



**Special Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 21, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Zoom Video/Telephone Conferencing**

- Present:** George Comrie, Mayor
Janice Bray, Councillor
Joe Lamb, Councillor
Scott Nash, Councillor
Brian Woods, Councillor
- Staff:** Michelle Hendry, CAO / Clerk
Paula Macri, Planning Assistant
- Guests:** 2 - In person
11 - via Zoom video or telephone

1. Roll Call and Call to Order

The Chair commenced roll call and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

National Anthem

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement

The Municipality of Whitestone recognizes all of Canada resides on traditional, unceded and/or treaty lands of the Indigenous People of Turtle Island.

We recognize our Municipality on The Robinson Huron Treaty territory is home to many past, present and future Indigenous families.

This acknowledgment of the land is a declaration of our commitment and collective responsibility to reconcile the past, and to honour and value the culture, history and relationships we have with one another.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Mayor Comrie requested that any pecuniary interest be declared for the record.
None declared.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No. 2023-044

Moved by: Councillor Brian Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Janice Bray

WHEREAS the Members of Council have been presented with an Agenda for this meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for this meeting be adopted as presented

Carried

Resolution No. 2023-045

Moved by: Councillor Brian Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Joe Lamb

Curfew

THAT Council hereby continues its Council Meeting past the allotted time of three and a half (3½) hours and continue for an additional one-half (1/2) hour

Carried

Resolution No. 2023-046

Moved by: Councillor Janice Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Brian Woods

**4. Committee of the Whole
Adjourn to Committee of the Whole**

THAT this meeting move into Committee of the Whole at 9:14 a.m.

- 4.1 Municipality of Whitestone, Strategic Plan review and update
 - 4.1.1 Municipality of Whitestone Strategic Plan dated December 2019
 - 4.1.2 2021 update on the progress of initiatives and action items

Carried

Resolution No. 2023-047

Moved by: Councillor Janice Bray

Seconded by: Councillor Brian Woods

Reconvene to Regular Meeting

THAT this meeting be reconvened to a Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Carried

Matters Arising from Committee of the Whole

Council completed a SWOT analysis, Appended to these Minutes as Appendix A

Council reviewed the 2019 Strategic Plan. Refinements were noted by Staff and will be provided in a 'track changes' document at the next Strategic Planning meeting.

Next Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled for Saturday February 25, 2023 10:00 am

Resolution No. 2023-048

Moved by: Councillor Brian Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Janice Bray

5. Confirming By-law

THAT By-law 06-2023 Being the Confirmatory By-law for the Special Council meeting of Saturday, January 21, 2023, be given a First, Second, Third and final reading and is passed as of this date.

Carried

Resolution No. 2023-049

Moved by: Councillor Brian Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Joe Lamb

6. Adjournment

WHEREAS the business of this Meeting has concluded;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 1:01 p.m. until the Regular Council meeting of January 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Carried



George Comrie

Mayor



Michelle Hendry

CAO/Clerk

Whitestone Strategic Plan 2023
SWOT ANALYSIS

<u>STRENGTHS</u>	<u>WEAKNESSES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents of Whitestone, volunteers • Nursing station • Ardbeg Community Hall • Fire and Rescue Department • Lower tax rate • History, heritage • Rural nature • Engagement in our community • Whitestone Lake Public School and Afterschool program • Library & Technology Centre • Dunchurch campus • Water tap at the community centre • Community support – fundraising • Natural environment • Road department equipment • Public lake access points • Lands purchased by the municipality • Landfills – two landfills • Walking trails • Gas station, variety store • New docks and boat launches • Thrift shop • Asset management program – growing and upgrading • Public Works department- human resources • Collaboration between the library and the recreation committee • LCBO • Restaurants – Duck Rock and Loggers • Parry Sound Area Planning Board • Local marinas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortage of local affordable housing for employees of local businesses and the Municipality • Amount of road systems and available funds • Tendering and bidding process – shortage of bidders • Public landings – low investment • Large geographic area – Dunchurch / Ardbeg • Lack of amenities outside of the Dunchurch area i.e. Maple Island, Ardbeg • Employee succession- retirements, contract employees (Planner, By-law enforcement) • Internet • Lack of daycare facilities • Personal care workers for seniors • Big divide – seasonal/permanent • Limited parking at the waterfront area – Church Street • Lack of postal service in the community • Library - grant and budget supports • Shortage of long-term care facilities • Shortage of parking at various landings • Shortage of staff • Land use process – planning • Retaining and attracting for both private and public sector employees/staff • Lack of specialize of medical care • Aging population • Not attracting and cannot attract enough of young families • Election – lowest participation by the 30-40 years • Lack of use of the community centre • Lack of skilled trades – i.e. plumber • Lack of employment opportunity • Lack of accessibility in municipal building

OPPORTUNITIES

- Conversation with high school students/young adults in regards to what direction they would like to see Whitestone
- Encouragement of young adults to participate
- Lots of grants for rural and small municipalities – to make improvements to the community
- Untapped skill set in the community
- Broadband internet
- Senior population
- Rural nature
- Housing
- Volunteer program
- Merging values and lifestyles of ratepayers
- Promote growth and development in a sustainable way
- Promote Whitestone for new businesses and business opportunities
- Greater improvements to the public landings and access points
- Farmers market, vendor market
- Gather information of water quality of the lakes
- Water tap – 2nd location – Ardbeg/Maple Island
- Improve energy efficiency in the municipal facilities – i.e ground source for heating and cooling
- programming for adults and seniors
- Support of economic development for small businesses

THREATS

- Amalgamation
- Recession
- Higher interest rates
- Continued inflation
- Rising costs - emergency services
- Staff turnover – succession planning (Planner)
- Pandemic
- Climate change
- Natural disasters
- Legislation
- Data security
- Lack of community services therefore lack of population
- Environmental hazards
- York Landfill site
- Ongoing increasing investments – roads, bridges, facilities
- Fire Hall too close to the beach area (traffic) – Church St.
- Lack of employment opportunity
- Ability to bring young families to the area
- Deteriorating water quality
- Downloading of infrastructure from provincial and federal government i.e. dams
- Near North School Board decisions