



**The Corporation of the Township of Norwich
Special Council Meeting Minutes
Community Grants
Thursday February 9, 2022**

In Attendance:

Council:

Mayor Palmer
Councillor Scholten
Councillor Stubbe
Councillor Couwenberg

Staff:

Kyle Kruger, CAO / Clerk
James Johnson, Deputy Treasurer
Jodi Morrison, Deputy Treasurer
Kimberley Armstrong, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order

The special session of the 2022-2026 Council of the Township of Norwich was held in the Council Chambers commencing at 9:00 a.m. with Mayor Palmer in the Chair.

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution #1

Moved by John Scholten, seconded by Alisha Stubbs;

That the Agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures were reported.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1 Community Grants Program Policy

Mr. Johnson advised that this meeting is part of the budget process, the worksheet provided to members of Council contains staff suggestions based on previous grants provided. He further advised that \$4,000 identified for the fire training tower is a Council approved initiative.

5. COMMUNITY GRANTS REQUESTS

5.1 Norwich and District Historical Society

Matthew Lloyd

Mr. Lloyd advised that the historical society requests an operating grant to help with staff costs, utilities, maintenance and repair. He provided an overview of some of the activities including: lunch and learn program, online history tour, people and places tour, Dutch Immigration to Norwich history project and commemorative booklet, black history tour, and family histories.

In response to Council questions, Mr. Lloyd advised that they received grant funding for installation of automated doors and ramped entrance for the front and also that there are several buildings that require new roofing.

5.2 YFC/ Upper Deck

Jacqueline Armstrong

Ms. Armstrong advised that the centre has been open for 22 years. It is currently thriving with 70-80 students going through the door every week. She advised that they are currently running five programs, including: empower girls, adventure boys, girls' night out, a leadership program and the supper club. Ms. Armstrong commented that the centre provides a safe place for kids to share, relax, learn new skills, respect and work ethic. She provided an overview of some of the planned events, opportunities and benefits to the youth during hard times.

In response to Council questions with respect to the issues the youth deal with, Ms. Armstrong spoke to challenges with peer pressure, social media affects, troubled home life and social anxiety, some caused by COVID.

5.3 Tillsonburg & District Multi-Service Centre

Kathryn Leatherland

Ms. Leatherland provided an overview of services provided, including: the home support program for seniors and those with disabilities including meals on wheels. Additional services provided include: transportation to medical services, foot care clinic and personal support persons. The adult literacy program increases skills in reading, writing, math and computer skills to enable full participation in the work force, as well as access to training and certain skill sets. Ms. Leatherland explained the need for technology devices, provision of a tablet learning project and a program to teach people to harness the power in their cell phone.

5.4 Norwich United Church- Summer Program

Jo Ellen McKay

Ms. Korine Thompson advised that all are welcome to the summer camp and is not based on religion. The camp hires local students and provides a safe and inexpensive day camp service for the community, while also hiring local students. She advised that the Camp Director started as a camper and worked her way up, learning leadership skills, helping with crafts and snack events. There were 246 children who attended last summer and

enjoyed the various activities, such as: construction camp, splash pad in Harold Bishop Park, Otterville Pool, Berrylicious Farm and learning from local artists.

5.5 Norwich Lawn Bowling Club

Mike Dymarski

Mr. Dymarski spoke to the challenges with membership dropping during COVID and membership started to rebound during 2022. The Lawn Bowling Club is now over 100 years old and just became incorporated as non-profit which will allow them to apply for a Trillium Grant, they have already applied for New Horizons Grant. The club is requesting funding from the municipality to help with operating costs and new equipment purchases. He advised that they would like to make the Club more attractive by fixing some items and putting sign up on Stover Street. They would like to attract families and are also considering a summer camp for youth which will require the purchase of equipment for junior bowlers.

5.6 Norwich Musical Society Band

Murray Hilliker

Mr. Hilliker and Ms. Leah Mitchell were in attendance. Mr. Hilliker commented on a reduction in members due to COVID and the loss of events at nursing homes. He provided an overview of 2022 events and advised that they are now working with a Mitchell band.

5.7 BREAK

5.8 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford County

Kristen Ralph

Ms. Ralph spoke to the increase in adverse events affecting children across Oxford County, and referenced the professional case workers that are ensuring the programs are providing positive outcomes for these children. She advised that the mentors have ten hours of training prior to being matched and receive continued support during the match. Ms. Ralph stressed the importance of breaking the cycles of poverty and abuse and helping children build safe relationships.

In response to Council questions, she advised that the Prism Programs are still going very well and that approximately 60% are Big Sisters and 40% Big Brothers.

5.9 Oxford County Plowmens Association

Joan Westbrook

Ms. Westbrook, Secretary of the Association made up of volunteers and has been hosting a Plowing Match in Oxford County since 1943. She spoke to the event being cancelled for several years during COVID and their wish to move to a more standard type of march. She advised that they are promoting good techniques, encouraging youngsters, holding a coaching day and also provided an overview of the benefits of the Queen of the Furrow programme.

**5.10 Norwich District Curling Club
Brian Hamilton**

Mr. Hamilton advised that the membership is growing and the club now have over 120 members. He explained that they wish to increase safety this year by replacing the side boards which have some rotting and soft spots. This is a large expense due to increased lumber costs. Mr. Hamilton commented that they also plan to purchase some sliders, brooms and broom head replacements for the club. He explained that with the help of grants they have been able to replace the roof and the ice house roof and are hoping that in the future they will be able to install a concrete base under the ice pad.

**5.11 South Norwich Historical Society (11:30)
Gail Lewis**

Ms. Lewis explained that the old railway station moved to the current site to become a museum for local history. Dr. Murray Downing chose the location to enable a future addition on the rear of the station. To be considered a legal museum and eligible for available grants or benefit from promotional materials you must have a curator. The recent grant approval for the storage and accessible washroom project is another step closer to having a curator. Ms. Lewis provided an overview of the project goals, requirements, fundraising and also that the addition blends aesthetically with the existing heritage features.

Councillor Stubbs left the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

6. COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

There was Council discussion about the various requests all submitted by worthy organizations delivering good programs.

Resolution #2

Moved by Adrian Couwenberg, seconded by John Scholten;

That the 2023 grants to organizations receive draft approval as follows:

Norwich & District Historical Society	\$29,500
Youth for Christ (The Upper Deck)	\$4,200
Tillsonburg & District Multi-Service Centre	\$1,400
Norwich United Church – Summer Program	\$2,500
Norwich Lawn Bowling Club	\$3,100
Norwich Musical Society Band	\$2,500
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Woodstock	\$1,600
Oxford County Plowmens Association	\$250
Norwich District Curling Club	\$1,600
South Norwich Historical Society	\$8,000
Norwich Firefighters Association	\$4,000
LPRCA / Norwich Museum - grass cutting service	\$5,000

Council Discretionary Fund \$2,000

Carried

**7. By-laws
No 8-2023 To Confirm All Actions and Proceedings of Council**

7.1 First and Second Reading of the Following By-law

Resolution #3

Moved by Adrian Couwenberg, seconded by John Scholten;

That the following By-laws be read a first and second time:

No. 8-2023 To Confirm All Actions and Proceedings of Council

Carried

7.2 Third Reading of the Following By-laws

Resolution #4

Moved by Adrian Couwenberg, seconded by John Scholten;

That By-law 8-2023, be taken as read a third and final time and passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk and the Corporate Seal be affixed thereto.

Carried

8. Adjournment – 11:26 a.m.

Resolution #5

Moved by Adrian Couwenberg, seconded by John Scholten;

That this Council do now adjourn.

Carried

These minutes adopted by way of Resolution No. 2 as approved by Council at its meeting on the 14th day of March 2023.

Mayor
Jim Palmer

CAO / Clerk
Kyle Kruger