations/Presentations**
8. **Correspondence**
 - a. **General**

None
 - b. **Specific**
 - i County of Oxford – Warden selection and term update
9. **Public Meeting**
 - a. **Public Meeting Under the Planning Act**
 - i CP 2017-215 – Application for Zone Change ZN 1-17-07 – Wells Farms Limited & Don Wells

Recommendation:

That Council approve in principle the zone change application submitted by Wells Farms Limited & Don Wells whereby the lands described as part Lot 1, Concession 2 (Blenheim), Township of Blandford-Blenheim are to be rezoned from General Agricultural Zone (A2) to Special Rural Residential Zone (RR-

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Sp) to fulfill a condition of Consent Application B17-28-1 and recognize the proposed rural residential use of the lands.

10. Staff Reports

a. **Rebecca Smith, Development Planner**

- i. SP 1-12-03-1 – Maple Lake Park Limited

Recommendation:

That the application for Site Plan Amendment submitted by Maple lake Park Limited for lands described as Part Lot 3, Concession 7 (Blandford) in the Township of Blandford-Blenheim and municipally known as 806201 County Road 29 for the purpose of recognizing the conversion of the former seasonal lots to year-round occupancy be approved at such time as the following condition is fulfilled:

- 1 That Schedule “B” of the existing Site Plan Agreement be replaced with the revised site plan drawings as shown on Plates 3 to 6 of report No. CASPO 2017-216 to the satisfaction of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim.

b. **Jim Borton, Director of Public Works**

- i. PW-17-21, Hofstetter Ext. Urban Section Tender Results

Recommendation:

That Report PW-17-21 be received for information;

And further that Council accepts the tender submitted by Steed and Evans Limited of St. Jacobs, ON for the completion of the 235 meters of urban section for the Hofstetter Ext. with the total amount of \$319,000 + HST.

- ii. PW-17-22, Monthly Report

Recommendation:

That Report PW-18-22 be received as information; and

That the Clerk be authorized to sign an agreement with Canadian National Railway Company for the reconstruction of the bridge on Gobles Road.

c. **Rick Richardson, Director of Protective Services**

- i. FC-17-12, Monthly Report

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Recommendation:

That Report FC-17-12 be received as information.

d. Jim Harmer, Drainage Superintendent

i. DS-17-17, Monthly Report

Recommendation:

That Report DS-17-17 be received as information.

e. Ken Wood, Manager of Community Services

i. CS-17-06, Monthly Report

Recommendation:

That Report CS-17-06 be received as information.

f. John Scherer, CBO/Manager of Building Services

i. CBO-17-08, Monthly Report

Recommendation:

That Report CBO-17-16 be received as information.

11. Reports from Council Members

12. Unfinished Business

13. Motions and Notices of Motion

14. New Business

15. Closed Session

16. By-laws

a. 2028-2017

Being a By-law to amend the assessment schedules based on actual costs incurred for constructing the Kamview Drain

b. 2029-2017

Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

17. Other

Princeton Cemetery decoration day service August 20th. Township representative requested to lay a wreath.

18. Adjournment and Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

MINUTES

Council met at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Wearn, Councillors Balzer, Banbury, Cowan and Peterson

Staff: Borton, Harmer, Krug, Mordue, Richardson and Wood

Others: Rebecca Smith, Planner, Oxford County

Mayor Wearn in the Chair

1. **Welcome**

2. **Call to Order**

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

RESOLUTION #1

Moved By – Councillor Peterson
Seconded by – Councillor Balzer

Be it hereby resolved that the agenda for the July 5, 2017 Regular Meeting of Council be approved.

.Carried

4. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None declared.

5. **Adoption of Minutes**

RESOLUTION #2

Moved By – Councillor Peterson
Seconded by – Councillor Balzer

Be it hereby resolved that the minutes of the June 21, 2017 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as printed and circulated.

.Carried

6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

None

7. **Delegations/Presentations**

- a. Gabe Metron, Public Sector Digest

RESOLUTION #7

Moved By – Councillor Peterson
Seconded by – Councillor Balzer

That phase 2 of the Township's Asset Management Plan as presented by Public Sector Digest be received.

.Carried

8. **Correspondence**

a. **General**

None

b. **Specific**

None

9. **Committee of Adjustment**

RESOLUTION #3

Moved By – Councillor Balzer
Seconded by – Councillor Peterson

That Council move into the Committee of adjustment at 4:02 p.m.

.Carried

RESOLUTION #6

Moved By – Councillor Balzer
Seconded by – Councillor Peterson

That Council move out of the Committee of Adjustment at 4:40 p.m.

.Carried

10. **Staff Reports**

a. **Jim Harmer, Drainage Superintendent**

i. DS-17-16, Monthly report

RESOLUTION #8

Moved By – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Cowan

That Report DS-17-16 is received as information.

.Carried

b. **Jim Borton, Director of Public Works**

i. PW-17-20, Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #9

Moved By – Councillor Banbury
Seconded By – Councillor Cowan

That Report PW-17-20 be received as information.

.Carried

c. Ken Wood, Manager of Community Services

- i. CS-17-05, Plattsville skate park project

RESOLUTION #10

Moved By – Councillor Banbury
Seconded By – Councillor Cowan

That Report CS-17-05 be received as information; and,

That Council approve the DIY skatepark design and repairs to the pavilion and shed in the Plattsville Park to a maximum of \$84,000 exclusive of HST as presented in the Canada 150 application

.Carried

d. Rodger Mordue, CAO/Clerk

- i. CAO-17-16, Canada 150 celebration - Princeton

RESOLUTION #11

Moved By – Councillor Banbury
Seconded By – Councillor Cowan

That Report CAO-17-16 be received as information; and,

That Council recognize Princeton's Canada 150 celebration organizing committee as a Committee of Council with its term expiring August 31, 2017.

.Carried

RESOLUTION #12

Moved By – Councillor Cowan
Seconded By – Councillor Banbury

Whereas Regulation 389/91 of the Liquor License Act was amended in 2011; and,

Whereas Regulations require that an applicant for a Special Occasion Permit for a Public event request the municipality to designate the event as an event of municipal significance;

2017 Drumbo Lions Harvest Carnival be declared an event of municipal significance.

.Carried

11. Reports from Council Members

Councillor Banbury spoke of a recent meeting he attended regarding a possible boundary adjustment between the Township of Norwich and the City of Woodstock.

Councillor Banbury reported on a cheque presentation attended by Councillor Banbury, CAO Mordue and himself in Plattsville where a \$5,000 donation from Cowan Insurance/Cowan Foundation was received for the Plattsville skatepark.

Councillor Banbury reported that the Princeton Cemetery Decoration Day is being organized by Edna Williamson and will be held on August 20, 2017.

12. Unfinished Business

None

13. Motions and Notices of Motion

None

14. New Business

None

15. Closed Session

None

16. By-laws

RESOLUTION # 13

Moved By – Councillor Cowan
Seconded By – Councillor Banbury

That first and second reading be given to the following by-law:

- By-law 2027-2017 Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council

.Carried

RESOLUTION # 14

Moved By – Councillor Cowan
Seconded By – Councillor Banbury

Be it hereby resolved that a third and final reading be given to the following By-laws:

- By-law 2027-2017 Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council

.Carried

17. Other

None

18. Adjournment and Next Meeting

RESOLUTION #15

Moved By – Councillor Cowan

Seconded by – Councillor Banbury

Whereas business before Council has been completed at 6:15 p.m.;

Be it hereby resolved that Council does now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, August 2, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

.Carried

Marion Wearn, Mayor
Township of Blandford-Blenheim

Rodger Mordue, CAO/Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim



OFFICE OF THE C.A.O./ CLERK

P. O. Box 1614, 21 Reeve Street

Woodstock, Ontario N4S 7Y3

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Web site: www.oxfordcounty.ca

MEMO

DATE: July 14, 2017

TO: Area Municipal Clerks and CAOs

CC: Peter Crockett, CAO

FROM: Brenda Tabor
Clerk

RE: Report No. CAO 2017-07
Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update

Further to past correspondence seeking comment from your municipality on the options for the Head of Council (Warden) selection and term, Oxford County Council, at its meeting held on June 28, 2017, adopted the recommendation contained in CAO Report No. 2017-07 (attached) receiving the Report as information, thereby maintaining the current system.

At the same meeting, three additional pieces of correspondence (Woodstock, Zorra, Norwich) to those already received and noted in the above Report, were received for Council's consideration.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of your Councils for their interest in this discussion and input provided.

To: Warden and Members of County Council

From: Chief Administrative Officer

Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive Report CAO 2017-07 entitled “Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update” for information.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- This report is intended to inform Council of its options for the selection of Head of Council (Warden) and the Term of the Warden beginning with the start of the 2019-2022 term of Council.

Implementation Points

Should Council adopt any resolutions seeking to change either the selection of the Head of Council or alter the term of the Head of Council, the necessary steps will be taken to request the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the regulation authorizing the County of Oxford to initiate the necessary change process.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial implications beyond that approved within the 2017 Business Plan and Budget. The Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Risks/Implications

There are no risks to receiving this report. Should Council wish to pursue any change as outlined in this report, Council should note that approval of any change is solely at the discretion of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and that the options available to the Minister include:

1. deny the request;
2. authorize the requested change through regulation; or
3. impose an alternative change through regulation.

Strategic Plan (2015-2018)

County Council adopted the County of Oxford Strategic Plan (2015-2018) at its regular meeting held May 27, 2015. The initiative contained within this report supports the Values and Strategic Directions as set out in the Strategic Plan as it pertains to the following Strategic Directions:

4. i. **A County that Informs and Engages** - Harness the power of the community through conversation and dialogue by:
- *Providing multiple opportunities for public participation and a meaningful voice in civic affairs*
 - *Fostering greater involvement in County and community events and/or program/project implementation*
 - *Understanding and addressing public aspirations for a more livable community*

DISCUSSION

Background

At its meeting on March 8, 2017 Council received Report CAO 2017-04 ([Attachment 1](#)) and directed staff to seek input from the Area Municipalities and a group of Past Wardens ([Attachment 2](#)). The correspondence received was received by Council at its May 24, 2017 meeting and Council adopted the following motion:

“That the correspondence from the Townships of Blandford-Blenheim and East Zorra-Tavistock, the Towns of Ingersoll and Tillsonburg, and from former Wardens Harrison, Holbrough and McKay, providing comments on the options for the Head of Council (Warden) selection and term be received for Council’s consideration;

And further, that a supplemental summary Report be prepared for the Council meeting of June 28, 2017 reiterating options (as introduced in Report CAO 2017-04) taking into consideration such additional information as timing, process and costs.”

Comments

Bill 68 Impact

Since receipt of Report CAO 2017-04, Bill 68 has received Royal Assent and will take effect January 1, 2018. Bill 68 has no implications to the process Regional Councils must follow to alter Head of Council, changes to Council composition and/or changes to the Warden term for the 2018 municipal election. However, for the 2022 municipal election, Bill 68 removes the requirement for a Minister’s regulation to authorize Council to undertake a change process that begins after January 1, 2018.

Warden Selection and Term Options and Comments

Report CAO 2017-04 (Attachment 1) presented the options available to Council. Comments from Past Wardens and Area Municipal Councils that responded are provided therein (Attachment 2). Any correspondence received from the remaining Area Municipalities will be incorporated into correspondence on the June 28, 2017 agenda for Council's consideration in the matter.

Change process and timing

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has confirmed the sequence of events that must occur to allow the Head of Council to be elected at large, thereby also altering the composition of Council.

The process requires what is referred to as a "triple majority" in that it must be the will of County Council, supported by the majority of Area Municipal Councils, and which represent over 50% of the County of Oxford electorate. The County of Oxford electorate for such consideration impacting the 2018 municipal election is represented by the Area Municipal 2014 Municipal Election voters list. The "triple majority" requirement is not required to alter the Warden term.

A Minister regulation to authorize Council initiating any change is required. The process and timeframe to receive the Minister regulation is managed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. All Minister Regulations require a **45 day registry public posting**.

Once the change process authorized by regulation and initiated County of Oxford public meetings require a **21 day notice**.

Table 1 outlines the latest milestone dates that will ensure the process to be completed by year end 2017 taking into account the triple majority requirement for a change to the Warden selection and Council composition. Ministry of Municipal Affairs staff have indicated that similar municipal change processes typically require 5 to 8 months to complete.

The change process cannot be initiated without the Minister regulation and the process must be completed by County Council enacting the appropriate by-law by December 31, 2017 to be included in the 2018 Municipal Election. Table 1 outlines the process steps and timelines for the appropriate by-law to be enacted at Council's last regular 2017 meeting, planned for December 13, 2017.

Resolutions that will advance each of the options available to Council are provided in Attachment 3 for information.

Table 1

Action	Latest Date	
County Council resolution	June 28, 2017	
Request for regulation to Minister	June 29, 2017	
Regulation public notice commencing (45 days)	August 1, 2017	Subject to Ministry of Municipal Affairs timing
Regulation public notice closes	September 13, 2017	
Minister decision (approve/deny request) for Agenda release	September 20, 2017	Not required for change of Warden Term
Council receives Minister's Regulation and formally initiates change process	September 27, 2017	
Area Municipal Council discussion	October meetings	Only required for change to Head of Council selection/ Council composition
Supporting resolutions from Area Municipalities for agenda release	November 1, 2017	
County Council receives supporting resolutions from Area Municipalities (triple majority)	November 8, 2017	
Public Meeting Notice Published (21 days)	November 21, 2017	
Public Meeting at County Council	December 13, 2017	
County Council, considers public input, By-law receives 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd reading	December 13, 2017	
If Council enacts the by-law, change in place	December 13, 2017	

Costs Related to any Change

Estimated direct County of Oxford costs would include:

- Public Meeting advertising costs ~\$5,000
- Legal Counsel ~\$5,000
- Public Awareness/Education Campaign (if change implemented) ~\$10,000

Conclusions

This report is presented as information at the request of Council.

SIGNATURE

Approved for submission:

Original signed by _____

Peter M. Crockett, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

1. CAO 2017-04
2. Correspondence received at the May 24, 2017 Council meeting
3. Resolution options

To: Warden and Members of County Council

From: Chief Administrative Officer

Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive Report CAO 2017-04 entitled “Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term” for information.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- This report is intended to inform Council of its options for the selection of Head of Council (Warden) and the Term of the Warden beginning with the start of the 2019-2022 term of Council.

Implementation Points

Should Council adopt any resolutions seeking to change either the selection of the Head of Council or alter the term of the Head of Council, the necessary steps will be taken to request the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the regulation change necessary to proceed with the changes sought by Council.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial implications beyond that approved within the 2017 Business Plan and Budget. The Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Risks/Implications

There are no risks to receiving this report. Should Council wish to pursue any change as outlined in this report, Council should note that approval of any change is solely at the discretion of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and that the options available to the Minister include:

1. deny the request;
2. authorize the requested change through regulation; or
3. impose an alternative change through regulation.

Strategic Plan (2015-2018)

County Council adopted the County of Oxford Strategic Plan (2015-2018) at its regular meeting held May 27, 2015. The initiative contained within this report supports the Values and Strategic Directions as set out in the Strategic Plan as it pertains to the following Strategic Directions:

4. i. **A County that Informs and Engages** - Harness the power of the community through conversation and dialogue by:
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 - *Fostering greater involvement in County and community events and/or program/project implementation*
 - *Understanding and addressing public aspirations for a more livable community*

DISCUSSION

Background

At its December 14, 2016 meeting Council adopted a motion requesting that staff present a report outlining options for the selection of Warden for its consideration. Specifically the following motion was adopted:

That notwithstanding Procedure By-law 5852-2016 or any additional provincial legislation or regulation, that Council directs staff to prepare a report reviewing any/all options on the nomination, election or appointment of Warden for Oxford County, and that report be presented in advance time to allow deliberation and recommendations in advance of any provincial restrictions for change (e.g. Dec. 2017).

Comments

Canadian municipalities are created through the delegation of constitutional authorities of Canadian provinces. As such, in Ontario all municipal authority is delegated through provincial legislation and regulation.

While several bodies of legislation govern specific aspects of municipal authority, the primary authority to govern at the municipal level in Ontario is derived through the Municipal Act, RSO 2001 as amended. Within this context, the following discusses the various options available for consideration by County Council and outlines the manner in which any could be pursued prior to the next municipal election date, Monday, October 22, 2018.

Our review of the Municipal Act has led us to conclude the following:

- *The County of Oxford is considered a regional municipality according to Subsection 1 (1) - “regional municipality” means an upper-tier municipality that was a regional or district municipality or the County of Oxford on December 31, 2002;*
- *The County of Oxford currently follows the Appointment of head, same term as council according to Subsection 233 (2) - If the term of office of an appointed head of council of an upper-tier municipality is the same as the term of council, the council of the upper-tier municipality shall, in the first year of its term, appoint the head of council at its first meeting. 2001, c. 25, s. 233 (2).*
- *Subsection 218 (4) applies regarding the Term of office - Without limiting sections 9, 10 and 11, those sections authorize an upper-tier municipality to change the term of office of an appointed head of council so long as the new term does not extend beyond the term of council. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 93 (3).*
- *In addition, Subsection 218 (5) applies to Regional municipalities, including Oxford County - A regional municipality shall not pass a by-law described in this section until the Minister has, by regulation, authorized the regional municipality to exercise the powers described in this section. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 93 (3).*

Moreover, the latest revisions to the Municipal Act, Bill 70, Building Ontario Up for Everyone Act (Budget Measures), 2016 – Received Royal Assent December 8, 2016. Bill 70 included an amendment requiring all regional government chairs, except Oxford County, to be directly elected at large.

Options for Selecting the Warden (Head of County Council)

Election from Within

- Council’s current process, as outlined in the Procedure By-law (By-law No. 5852-2016) includes the election of a sitting member of County Council;
- No action is required to maintain the status quo.

Election at Large

- Given the recent requirement of all other Regional Councils in Ontario to elect the head of Council at large in the next municipal election, it is reasonable to assume Council has the option to seek legislative authority to expand County Council by one seat and allow for the Warden to be elected at large;
- Such a direction would require the Minister to enact a regulation;
- The process to affect any such change is outlined later in this report.

Options for Selecting the Term for the Warden (Head of County Council)

Term of Council

- The term of Council (four (4) years) is the default which applies to the *Election Within* or the *Election at Large* options for selecting the Warden.

Terms less than the Term of Council

- With the *Election Within option*, Council has the option to seek authority for a change to either one (1) year or two (2) year terms for the Warden;
- A change to either a one (1) or two (2) year option will require the Minister to enact a regulation;
- The process to affect any such change is outlined later in this report.

Process for Changes to the Warden (Head of County Council) Selection or Term

Our interpretation of the sequence of events that must occur to allow either the Head of Council to be elected at large or to permit a change in Head of Council term limit:

- The County would initially have to pass a resolution requesting the Regulations Subsection 218 (6) - The Minister may make regulations authorizing a regional municipality to exercise any power described in this section. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 93 (3). Condition – Subsection 218 (7) - The Minister shall not make a regulation under subsection (6) unless the Minister has received a resolution from the regional municipality requesting the regulation. 2001, c. 25, s. 218 (7); 2002, c. 17, Sched. A, s. 43 (3).
Note any regulation change by the Minister requires public posting on the registry for 45 days
- If the County receives a regulation it can then provide Public Notice per Subsection 219 (1) - Before passing a by-law described in section 218, the municipality shall give notice of its intention to pass the by-law and shall hold at least one public meeting to consider the matter. 2001, c. 25, s. 219 (1); 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 94 (1).
Note County policy requires public notice for 21 days prior to public meeting
- Following the public meeting, if a By-law is passed Subsection 219 (3) would apply regarding Commencement

Despite subsection 218 (2), a by-law described in section 218 does not come into force until the day the new council is organized following, (a) the first regular election following the passing of the by-law; or (b) if the by-law is passed in the year of a regular election before voting day, the second regular election following the passing of the by-law. 2001, c. 25, s. 219 (3); 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 94 (2).

In summary, we believe that proper process would require the following sequence of events and results should Council wish to alter either the selection of or the term of the Head of Council:

1. Council must determine its preferred option to select the 2018 Head of Council:
 - a. Election Within (status quo); or
 - b. Elected at Large.

2. With option 1a (Election Within), Council must determine if it wishes to alter the current four (4) year term for the Head of Council. Should Council wish to reduce the term, Council must pass a resolution to request the Minister to approve a regulation to allow the County to alter the selection of the Head of Council to either:
 - a. One (1) Year term; or
 - b. Two (2) Year term.
3. If, and only when, the regulation is received, Council will be required to provide notice and conduct a public meeting;
4. Upon completion of the public meeting, Council will be required to pass a by-law to finalize the change of selection of, or the term of, the Head of Council;
5. All of the above must be completed by December 31, 2017 to take effect December 1, 2018 (with the new term of Council).

Minister's Options

Council should be aware that any regulatory change remains the sole discretion of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. As such, the Minister's options, upon receipt of any request for changes to either the Head of Council selection process or the Head of Council term, are to:

1. Deny the request;
2. Authorize the requested change through regulation; or
3. Impose an alternative change through regulation.

Conclusions

This report is presented as information at the request of Council.

SIGNATURE

Approved for submission:

Original signed by _____

Peter M. Crockett, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer



April 26, 2017

County Council
County of Oxford
P.O. Box 1614, 21 Reeve Street
Woodstock, ON N4S 7Y3

RE: Options for Head of Council

Tillsonburg Town Council received Memo CAO 2017-04, Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term at their Council meeting of April 10, 2017. At the Council Meeting of April 24, 2017, Council considered the Options set out in the Memo and passed the following resolution:

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Beres Seconded By: Councillor Adam
THAT Council receives Report CL 17-10 County Council Composition;

AND THAT Tillsonburg Town Council supports Option 4, that the Warden of Oxford County be elected at large and to expand the County Council seat by one.
Carried

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 688-3009 Ext. 3224
Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donna Wilson', is written above the typed name.

Donna Wilson
Town Clerk
Town of Tillsonburg
200 Broadway, 2nd Floor, Suite 204
Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5A7
Phone: 519-688-3009 Ext. 3224

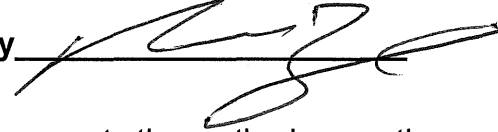
Township of Blandford-Blenheim - Council Resolution

CAO 2017-07
Attachment 2

Resolution No. 13

April 5, 2017

Moved by 

Seconded by 

That Council supports the method currently used in the selection of the Warden for the County of Oxford and recommends that no alterations be made either the process or term of office.



Township of East Zorra-Tavistock

Box 100 / 90 Loveys Street
Hickson, Ontario N0J 1L0

**CAO 2017-07
Attachment 2**

Email ezt@ezt.ca
Web www.ezt.ca

Phone 519.462.2697
Fax 519.462.2961

Letter sent via Email

April 6, 2017

Mrs. Brenda J. Tabor, Clerk
County of Oxford
PO Box 1614, 21 Reeve Street
Woodstock, ON
N4S 0A7

Dear Mrs. Tabor,

At its Meeting of April 5th 2017, Council reviewed Oxford County Report CAO 2017-04 regarding the Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term. Following discussion, Council considered and passed the following resolution:

***Moved by: Maureen RALPH
Seconded by: Mike ROUTLY***

***Resolved that Council recommend that County Council consider the
Warden elected at large option.***

CARRIED.

Council appreciated the opportunity to review and comment on this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Will Jaques'.

Will Jaques
Corporate Services Manager/ Clerk

Cc. Peter Crockett, Oxford County CAO



TOWN OF INGERSOLL
Town Centre

April 25, 2017

Brenda Tabor
Clerk
P.O. Box 1614, 21 Reeve Street
Woodstock, Ontario
N4S 7Y3

Dear Brenda,

Please be advised that Ingersoll Council, at its April 10, 2017 meeting, passed the following resolution in regards to the requested input into Report CAO 2017-04 Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term:

Moved by Councillor Lesser; seconded by Councillor Petrie

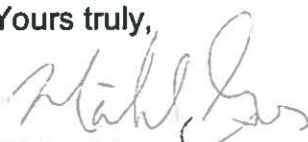
C17-04-105 THAT Council of the Town of Ingersoll receive report CAO 2017-04 Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term;

AND THAT Council of the Town of Ingersoll advises that they wish to see the Warden position continue to be elected in the current manner for a two year term instead of the current four year term.

CARRIED

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input and trust that this is satisfactory.

Yours truly,


Michael Graves
Clerk

From: Don McKay
Sent: March-30-17 8:28 AM
To: Brenda Knott
Cc: Brenda Tabor; David Mayberry; Peter Crockett
Subject: Re: Report No. CAO 2017-04 - Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term

Thank you Brenda

It was a distinct honour to serve as Warden of Oxford County for a four year term. I think it is important to maintain the four year term. It provides consistency over the four years to build relationships with Provincial Ministries, Western Wardens Caucus and the staff and residents of Oxford County. It was a challenge to balance the role and time commitments as Mayor and Warden.

I would encourage Oxford County to consider electing their Warden at large. I believe this would help build an accountability of the Warden to all Oxford residents. It would help the Warden to focus their time and efforts on building and representing a strong Oxford County. A directly elected Warden would make an eleven member Council and potentially upset the 5-5 rural/urban balance. However it may also help lead us beyond this debate to actually grow stronger together. A safeguard to consider could be a ranked ballot for the election of Warden. This would ensure the elected Warden has the support of more than 50% of the voters and promotes positive campaigning with a vision for building the entire County.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Take care,

Don

Don McKay

Mayor, Township of East Zorra-Tavistock

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From: Harrison, Mark (MAESD) [<mailto:Mark.Harrison@ontario.ca>]

Sent: March-14-17 2:43 PM

To: Brenda Tabor

Subject: Report No. CAO 2017-04 - Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term

Good afternoon Brenda

I hope this email finds you well. I would certainly like to thank County Council for giving me an opportunity to express my opinion on options for the Head of Council, Selection and Term.

During the debate that lead to the Council restructuring that took effect in 2001, there was a great deal of discussion surrounding both the method of selecting the head of council and the term. At that time my preferred option would have seen the Warden Elected at Large. All members of County Council should not vote with their local municipal bias, every member should always be voting with the best interest of the county in mind. I would maintain that the Warden of the County is that one member that without exception must vote with the best interest of the county in mind. There are times when doing this it may put the Warden at odds with his/her local municipality. I also believe that conducting an election at large for the Warden increases the credibility of the office. I also believe that it would have the added advantage of raising the profile of County Council and the Upper Tier governance model. It does have its cons as well. Geographically Oxford County is large, campaigning across the entire area would be both costly and time consuming. I have some fear that it may then become attractive to partisan party politics. I believed the benefits of electing the Head of Council outweighed the negatives in 2001 and I still believe that to be the case today.

As for the Term of the Head of Council, in my opinion that goes without question. The Warden of the County of Oxford has served for the term of Council since the original restructuring in 1975. I believe that this is a major positive factor in the progress this county has shown over the years. I think that Oxford has had a great advantage over traditional counties that appointed Wardens on an annual basis. Many of these Wardens served as figure heads. I believe that Oxford Wardens have taken on a fuller role as Chief Executive Officers of the Corporation. I believe that the continuity in the office of the Warden for the term of council has served the County very well. Regardless of the method of selection I strongly urge County Council to maintain the Term of office for the Warden as the Term of Council.

To Summaries, I support electing the Head of Council at Large for the term of Council. If Council decide to select option 1a (Election Within), I would strongly recommend not altering the term.

I wish County Council all the best in your deliberations.

Mark

Mark Harrison

From: paul@mcclays.ca [<mailto:paul@mcclays.ca>]

Sent: March-22-17 10:18 PM

To: Brenda Tabor; Peter Crockett; Warden; ED.DOWN@YAHOO.COM; Don McKay; donfer@execulink.com; mark.harrison@ontario.ca; Brenda Knott

Subject: Re: Report No. CAO 2017-04 - Options for the Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I believe that it would be in the best interest for the citizens of Oxford County to have the Warden elected at large.

As the first 4 year term Warden one of the biggest challenges was dividing my time between the County and my lower-tier municipality, Ingersoll.

If the Warden was elected at large I believe it may be a more effective way of promoting the interests of the County without the bias and pressure from your local municipality.

My experience with the Western Ontario Warden Caucus that it was an ineffective lobby group due to the fact that a minimum of Wardens were appointed for the full term of Council. My point being if the Warden was elected at large they may be more respected and effective when dealing with other levels of government since the Warden was duly elected by the population the County rather than 9 other members of County Council.

The financial implications of electing the Warden at large would be minimal to the County. Under the pay structure that was in place when I served the difference between the Warden and Councillor was just over 50,000 per year. That number represented about .33 of a percent of the budget. (150,000 representing 1 per cent of the budget).

Paul Holbrough

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

Scenarios for Motion re Options for Head of Council Selection and Term

Scenario # 1 – Base Motion

That Council receive Report CAO 2017-07 entitled “Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update” for information.

Scenario # 2 – Base Motion adapted to specifically include Status Quo

That Council receive Report CAO 2017-07 entitled “Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update” for information;

And further, that the County of Oxford maintains the current Head of Council selection and term for the 2018 municipal election.

Scenario # 3 – Base Motion adapted to include change to Direct Election/Election at Large

That Council receive Report CAO 2017-07 entitled “Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update” for information;

And further, that Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs to enact a regulation authorizing the County of Oxford to initiate the process to consider a change in the composition of its council from ten (10) to eleven (11) members to allow for the head of council to be directly elected by general vote in the 2018 municipal election.

Scenario # 4 – Base Motion adapted to include change to a 1 Year Term of Warden

That Council receive Report CAO 2017-07 entitled “Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update” for information;

And further, that Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs to enact a regulation authorizing the County of Oxford to initiate the process to consider a change to the term of office of its appointed head of council to a one year term beginning with the 2018 municipal election.

Scenario # 5 – Base Motion adapted to include change to a 2 Year Term of Warden

That Council receive Report CAO 2017-07 entitled “Head of Council (Warden) Selection and Term Update” for information;

And further, that the Council of the County of Oxford request the Minister of Municipal Affairs to enact a regulation authorizing the County to change the term of office of its appointed head of council to a two year term beginning with the 2018 municipal election.