



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

## Special Council Meeting Minutes (2024 Municipal Budget)

Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Bruce County Council Chambers - 30 Park Street, Walkerton, ON

**Council Present:** Chris Peabody, Mayor  
James Lang, Deputy Mayor  
Mitch Clark, Councillor  
Tim Elphick, Councillor  
Kym Hutcheon, Councillor  
B. Carl Kuhnke, Councillor  
Gregory J. McLean, Councillor

**Staff Present:** Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)  
Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer  
Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk  
Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services  
Brad Thomson, Parks and Facilities Coordinator  
Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations  
Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services  
Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor

- 1. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement**
- 2. Acceptance of Special Council Agenda**

### **Resolution 24-05-01**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Mitch Clark

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the Special Council Meeting (2024 Municipal Budget) on February 6, 2024 as presented.

**Carried**

- 3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**
- 4. Reports**
  - 4.1 Cargill Homecoming Donation Request**

Councillor Elphick declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 4.1 due to his involvement with the Committee.

Council discussed the overall funding amount for fireworks and the support that would otherwise be provided to the Committee.

A recorded vote was requested.

**Resolution 24-05-02**

Moved By: Mitch Clark

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2024-03 – Cargill Homecoming Donation Request, prepared by Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer and in doing so provides the following direction to staff: not to include the \$20,000 cost of the fireworks in the 2024 Budget.

<b>Member of Council</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>
Clark, Mitch	X	
Elphick, Tim	X	
Hutcheon, Kym	X	
Kuhnke, B. Carl	X	
Lang, James		X
McLean, Gregory J.	X	
Peabody, Chris	X	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>

**Carried**

4.2 Walkerton Football Club Financial Request

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions from Council about the previous fundraising efforts and the total financial impact to Brockton.

Council commended the efforts of the Walkerton Football Club in committing to invest funds back into the community.

**Resolution 24-05-03**

Moved By: Gregory J. McLean

Seconded By: B. Carl Kuhnke

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2024-04 - Walkerton Football Club Financial Request, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) and in doing so directs staff to include the purchase of the nets as a capital project in the 2024 Municipal Budget.

**Carried**

4.3 2024 Draft Budget Update

Council discussed the capital projects, including the half ton pick-up truck, and whether the truck could simply be repaired rather than purchasing a new vehicle. Brad Thomson, Parks and Facilities Coordinator responded to questions from Council on the various problems with the current truck including the steering wheel not turning properly, the starter not working properly, and the rear-end needing repairs. Mr. Thomson advised that the truck was brought to a mechanic and staff were notified that the truck is not worth further repairs. Sonya Watson, CAO confirmed that staff are completing a Fleet Management Plan, but the truck is required in the interim, especially during the peak summer season. Trish Serratore, CFO discussed the leasing costs in comparison with purchasing the truck and the need for the vehicle to be used by staff to travel to multiple locations in the community.

Council discussed the salary and compensation review, and whether it could be delayed. Sonya Watson, CAO advised that Council had agreed to bring back the review in 2024, further noting the importance of ensuring employee wages

remained competitive and equitable to retain employees and that a full pay equity review was completed.

Council discussed the \$200,000 recreation facility reserve fund for the new arena, and the amount being transferred for post closure of landfills. Trish Serratore, CFO noted that the transfer is revenue received from the Waste Management Fee to plan for post closure costs of the landfill, advising that this does not impact the tax rate and the fee was set by Council in previous years.

Trish Serratore, CFO responded to questions from council about the interest earned for the short-term investments.

Council discussed tax rates increases for nearby municipalities.

**Resolution 24-05-04**

Moved By: Tim Elphick

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Salary and Compensation Review of \$12,000 be removed from the 2024 Municipal Budget.

**Defeated**

Council suggested another review of the budget in comparison to more recently available actual amounts and additional savings that could be found. Council further discussed their preferred tax rate increase percentage being under 7% and agreed to convene another Special Council Meeting on February 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to finalize the 2024 Municipal Budget.

**Resolution 24-05-05**

Moved By: James Lang

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton convene an additional Special Council Meeting to consider the 2024 Municipal Budget on February 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Carried**

**5. Council Discussion and Questions on Tax Supported Operating Budget**

**6. Council Discussion and Questions on Capital Requests**

**7. Adoption of 2024 Tax-Supported Budget**

**8. Confirmation of Proceedings**

**8.1 By-Law 2024-012 - February 6, 2024 Budget Meeting Confirmatory By-Law**

**Resolution 24-05-06**

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: B. Carl Kuhnke

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorize that the following by-law be read, enacted, signed, sealed, and numbered as follows:

- By-Law 2024-012 - February 6, 2024 Special Council Meeting (Budget) Confirmatory By-Law

**Carried**

**9. Adjournment**

**Resolution 24-05-07**

Moved By: B. Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By: Gregory J. McLean

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 6:53 p.m. to meet again on February 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the regular Council Meeting.

**Carried**

Original Signed By

Mayor - Chris Peabody

Original Signed By

Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) – Fiona Hamilton