



**CITY OF
Welland**

**MINUTES OF THE
NOVEMBER 27, 2024 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
60 EAST MAIN STREET**

Council met in open session at 5:00 p.m. on the above date.

His Worship Mayor Frank Campion in the Chair.

Members Present:

Councillors J. Chiocchio, T. DiMarco (virtual until 5:13 p.m. and again at 5:54 p.m. until 6:04 p.m.), B. Fokkens, B. Green, M.A. Grimaldi, J. Lee, D. McLeod, A. Moote, C. Richard, S. Setaram, G. Speck, and L. Van Vliet.

Members of Staff and Others Present:

Chief Administrative Officer, R. Axiak

Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk, T. Stephens

Acting Deputy Clerk, C. Ambrosio

General Manager of Corporate & Enterprise Services/CFO, S. Nagel

City Treasurer, E. Pankoff

Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator, A. Eckhart

Director of Community Services, J. Ruddell

Director of Infrastructure Services, SM. Millar

Director of Planning and Development Services, G. Munday

Chief Human Resources Officer, A. Daisley

Manager of Budgets & Financial Services/Deputy Treasurer, A. Vuksan Scott

Manager of Fleet, Equipment & Purchasing, A. Beres

Manager of Facility Operations & Development, F. Pearson (until 9:00 p.m.)

Manager of Engineering, L. McEachern

Information Systems Manager/Network Administrator, S. Barnes (until 9:00 p.m.)

Infrastructure & Asset Manager, M. Main

Manager of Business & Community Services, A. Degazio (9:15 p.m.)

Manager of Parks, Forestry and Cemeteries, D. Steven (until 9:15 p.m.)

The Mayor recessed the council meeting at 7:51 p.m. and reconvened at 7:56 p.m.

2024 - 347

24-4 Moved by Speck and Fokkens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND removes the 40 km speed limit – Capital Project -10-321-25254 (\$219,000.00).

LOST

2024 - 348

24-4 Moved by McLeod and Van Vliet

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND removes funding for 40 km signage and reallocate the funding for permanent or temporary speed humps or other traffic calming measures to address neighbourhood concerns, where they are deemed to be a suitable remedy.

YEAS: Fokkens, McLeod, Moote, Richard and Speck.

NAYS: Campion, Chiocchio, Green, Grimaldi, Lee, Setaram and Van Vliet.

LOST

2024 - 349

24-4 Moved by Green and Moote

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND includes in the 2025 Budget fund from reserve account for pavement rejuvenation (320) Business Case.

YEAS: Chiocchio, Green, Grimaldi, Lee, Richard and Speck.

NAYS: Mayor Campion, Fokkens, McLeod, Moote, Setaram and Van Vliet.

LOST

2024 - 350**24-4**

Moved by Green and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND includes in the 2025 Budget -
Facilities Working Foreman.

CARRIED**2024 - 351****24-4**

Moved by Green and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND includes in the 2025 Budget –
Parks Working Foreperson.

YEAS: Green, McLeod, Moote and Setaram.

NAYS: Chiocchio, Fokkens, Grimaldi, Lee, Richard, Speck, Van Vliet
and Mayor Campion.

LOST**2024 - 352****24-4**

Moved by Green and McLeod

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND includes in the 2025 Budget –
Labourer Roads.

CARRIED**2024 - 353****24-4**

Moved by Green and Moote

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND removes from the 2025 Budget –
BAS Assessment and Design.

CARRIED**2024 - 354****24-4**

Moved by Green and Fokkens

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND include the Empire Sportsplex
Repair and Renewal 10-435-25481 to a water drinking fountain.

CARRIED**2024 - 355****24-4**

Moved by Setaram and McLeod

WHEREAS, the City of Welland Council supported a resolution requesting the province
to increase funding for libraries and museums in Ontario which included increase the
amount of funding available in the Community Museum Operating Grant; and further
THAT Welland City Council will support the Welland Museum's special funding request
for \$25,572 as a museum operating grant to address budget shortfalls.

**(Councillor Speck disclosed an interest in a matter and did not take part in the
consideration and discussion of same, as his company provides apparel to the
Welland Historical Museum).**

CARRIED

2024 - 356**24-4** Moved by Setaram and Fokkens

WHEREAS, the City of Welland Council supported a resolution requesting the province to increase funding for libraries and museums in Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Welland Museum Board Chair and Executive Director informed City Council on the increasing programming requests from schools and retirement homes in the city; and

WHEREAS, the Welland Museum has made concerted efforts to have a diversified revenue model; The City of Welland supports the Welland Museum's request for \$51,655 for an additional program staff to increase their ability to meet the community requests for more programs and extended hours (Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm and Wednesday's from 10:00am to 8:00pm).

YEAS: Fokkens, Lee, McLeod, Moote and Setaram.

NAYS: Mayor Campion, Chiocchio, Green, Grimaldi, Richard, Van Vliet.

LOST**2024 - 357****24-4** Moved by Setaram and McLeod

WHEREAS, the City of Welland is currently developing a 5-year IT Strategic Master Plan to assess technology and digital requirements to enable to City to meet current and future needs and expectations of residents; and

WHEREAS, Council was provided the opportunity to meet with the consultants developing the IT Strategic Master Plan in August 2024 to provide feedback on how satisfied residents are with the current technology infrastructure and services provided by the city including cybersecurity and data privacy; and any other improvements that enables better service; and

WHEREAS, the IT Project Manager will oversee the planning and implementation of the IT Strategic Masterplan and technology and digital initiatives to address requests from residents for more digital services; to assist with the identification of routine processes for automation enabling staff to provide enhanced service standards; and allowing for better access to data and information for decision-making; and further

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND amends the budget to include an IT Project Manager in 2025 to oversee the implementation of the IT Strategic Masterplan and management of technology and digital initiatives.

YEAS: Lee, McLeod Moote and Setaram.

NAYS: Mayor Campion, Chiocchio, Fokkens, Green, Grimaldi, Richard, and Speck.

LOST

2024 - 358**24-4** Moved by Setaram and McLeod

WHEREAS, the City of Welland has experienced significant and ongoing growth of arts and culture over the past few years, it's time to reestablish the City of Welland Arts and Culture Awards Program in 2025 after a 10-year hiatus; and

WHEREAS, the Arts and Culture Awards Program aims to honour achievements and contributions of individuals, groups, and organizations, it also serves to inspire and motivate innovation and excellence, and attract tourism contributing to economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for the Arts and Culture Awards Program is based on the funding model of the City of Welland Sports Award Night and Sports Promotion & Wall of Fame;

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND amends the budget to allocate \$33,600 to re-establish the City of Welland Arts and Culture Awards Program.

YEAS: Lee and Setaram.

NAYS: Mayor Campion, Chiocchio, Fokkens, Green, Grimaldi, McLeod, Moote, Richard, Speck and Van Vliet.

LOST**2024 - 359****24-4** Moved by Fokkens and Chiocchio

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND removes from the 2025 Budget – the design and funding for the future paving of the WIFC and Empire parking lots and also remove it from the 10 year capital plan- 2026-1.3 Million.

YEAS: Chiocchio, Fokkens, Green, Grimaldi, Lee, Speck and Van Vliet.

NAYS: Mayor Campion, McLeod, Moote, Richard and Setaram.

CARRIED**2024 - 360****24-4** Moved by Fokkens and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND amends the amount to \$40,000.

Account 520090 for 2024 is \$9,000 is over budget. Reducing this account- will offset the over expenditure in 2024 and will keep the 2025 budget for conferences and conventions at a reasonable expense for 2025.

LOST**2024 - 361****24-4** Moved by McLeod and Moote

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Climate Change & Environmental Coordinator as per staff business needs assessment.

LOST

2024 - 362**24-4** Moved by McLeod and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Emergency Management Funding as per staff's business case and needs assessment.

YEAS: Mayor Campion, Chiochio, Grimaldi, Lee, McLeod, Moote and Setaram.

NAYS: Fokkens, Green, Richard, Speck and Van Viet.

CARRIED**2024 - 363****24-4** Moved by McLeod and Setaram

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Fire Prevention Officer as per staff business needs assessment.

YEAS: Mayor Campion, McLeod, Moote and Setaram.

NAYS: Chiochio, Fokkens, Green, Grimaldi, Lee, Richard, Speck and Van Vliet.

LOST**2024 - 364****24-4** Moved by McLeod and Setaram

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Part time Social Services Advisor per staff business needs assessment.

YEAS: Mayor Campion, Green, Grimaldi, McLeod, Moote, Richard, Setaram and Van Vliet.

NAYS: Chiochio, Fokkens, Lee and Speck.

CARRIED**2024 - 365****24-4** Moved by McLeod and

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Pavement Rejuvenation Program as per staff's business case needs assessment.

NOT PUT**2024 - 366****24-4** Moved by McLeod and Moote

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Supervisor of By-law Enforcement as per staff business needs assessment.

CARRIED

2024 - 367**24-4** Moved by McLeod and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to include Council's 2026 pre approval of one full time employee and one part time employee requested to operate the new (WPL) Welland Public Library Bookmobile. 2026.

LOST**2024 - 368****24-4** Moved by Lee and Setaram

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND moves to amend the 2025 budget to start the bookmobile program in 2025 from October 1 to December 31 with 1 full time employee as a Fulltime Coordinator as well a part time programmer; and further THAT the salary for 3 months to be \$30,191.25 total for both employees.

CARRIED**2024 - 369****24-4** Moved by Chiocchio and Lee

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND removes the Vehicle Purchases of re: Canal Lands Pick up Truck for \$75,328, By-Laws Parking Sedan for \$37,717, and Engineering \$37,717. Total amount of tax payer savings of \$150,762.

YEAS: Chiocchio, Fokkens and Speck**NAYS:** Mayor Campion, Green, Grimaldi, Lee, McLeod, Moote, Richard, Setaram and Van Vliet..**LOST****2024 - 370****24-4** Moved by Speck and Chiocchio

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND does not need to increase by 133% for 2025 Corporate Training.

LOST**2024 - 371****24-4** Moved by Green and Chiocchio

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND removes Fleet Replacement Water from the 2025 capital budget 176-0-2013.

LOST**2024 - 372****24-4** Moved by Fokkens and Richard

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND increases water fixed costs to 35% and decreases wastewater fixed costs to 35% from the 2025 proposed rate budget.

LOST

BY-LAWS

Moved by Richard and Van Vliet

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND having given due consideration to the following By-law, as reproduced in this evening's Council Agenda, now read a first, second and third time and pass same, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign and seal same.

24-1

BYL 2024 - 114

A By-law to adopt, ratify and confirm proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Welland at its meeting held on the 27th day of November, 2024.

CARRIED

Council adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

These Minutes to be approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 10th day of November 2024.