



Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron
Minutes for the Budget Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 4:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting - South Huron Council Chambers
Live Video Feed - <https://www.southhuron.ca/en/government/agendas-and-minutes.aspx>

Members Present: George Finch, Mayor
Jim Dietrich, Deputy Mayor
Marissa Vaughan, Councillor - Ward 1
Milt Dietrich - Councillor - Ward 1
Aaron Neeb, Councillor - Ward 2
Wendy McLeod-Haggitt, Councillor - Ward 2
Ted Oke - Councillor - Ward 3

Staff Present: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk
Don Giberson, General Manager of Infrastructure and Development (remote)
Erin Moore, Acting Director of Financial Services/Treasurer
Jeremy Becker, General Manager of Community and Emergency Services
Scott Currie, Manager of Communications and Strategic Initiatives
Shane Timmermans, Manager of Operations
Alyssa Keller, Manager of Environmental Services
Mike Rolph, Director of Building and Planning Services/Chief Building Official
Kate Farwell, Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector
Stacey Jeffery
Mannat Kaur, Financial Analyst
Amanda Johnston, Manager of Community Services
Alex Wolfe, Clerk

1. Meeting Called To Order

Mayor Finch called the Budget Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Amendments to the Agenda, as Distributed and Approved by Council

Motion: 453-2024

Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt

Seconded: M. Vaughan

That South Huron Council approves the Agenda as presented.

Disposition: Carried (6-0)

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

4. Budget Impacts, Priorities and Follow-up from October 28, 2024 Budget Meeting

Acting Director Moore provided an update to the budget impacts and priorities statement based on discussions at the last budget meeting and information received since then.

5. Review of Capital Projects by Department

5.1 Transportation Services

Council inquired about widening paved roads. Staff noted the industry standard, minimum maintenance standards, opportunities to improve drainage, and shoulder maintenance. Council discussed maintenance for gravel replacement for paved shoulders. Staff noted there was some room in the operating budget for a small expansion.

Council discussed the repair of structure #3003 and load limits should the project be delayed.

Council inquired about use of capital replacement reserve rather than tax levy. Staff advised general practice is to only use 25% of the funds transferred to the capital replacement reserve from the previous year.

5.2 Transportation, Water, Sewer Combined

5.3 Streetlights

5.4 Water Services

Staff provided clarification on funds available in water and sewer capital replacement reserves, and advised of a process for borrowing within development charges (DC) reserves. Council inquired about further discussion on Water and Wastewater Master Plan, and further discussion on the future use of municipal properties.

5.5 Sewer Services

Staff advised that the Exeter Sewage Lagoon Sand Filter Rehabilitation project had been deferred a couple times as the Municipality had received some relief from the Ministry to provide for a bit more time to complete the project.

Staff provided a high-level overview of the inflow and infiltration reduction program.

Council discussed projects on the 10-year capital plan, including the Oakwood Gravity Connection, landfill expansion, Andrew Street (Sanders Street East to John St East). They also discussed proposed funding for the Replacement Dashwood Fire Station.

5:01 p.m. Councillor Neeb joined the meeting.

Motion: 454-2024

Moved: T. Oke

Seconded: J. Dietrich

That projects 2025-W-03 - Replacement of 82 Nelson St Parking Lot and 2025-W-04 South Road Watermain Extension - Corbett Line to Grand Bend Line be deferred to 2026 budget discussions.

Disposition: Carried (6-1)

6. Referred Resolutions for discussion

6.1 Stephen Arena and SHRC requirements and cost to allow for assembly occupancy (Referral Resolution 287-2024)

Staff provided a verbal update regarding the onsite meeting discussion with engineering, HVAC and fire suppression representatives. To obtain detailed costs of the project engineered drawings for the structure including electrical and mechanical are required. Following which a detailed review/inspection of the buildings and trusses is required.

Council had a lengthy discussion.

Motion: 455-2024

Moved: J. Dietrich

Seconded: T. Oke

**That South Huron Council receive Staff Report CSD-12-2024
Assembly Occupancy Follow Up Report for information.**

Disposition: Carried (7-0)

- 6.2 Potential Pedestrian Crossover on Main Street, near Downtown Exeter Parkette (Referral Resolution 383-2024)

Motion: 456-2024

Moved: M. Vaughan

Seconded: A. Neeb

That the Potential Pedestrian Crossover on Main Street, near Downtown Exeter Parkette, be included as a project in the 2025 draft Budget.

Disposition: Carried (7-0)

- 6.3 Wind Turbine Amenity Special Purpose Committee - Resolutions - November 1, 2024

Council requested the amount of the remaining funds and Staff advised information would be brought back to the next Council meeting

Motion: 457-2024

Moved: J. Dietrich

Seconded: T. Oke

That South Huron Council approve the November 1, 2024 Wind Turbine Amenity Special Purpose Committee recommendation as follows:

- **That \$35,000 be committed to the (Exeter) Downtown Crossover and \$265,000 be committed to the Dashwood Fire Station Replacement (from the Amenity Fee - Wind Turbine Community Funding Reserve for 2025) should these projects be approved by Council.**

Disposition: Carried (7-0)

7. Next Steps

Council discussed the outstanding information for the draft budget numbers (MPAC, Insurance, Upper Thames Conservation Authority Budget, Kirkton-Woodham).

Motion: 458-2024

Moved: T. Oke

Seconded: M. Vaughan

That \$100,000 from the OPP stabilization reserve be applied towards the OPP Budget line for the 2025 Budget.

Motion: 459-2024

Moved: M. Vaughan

Seconded: J. Dietrich

That Motion #458-2024 be deferred to the November 25, 2024 Budget Meeting.

Disposition: Carried (6-1)

Motion: 460-2024

Moved: J. Dietrich

Seconded: T. Oke

That staff bring a report back to the Nov 25th Budget meeting regarding increased gravel for rural roads for Council consideration.

Disposition: Carried (7-0)

8. Adjournment

Motion: 461-2024

Moved: J. Dietrich

Seconded: A. Neeb

That South Huron Council hereby adjourns at 5:36 p.m.

Disposition: Carried (7-0)

George Finch, Chair

Alex Wolfe, Clerk