



**The Corporation of the Town of Saugeen Shores
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, December 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
Nuclear Innovation Institute
620 Tomlinson Drive, Port Elgin, Ontario**

Present: Luke Charbonneau, Mayor
Diane Huber, Deputy Mayor
Mike Myatt, Vice Deputy Mayor
Dave Myette, Councillor
John Divinski, Councillor
Cheryl Grace, Councillor
Bud Halpin, Councillor

Members Absent: Justin Duhaime, Councillor
Rachel Stack, Councillor

Staff Members: Kara Van Myall, Chief Administrative Officer
Dawn Mittelholtz, Clerk
Jim Bundschuh, Director, Corporate Services
Tammy Grove, Municipal Solicitor
Ed Melanson, Director, Fire Services/Fire Chief
Mark Paoli, Director, Development Services
Matt Prentice, Director, Operations
Kristan Shrider, Director, Community Services
Daniel Waechter, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Bonderud, Deputy Clerk

1. Call To Order

Mayor L. Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor C. Grace read the land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and Nature

Councillor B. Halpin and Councillor D. Myette declared pecuniary interests in Item 8.2.3. Final Budget Report 2025.

4. Additions, Deletions, Amendments

5. Open Forum

Before the business of the meeting began, Deputy Mayor D. Huber acknowledged Mayor Charbonneau in being elected as Warden for the County of Bruce for the 2024-2025 term.

5.1 Connie Barker, Pumpkinfest Committee and Rob Stanley, SPARKS Program

Item 8.2.2: Final Budget Report 2025

6. Delegations

6.1 Marine Heritage Society, 2024 Architectural Conservancy Ontario Peter Stokes Restoration Award Recipient

On behalf of Council, Mayor L. Charbonneau and Councillor C. Grace, Chair of the Municipal Heritage Committee, recognized the Marine Heritage Society for receiving the 2024 Architectural Conservancy Ontario Peter Stokes Restoration Award. The Marine Heritage Society was nominated by the Town's Municipal Heritage Committee for its meticulous restoration of Southampton Harbour's historic Front Range Light.

Wayne Kaufman, Chair of the Marine Heritage Society Board, spoke to the award.

A request was made to staff to have the Town house the Award in a community space.

6.2 Dave Bertrand, Rotary Winterama Committee - 2025 Winterama

The Committee heard a delegation from Dave Bertrand, a member of the Rotary Winterama Committee, regarding the 23rd Annual Winterama event scheduled for February 2025.

An annual funding request was made to waive the rental fees for the Port Elgin Community Complex ice and Rotary Hall use on February 17, 2025. This request was directed to staff and has been honoured.

6.3 Ramin Ganji, Splash City Fun Park Inc. - Letter of Interest for Inflatable Water Park in Port Elgin

The Committee received a presentation from Ramin Ganji of Splash City Fun Park Inc. and Claude Latulippe a Canadian distributor of Park Manufacturing, regarding their letter of interest for installing an inflatable water park at the Port Elgin Main Beach.

It was noted that the water is not within the Town of Saugeen Shores jurisdiction.

This letter of interest was referred to staff.

7. Public Meeting

8. Report of Municipal Officers / Committees

8.1 Public Notice

8.2 Staff Reports

8.2.1 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan

The Town's draft Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan 2024-2029 contains information about past energy initiatives, a summary of energy reporting data, and future potential initiatives. The Plan details a target for a 7% net reduction over the next five years.

The Town is required to comply with O. Reg 25/23 which requires the approval of an Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan. The attached Plan puts the Town in compliance with the regulation.

The Committee heard a presentation from Chun Liang, Founder, Tree House Energy Services, regarding the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan.

That Council receive the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan report for information.

CARRIED

8.2.2 Final Budget Report 2025

This report provides details on the Municipal 2025 Business Plan and Budget, based on the outlined assumptions as deliberated with Council on November 20 and 27, 2024. A Town of Saugeen Shores 2025 Tax Levy set at \$24,494,116 will result in an estimated combined blended tax rate increase of 4.1%. This represents a \$183 increase to the average household assessed at \$314,000.

Councillor B. Halpin and Councillor D. Myette having declared pecuniary interests regarding the SPARKS Program, and did not take part in the SSTC/Pumpkinfest funding discussion or subsequent voting.

That Council approve the 2025 Town of Saugeen Shores Business Plan to include:

1. 2025 Operating Budget with net operating income of \$11,707,244;
2. 2025 Capital Expenses of \$10,315,369 (net of revenue, debt proceeds, and the increased Special Levy);
3. 2025 proceeds from debt of \$44,047,727; and,
4. 2025 debt-driven increase to Reserves of \$1,391,874; and further,

That Council increase the Town of Saugeen Shores Tax Levy for 2025 to be set at \$1,650,332 to a total of \$24,494,116;

That Council increase the rate-based dedicated Future Infrastructure Special Levy by \$512,558 to a total of \$988,291;

That Council approve the BIA levies for 2025, set at \$66,000 for the Port Elgin BIA and \$58,700 for the Southampton BIA;

That Council pass the Fees and Charges By-Law establishing the 2025 Fees and Charges at the December 9, 2024 Regular Council Meeting; and,

That Council pass the Tax Levy By-law establishing the 2025 Tax Rates at the January 6, 2025 Council meeting.

CARRIED, AS AMENDED

That Council direct staff to include \$30,000 toward SSTC / Pumpkinfest as one-time funding from the Tax Stabilization Reserve;

CARRIED

8.3 Report of Municipal Councillors'

8.4 Communications / Petitions for Committee of the Whole

8.4.1 Airport Advisory Committee - May 23, 2024 Minutes

8.4.2 Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling Board - June 27 and July 9, 2024 Minutes

8.4.3 Ministry of Natural Resources - Regulating Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage Projects Letter

8.4.4 City of Toronto - CC23.1 Respecting Local Democracy and Cities Resolution

8.4.5 City of Toronto - Requesting the Province to Support Family Physicians Resolution

That Council endorse the resolution from the City of Toronto regarding requesting the Province to Support Family Physicians; and

That this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

8.4.6 Town of Petrolia - 2024 Increase to OPP Provincial Contract Annual Billing Statement Resolution

8.4.7 Township of Papineau-Cameron - Ontario Building Code Resolution

9. New Business

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.