

## Special Council Meeting Agenda

### Special Council Meeting

Date: December 9, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

Location: Council Chambers - Hybrid  
60 Snyder's Road West  
Baden, Ontario  
N3A 1A1

Members Present: Mayor N. Salonen  
Councillor S. Cressman  
Councillor K. Wilkinson  
Councillor H. Sidhu  
Councillor L. Dunstall  
Councillor S. Martin

Staff Present: Acting CAO / Director of Corporate Services/CFO, G. Clark  
Director of Community Services, C. Catania  
Director of Development Services, H. O'Krafka  
Director of Infrastructure Services, J. Molenhuis  
Fire Chief, R. Leeson  
Manager of Legislative Services / Municipal Clerk, K. Bos  
Supervisor of IT, K. Jeffreys

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#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

**Moved by:** Councillor L. Dunstall

**Seconded by:** Councillor S. Cressman

THAT the Special Council Meeting on December 9, 2024 be called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

#### 2. TERRITORIAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor H. Sidhu read the Territorial Land Acknowledgment.

#### 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**Moved by:** Councillor L. Dunstall

**Seconded by:** Councillor H. Sidhu

THAT the Agenda as presented for December 9, 2024 be adopted.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**4. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

**5. REPORTS**

**5.1 COR-2024-60 - 2025 Operating and Capital Budget**

Mayor N. Salonen provided an introduction to the 2025 Draft Operating and Capital Budget presentation.

Acting CAO / Director of Corporate Services / CFO, G. Clark introduced the draft 2025 Budget.

Acting CAO / Director of Corporate Services / CFO, G. Clark presented the overview of the Mayor and Council, Office of the CAO, Corporate Services departmental budget.

Fire Chief, R. Leeson presented the overview of the Fire Services budget.

Director of Community Services, C. Catania presented the overview of the Community Services budget.

Director of Development Services, H. O'Krafka presented the overview of the Development Services budget.

Director of Infrastructure Services, J. Molenhuis presented the overview of the Infrastructure Services budget.

Acting CAO / Director of Corporate Services / CFO, G. Clark presented the Corporate Accounts and Capital Budget.

Council asked and received a response to the following:

- Retail value of the existing New Hamburg Fire Station;
- Revenue and cost information of the Community Centers;
- Clarification on the one-time correction referenced on page 8 of the 2025 draft Municipal Budget;

- Clarification on the 10-year forecast impact on the tax levy moving forward;
- If there is any revenue being transferred in respects to planning authority being downloaded;
- Clarification on debt, and the portion budgeted in 2024;
- The relationship between the Regional pump station and the work proposed for the Baden Trunk Sanitary Sewer;
- The included amount for the proposed New Hamburg Fire Station;
- The included amount within the Community Services department for New Dundee Library – Roof Replacement and St. Agatha Community Centre;
- Clarification on the CANOE purchasing group use for Infrastructure Services purchasing;
- Clarification on the ability to issue standard RFP processes;
- Clarification on Wastewater Reserves handling costs of aging infrastructure;
- Information on the deadline for updating the Township of Wilmot's Official Plan;
- Potential options for cutting the Operating budgets;
- Expenditures as presented on the Financial Statements;
- Clarification on the figures presented on the Wilmot tax comparison slide, including total tax as a percentage of household income;
- Clarification on the revenue shortfalls;
- Construction methods, practices and useful life of infrastructure assets; and,
- Information on the 2025 Community Grant Program.

Council provided direction to staff to bring back more information on:

- Total debt load and debt repayment being carried;
- Cost comparisons for fire service equipment;
- Procurement, and use of the CANOE purchasing group;

- A list of programs, costs, access and utilization of these services;
- Municipal Comparator tool provided in the 2024 Budget process;
- Cost of Living Adjustments in comparable municipalities;
- A list of the facilities, their value, operating costs, utilization and revenue; and,
- Spreadsheet of capital items for repair and maintenance versus growth.

**Moved by:** Councillor S. Martin

**Seconded by:** Councillor L. Dunstall

THAT the following recommendations be referred to the January 16, 2025 Special Council Meeting:

1. That the 2025 operating budget be approved at a gross expenditure budget of \$33,264,150 with a 2025 property tax and payment-in-lieu of taxes levy requirement of \$18,452,560 or 50.87 per cent over 2024:
  - a. 2025 fees, rates and charges, and inclusive of:
  - b. A water and wastewater basic service charge for each of 2025 equivalent to 2024 rates.
  - c. A water volume charge of \$2.42 per cubic meter, or 4.90 per cent increase over 2024 (excluding Foxboro Green).
  - d. A wastewater volume charge of \$3.26 per cubic meter, (\$2.40 for Morningside) or 5.90 per cent increase over 2024 (excluding Foxboro Green).
2. That the 2025 Capital Budget in the gross expenditure amount of \$26,299,201, inclusive of the following:
  - a. Funding transfers from capital reserve funds and other sources including partnerships and grants in 2025.

**Motion Carried**

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor N. Salonen provided announcements on:

- Public Delegation Night- Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

- Email [budget@wilmot.ca](mailto:budget@wilmot.ca) for more information on the 2025 Budget process
- Human Rights Day- December 10<sup>th</sup>
- Castle Kilbride- Castle by Candlelight evening tours
- Prime Ministers Path First Community Tea Circle- Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Councillor K. Wilkinson provided an announcement on:

- Ward 2 Townhall- December 14, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at St. Agatha Community Centre

## 7. **CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

**Moved by:** Councillor H. Sidhu

**Seconded by:** Councillor S. Martin

THAT the Confirmatory By-Law as attached to this Agenda be read a first, second and third time, and finally passed in Open Council.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## 8. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by:** Councillor S. Cressman

**Seconded by:** Councillor L. Dunstall

THAT we do now adjourn to meet again at the call of the Mayor.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**