



**The Corporation of the County of Northumberland
Finance and Audit Committee
Minutes**

**July 30, 2024, 11:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6
Hybrid Meeting (In-Person and Virtual)**

Members Present: Chair Lucas Cleveland
Warden Brian Ostrander
Councillor Mandy Martin

1. Notices

1.a Accessible Format

If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at accessibility@northumberland.ca or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327.

1.b Meeting Format

This Committee Meeting was held using a hybrid meeting model. The public were invited to attend in-person in Council Chambers, view the meeting via the live stream, or join online or by phone using Zoom Conference Technology.

2. Call to Order

Chair Lucas Cleveland called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

2.a Territorial Land Acknowledgement

3. Approval of the Agenda

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-477

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"**That** the agenda for the July 30, 2024 Finance and Audit Committee be approved."

Carried

4. Disclosures of Interest

- No disclosures

5. Delegations

5.a Delegation, John Cullen 'Municipal Tax Burden'

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-478

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee receive the delegation from John Cullen regarding 'Municipal Tax Burden' for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive the delegation materials for information."

Carried

6. Business Arising from Last Meeting

N/A

7. Communications

7.a Correspondence, John and Joy Cullen 'Municipal Tax Burden'

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-479

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee receive the correspondence from John and Joy Cullen regarding 'Municipal Tax Burden' for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this correspondence for information."

Carried

7.b Correspondence, Municipality of Mattawan 'Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle'

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-480

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

"**Whereas** the assessment cycle is an essential process for maintaining the fairness and predictability of property taxes in our province; and

Whereas the provincial government has delayed an assessment update again in 2024, and announced its intention to conduct a review of the property assessment and taxation system, that will focus on fairness, affordability, and business competitiveness, therefore further deferring new property assessments resulting in Ontario's municipalities continuing to calculate property taxes using 2016 property values; and

Whereas the pause in the reassessment cycle has created uncertainty and instability in property taxation, impacting both residential and commercial property owners;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered correspondence from the Municipality of Mattawan regarding 'Promptly Resume Property Assessment Cycle', recommend that County Council support this correspondence; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honourable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), the Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland - Peterborough South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), and Northumberland County's seven Member Municipalities."

Carried

7.c Correspondence, Town of Cochrane 'Operational Budget Funding'

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-481

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee receive the correspondence from the Town of Cochrane regarding 'Operational Budget Funding' for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this correspondence for information."

Carried

8. Staff Reports

8.a Quarter 2, 2024 Financial Analysis

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-482

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee receive the Quarter 2, 2024 Financial Analysis for Finance and POA for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive the Quarter 2, 2024 Financial Analysis for information."

Carried

8.b Report 2024-090 'Authorization for Debenture Issuance'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-483

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

"**Whereas** By-law 22-2021 was adopted at the July 21, 2021 County Council meeting authorizing the submission of an application to the

Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (OILC) for the issuance of debentures with a term of 25 years to finance the capital works of the Elgin Park Redevelopment (Phase 1) for an amount not to exceed \$5,306,610;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered Report 2024-090 'Authorization for Debenture Issuance', recommend that County Council authorize staff to acquire debenture financing with a term of 25 years for the capital works of the Elgin Park Redevelopment (Phase 1) in the amount of \$3,181,193 through the issuance of a debenture with OILC; and

Further Be It Resolved That the Committee recommend that County Council enact a By-law authorizing the issuance of the debenture with OILC at the August 14, 2024 County Council meeting.”

Carried

8.c Report 2024-091 'Municipal Funding Agreement - Canada Community Building Fund'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-484

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

“**That** the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered Report 2024-091 'Municipal Funding Agreement – Canada Community Building Fund', recommend that County Council direct staff to execute the agreement between the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the County of Northumberland (County) to make Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) funding available to the County in accordance with the terms outlined in the agreement; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council enact a By-law authorizing the Municipal Funding Agreement at the August 14, 2024 County Council meeting.”

Carried

8.d Report 2024-092 '2023 Development Charges - Treasurer's Annual Statement'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-485

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

“**That** the Finance and Audit Committee receive Report 2024-092 ‘2023 Development Charges - Treasurer’s Annual Statement’ for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this report for information.”

Carried

8.e Report 2024-093 'Procurement Activity Quarterly Report – Quarter 2, 2024'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2024-07-30-486

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

“**That** the Finance and Audit Committee, receive Report 2024-093 ‘Procurement Activity Quarterly Report – Quarter 2, 2024’ for information, noting that the Procurement By-law 21-2022 under section 4.2.2 requires the Purchasing Manager to provide a quarterly report to County Council that includes itemization of all purchases between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000; and include any over budget approvals up to 10% as authorized under section 6.2; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this report for information.”

Carried

9. Other Matters Considered by Committee

N/A

10. Media Questions

11. Closed Session

N/A

12. Motion to Rise and Result from Closed Session

13. Next Meeting - Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

14. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.