

**City of Port Colborne  
Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting 23-19  
Minutes**

- Date:** September 9, 2019
- Time:** 6:42 p.m.
- Place:** Council Chambers, Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne
- Members Present:** M. Bagu, Councillor  
E. Beauregard, Councillor  
R. Bodner, Councillor  
G. Bruno, Councillor  
F. Danch, Councillor  
A. Desmarais, Councillor  
D. Kalailieff, Councillor  
W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)  
H. Wells, Councillor
- Staff Present:** D. Aquilina, Director of Planning and Development  
T. Cartwright, Fire Chief  
J. Ferraccioli, Health Services Coordinator  
B. Garrett, Director of Corporate Services  
A. Grigg, Director of Community and Economic Development  
A. LaPointe, Manager of Legislative Services/City Clerk  
C. Lee, Director of Engineering and Operations  
S. Luey, Chief Administrative Officer  
C. McIntosh, Deputy Clerk (minutes)

Also in attendance were interested citizens, members of the news media and WeeStream.

**1. Call to Order:**

Mayor Steele called the meeting to order.

**2. National Anthem**

Those in attendance stood for O Canada.

**3. Introduction of Addendum Items:**

Nil.

**4. Confirmation of Agenda:**

Moved by Councillor H. Wells  
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the agenda dated September 9, 2019 be confirmed, as circulated or as amended.

CARRIED.

**5. Disclosures of Interest:**

Nil.

**6. Adoption of Minutes:****(a) Regular meeting of Committee of the Whole 22-19, held on August 26, 2019.**

Moved by Councillor E. Beauregard  
Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole 22-19, held on August 26, 2019, be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

**7. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion:**

The following items were identified for separate discussion:

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

By general consensus, Item 2 of Items Requiring Separate Discussion was considered prior to Councillors' Items.

**8. Approval of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion:**

Nil.

**9. Presentations:****(a) Grant cheque presentation**

Bea Kenny, on behalf of the Grant Committee, Councillor Eric Beauregard, Councillor Gary Bruno, Mayor Bill Steele, and Brenda Haymes, announced the recipients of the second 2019 allocation of grants to not-for-profit organizations who serve the residents of Port Colborne. Mrs. Kenny distributed cheques to: Rita Smith and Monical Pickersgill from Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet - \$1,700; Erno Rossi and Peter Meyer from Friends of Port Colborne Lighthouses - \$1,400; Jessica Stephenson from Niagara Nutrition Partners - \$2,500; Jane Nigh and Nancy Salvage from Port Colborne Fair Trade Town Committee - \$725; and Mieke Van Es from the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum Auxiliary - \$2,800. A copy of the speaking notes is attached.

**10. Delegations:****(a) Maureen Shantz, Member of the Board of Directors, Alzheimer Society Niagara Region Foundation Re: 2019 Coffee Break Campaign and updates regarding Dementia in the Niagara Region**

Maureen Shantz provided a presentation with respect to the Alzheimer's disease, programs and services offered by the Alzheimer's Society, and the Coffee Break fundraising campaign. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Councillor Desmarais advised that the Port Colborne Senior's Council will be holding a Coffee Break fundraiser at the market on a Friday in October.

**(b) Putzy Madronich, Host of The Canadian Authors Series, Re: Request for Fees to be Waived for Rent at the Roselawn Centre for September 2019 to May 2020 season**

Putzy Madronich appeared before Council to request relief from rental fees for the 2019-2020 season of the Canadian Author Series.

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner  
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the Director of Community and Economic Development be directed to provide a report to Council at the October 15, 2019 meeting with recommendations regarding funding support for the Canadian Authors Series.

CARRIED.

**(c) Edward Hill Re: Request for Fees to be Waived for Fire Services, regarding 144 Fares Street**

Mr. Hill appeared before Council to request relief from the fees incurred when the Fire Department attended his residence in response to a complaint about open burning.

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais  
Seconded by E. Beauregard

That the request by Edward Hill for fees to be waived for Fire Services regarding 144 Fares Street be denied.

CARRIED.

**11. Mayor's Report:**

A copy of the Mayor's Report is attached.

**12. Regional Councillor's Report:**

Regional Councillor Butters provided an update on Regional initiatives including the new recycling campaign for apartment buildings.

**13. Councillors' Items:**

**(a) Four way crossing at Pleasant Beach and Sherkston Roads (Wells)**

In response to a concern expressed by Councillor Wells about trees blocking the sight lines on the northeast corner of the four way stop on Pleasant Beach and

Sherkston Roads, the Director of Engineering and Operations advised that he will have staff inspect.

**(b) Bethel Cemetery (Wells)**

In response to a concern expressed by Councillor Wells about the narrow roadways inside the Overholt Cemetery in Bethel, the Director of Community and Economic Development advised that staff is working to acquire land to expand the cemetery and that she will speak to the Parks Supervisor about a solution in the interim.

**(c) Beach Road (Wells)**

In response to a concern regarding the road condition of Beach Road as a result of construction, the Director Operations and Engineering advised that he will contact relevant parties.

**(d) Budget (Bagu)**

In response to an inquiry regarding the budget process, the Chief Administrative Officer stated that the Director of Corporate Services will be bringing forward a report regarding budget guidance to an upcoming Council meeting.

**(e) Grants (Bruno)**

Councillor Bruno questioned whether there is a need in the organization for a special projects staff. The Chief Administrative Officer stated that this will be evaluated during the 2020 budget process.

**(f) Weeds (Danch)**

Councillor Danch thanked the Director of Operations and Engineering for removing the weeds on Fielden Avenue.

**(g) Garbage (Danch)**

Councillor Danch thanked the Parks Supervisor for removing the garbage along the promenade.

**(h) Tax and Water e-billing (Danch)**

Councillor Danch reminded residents that they can sign-up for e-billing on the City's website.

**(i) AMO Conference (Kalailieff)**

Councillor Kalailieff reported on the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) conference that she attended. The Councillor attended many essential sessions including cyber exposure, healthcare, infrastructure, property assessments, and home building.

**Staff responses to Councillors' enquiries:****(a) Smoke Alarms (Chief Cartwright)**

The Chief reported that a smoke alarm was critical at a fire this past weekend.

**(b) Old Robin Hood Factory (Chief Cartwright)**

In response to a previous inquiry by Councillor Bruno the Chief stated that the old Robin Hood factory is recorded under various alias in order to ensure a recognition by dispatch when a resident phones in.

**(b) Site Alteration (Aquilina)**

The Director of Planning and Development stated that in response to a questions regarding site alterations permits at the previous meeting, the fees were included as appendix f of the report.

**14. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion: Re-order items****1. Corporate Services Department, Clerks Division, Report 2019-136, Subject: Heritage Committee**

Moved by Councillor H. Wells  
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais.

That Appendix A to Corporate Services Department, Clerks Division, Report 2019-136, Subject: Heritage Committee by-law be supported; and

That the Heritage Committee By-law be brought forward for approval.  
CARRIED.

**2. Community and Economic Department, Health Services Division, Report 2019-134, Subject: Physician Recruitment Incentive – Dr. Vincenzo Susini**

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno  
Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That the City of Port Colborne enter into a partnership with the Town of Fort Erie to offer an incentive contractual agreement to Dr. Vincenzo Susini, at a total approved cost of \$15,000 – representing the City's share (one half) of the total incentive amount; and

That the City's cost be funded from the Physician Recruitment Reserve Fund; and

That the appropriate by-law be presented for approval.  
CARRIED.

3. **Engineering and Operations Department, Engineering Division, Report 2019-135, Subject: Project #2019-06 – Janet Street Infrastructure**

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais  
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That Project #2019-06 - Janet Street Infrastructure Replacement be awarded to Alfred Beam Excavating Limited, of Fort Erie, Ontario, for the submitted tender price of \$1,234,017.50 (plus applicable taxes); and

That the \$768,234.50 for the City's portion of construction costs and contingency allowance be funded from the Water, Wastewater, and Storm capital reserves; and

That the by-law be prepared and the City Clerk and the Mayor be authorized to execute the Contract Agreement.

CARRIED.

4. **Stephen Covey, Chief of Police and Chief Security Officer of CN Rail Re: Request for Proclamation of Rail Safety Week, 2019**

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais  
Seconded by Councillor D. Kalailieff

That September 23 to 29, 2019 be proclaimed as "Rail Safety Week" in the City of Port Colborne in accordance with the request received from Stephen Covey, Chief of Police and Chief Security Officer of CN Rail.

CARRIED.

5. **Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament, Niagara Centre Re: Community Culture and Recreation Funding Stream**

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno  
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the correspondence received from Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament, Niagara Centre Re: Community Culture and Recreation Funding Stream, be received for information.

CARRIED.

6. **City of St. Catharines Re: Vacant Home Tax**

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais  
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the resolution received from the City of St. Catharines Re: Vacant Home Tax, be received for information; and

**That the Director of Corporate Services be directed to investigate vacant tax possibilities and report back to Council with recommendations.**

CARRIED.

**15. Notice of Motion:**

Councillor Danch provided notice of his intention to introduce a motion at the September 24, 2019 Committee of the Whole/Council meeting with respect to the open air burning by-law.

**16. Adjournment:**

Moved by Councillor F. Danch  
Seconded by Councillor D. Kalailieff

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at approximately  
9:07 p.m.  
CARRIED.

AL/cm

**SPEAKING NOTES**  
**GRANT PRESENTATIONS**  
**SEPTEMBER 9, 2019**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

We are here this evening to present several community grants to non-profit organizations who serve the residents of Port Colborne.

Council formed a committee who now oversee the semi-annual review of the applications.

There are three members of council and two members of the public on this committee – Councillors Eric Beauregard and Gary Bruno, Mayor Bill Steele, with Brenda Haymes and myself from the public.

For 2019, council has set aside a maximum of \$30,000 to be distributed.

The first round of applications were received by January 31<sup>st</sup> and we presented 10 grants totalling \$18,510.



The next round of applications was received by June 30<sup>th</sup> and we are here tonight to present 5 grants totalling \$9,325.

We have also approved a \$1200 grant to the Friends of Roselawn, which will be presented at such time that the project they are working on proceeds. This project will see the replacement of the gas stove in the kitchen.

I'd like to call up a representative from each organization and invite them to say a few words.

**Rita Smith and Monica Pickersgill - Community Living Port Colborne Wainfleet** – to provide financial assistance to the children of Port Colborne who are unable to register for recreation programs due to lack of funds - **\$1,700**

**Erno Rossi and Peter Meyer - Friends of Port Colborne Lighthouses** – to assist with the cost of insurance to allow tours of the Port Colborne Lighthouses - **\$1,400**

**Jessica Stephenson - Niagara Nutrition Partners** – to assist with the purchase of food to run the nutrition programs in Port Colborne schools - **\$2,500**

**Jane Nigh and Nancy Salvage - Port Colborne Fair Trade Town Committee** – to purchase a new banner, advertising and printing for the Fair Trade Crawl and a 10 year celebration cake - **\$725**

**Mieke Van Es - Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum Auxiliary** – to assist with renovations to Arabella`s Tea Room - **\$2,800**

Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region – 24th Annual Coffee Break

**City of Port Colborne, Mayor William Steele**

**Presenter: Maureen Shantz**

**Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region**

**September 9, 2019 – 6:30 pm**

Mayor Steele, members of council, City staff and members of the public, my name is Maureen Shantz, a Member of the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer Society Niagara Region. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this evening and share information about our Annual Coffee Break campaign, now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year.

Coffee Break kicks off Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Catharines at the Niagara Regional Headquarters with coffee and treats with this year's Honourary Chair, Jim Bradley, Regional Chair of Niagara. There will be an official flag raising and from 10 to 11 am you are invited to come enjoy a coffee and treats while supporting the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region.

Alzheimer's disease, already the seventh-leading cause of death in Canada, continues to grow as a public health concern as the number of Canadians with dementia rises. The latest statistics from Alzheimer Canada indicate that as of today, there are over half a million Canadians living with dementia - plus about 25,000 new cases diagnosed every year. Roughly 56,000 Canadians with dementia are being cared for in hospitals, even though this is not an ideal location for care. The combined health-care system and out-of-pocket caregiver costs are estimated at \$10.4 billion per year to care for people living with dementia.

Dementia doesn't discriminate – it can affect anyone regardless of background, education, lifestyle or status. It is not a normal part of aging. It's one of the fastest-growing diseases of our time, but still has no cure or effective treatments. Dementia is also a health condition with important social implications that impacts our communities. There is often a lack of awareness and understanding of dementia, resulting in stigmatization and barriers to diagnosis and care.

In the Niagara Region, there are over 10,000 people experiencing a progressive dementia and the number of cases continues to grow. Last year, we saw 2,056 new referrals to our Society and educated more than 12,500 Niagara residents and frontline staff. Our service provision includes all individuals impacted by the diagnosis of dementia - spouses, families, children and friends who also need education and support to facilitate lifestyle, health and wellness changes for their family member.

The Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region is a recognized leader in the field of Dementia Care. Our vision is a community where individuals with dementia and their care partners are fully supported to maximize their quality of life and well-being. We enhance safety and independence within the home and community, strengthen resilience and coping capacity, and ensure that people living with dementia continue to participate in family and community life for as long as possible.

We offer people living with dementia a welcoming place where they can access information and support, as well as connect with others who share a similar experience. By accessing education, personalized in-home support services and wellness programs, families can better understand dementia, navigate the health system and access the resources they need when they need them at every stage of the dementia journey.

We have had wonderful success with our many programs and services offered out in the community such as Brain Wave Cafes, Support Groups, Minds in Motion, Friendly Visiting, Tele-care friendly visiting, Aging and Dementia Simulations and numerous other educational series. Our Family Support Counsellors do in-home visits in every municipality in the Niagara Region.

To support a large variety of programs that are provided at no charge to individuals or their families, our Society must raise over \$500,000 each year and Coffee Break is one of our biggest events.

Coffee Breaks are an opportunity to invite your friends, family, neighbours, co-workers, clients or customers to come together to enjoy a cup of coffee or other beverage and even treats at a break time or another social get-together in exchange for making a donation to support the work of your local Alzheimer Society.

Hosting a coffee break is easy to organize and provides a fun social opportunity. Our Society supplies each host with a free kit, while hosts supply the people and place. The kit includes coffee for that first pot, supplied locally by Barclay & Todd's, signage and literature, as well as a donation box to support each event and some promotional items from our sponsors Giant Tiger St. Catharines locations, J&L Flooring and Seniors on The Move.

September 21<sup>st</sup> is World Alzheimer Day and popular attractions across the country are "Going Blue For Alz". In Niagara, The Falls, The Peace Bridge and Welland Canal Bridge 13 are going to be illuminated blue. We invite you to wear blue that day in support of those living with dementia and perhaps even host your own Coffee Break on World Alzheimer Day.

Coffee Break events are held in homes, work places, community centres, schools, churches, city halls, stores, and businesses – just about anywhere you can imagine a social gathering taking place, and where coffee, other beverages, or food and goodies can be served and a donation collected. Some of the most successful events have been a result of doing something a little different. Whether it's a barbecue, open house, raffle, dress-down days, selling coffee cup cut outs or rounding up your bill at the cash register.

The campaign runs from September through to December, so you can choose an event date that is convenient for you. No Coffee Break event is too big or too small and each one truly makes a difference in the lives of those living with the effects of dementia in the Niagara Region!

Thanks to this Council and over 100 hosts including the Knights of Columbus Council 3732, Port Colborne Seniors Advisory Committee and Portal Village, to name a few we raised close to \$60,000 last year.

Organizing or taking part in a Coffee Break event in your community not only raises much-needed funds, but it can raise awareness and encourage discussion about Alzheimer's disease and dementia. You ensure that individuals and their families – your loved ones, friends and neighbours, know that they are not alone in their journey.

Please consider hosting a Coffee Break event this year and 'make your coffee count'. It's a fun and easy way to show your support for the Alzheimer Society.

Anyone can register for a free Coffee Break kit by calling the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region at 905-687-3914 or by visiting the website at [www.alzheimerniagara.ca/coffeebreak](http://www.alzheimerniagara.ca/coffeebreak)

Thank you for your time this evening and your consideration in making a difference in your community today and making memories matter.

Mayor Steele, may I please present you with your Coffee Break Host Kit? (present kit). Thank you.



To: Carrie McIntosh - Deputy Clerk - City of Port Colborne  
From: Putzy Madronich - Host of the Canadian Authors Series

Notes for submission to Council for meeting on September 9, 2019

**Proposal:** Because of financial hardship, The Canadian Authors Series requests the City of Port Colborne waives the full cost of rent for The Canadian Authors Series, this season.

The Canadian Authors Series is a well know, highly respected series that has been running for 25 years. It has put Port Colborne on the literary map and is considered to be one of the best series of its kind in Canada. It features, high quality, cultural entertainment at its best, with authors such as, Margaret Trudeau, Peter Mansbridge, Pamela Wallin, Amanda Lang, Lloyd Robertson, Rex Murphy, David Suzuki, Farley Mowat, Pierre Burton, Margaret Atwood, Colin Mochrie, Conrad Black, Steve Smith or "Red Green", Actors Gordon Pinsent and Mary Walsh, Mordecai Richler, Stuart McClean, Lawrence and Dan Hill, Sylvia Tyson, Joy Fielding and athletes such as George Chuvalo, Silken Laumann, Ken Dryden and Clara Hughes.

Our Series runs once a month from September to May, omitting December and January. The readings are held in the theatre at Roselawn. We utilize the Presidents room for a wine tasting prior to the reading and for a book signing afterwards. For 1.5 hours we use the theatre. For about 2 hours we use the presidents room and upper bar area. The Green room is used also.

### **Why are we asking for help?**

We do not have enough money to run the series this year. After the Acid test of Income minus (modestly projected) Expenses, there is just over \$2,000 which will not even come close to compensation for the full year of work, organizing the series, or any unexpected incidentals like plane fare or limo service for an out of town author, or marketing and advertising. I have reached out to other organizations to see if they would be interested in taking over the series but they have neither time, nor the manpower to do it. (The library, The City, Friends of Roselawn, our own volunteers, or sponsors)

We are down two sponsors this year.

Our numbers are down and we need to figure out how to combat natural attrition. We have 82 members this year. (112 members last year)

Book sales have dropped dramatically, because our number of subscribers have decreased.

We need time to figure out marketing strategies. We need to buy a year to turn the series around.

### **Sustainability**

Marketing the series properly. This has never been done before

Selling corporate passes to businesses (purchase tickets as incentives for employees and customers)

Tapping into the Niagara Falls market and other surrounding Niagara areas

Applying for grants

Cross promote with other authors series

Applying for Hydro funding

Flyers - to be put on seats at all the other events at Roselawn

Getting an advertising sponsor

Work on getting additional sponsors for this season.

If we are unable to accomplish some success this year, I would like to address the city to see if it would take over this wonderful series because it would be a shame to see it go.

I had a meeting with Scott Luey, Ashley Grigg and Julian Douglas. We discussed potential ideas for sustainability. We would like to work with any of the city's resources it can make available to us. (marketing and advertising)



We have already been working with the library. They help us by selling tickets. I would like to develop this partnership further .

### **Goal**

My goal is to get 60 new subscribers for next season and keep building each year.

### **Closing remarks**

Imagine if a successful Port Colborne hockey team of 25 years was struggling, and could not pay the rent for their ice time for a season. Would you support them, or let them go?

I am hoping that this council has compassion for cultural initiatives because without your support this 25 year old Port Colborne Gem will end.

If The Canadian Authors Series is over, there will be no Roselawn rental income from us, next year or the next 25 years after that. On behalf of the community, our dedicated subscribers, our volunteers and me, please support us now so we can support you in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.



## MAYOR'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

### **IceDogs Day in Port Colborne**

I want to thank staff and residents who came out to the Niagara IceDogs hockey game on Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> in support of the Port Colborne Wave Girls Hockey Team.

The Vale Health & Wellness Centre was filled to capacity with supportive fans.

Special thanks to Bryan Elliott, the Burke family, the YMCA for offering a free swim, and the Rock of 80's Band for their concert.

### **Terry Fox Run**

The Terry Fox Run is being held this coming Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park.

The head shave starts at 12:30 and the run at 1:00 p.m.

Please come out to support this worthwhile cause. Thanks to Nancy Salvage and her team for organizing this great event.

### **Cops for Cancer Ride**

Starting Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> the Cops for Cancer Ride will be passing through many Ontario municipalities.

This ride involves members of numerous police forces, all raising money for cancer research.

They will be at Ecole St. Joseph on Monday September 16 at 12:30 p.m.; St. Patrick's on Tuesday September 17 at 2 p.m. and St. John Bosco on Tuesday September 17 at 2:25 p.m.

Let's give them a warm Port Colborne welcome.

## **Suspicious Activity**

I was speaking with Niagara Regional Police last week and they reminded me that it is important for residents to report any suspicious activity they see in the city, particularly by providing a description of the individuals involved.

The police can no longer stop individuals on the street and ask for identification, however, if they match the description of someone who has been reported participating in suspicious activity, they can. We all need to do our part in keeping our city safe.

## **Welland Canal Bridges**

The Seaway has advised that there has been an increase in traffic through the canal, and as such, our three bridges have been very busy going up and down.

If you depend on crossing a bridge to get to work, school or an appointment, I encourage you to consult your computer or telephone app which shows if the bridges are available.

On your phone the app is ``Welland Canal Status`` which shows if the bridge is available, is up or likely to go up shortly.

On your computer, search ``Seaway Bridge Status`` for the link to the Seaway`s website.