



## **Brant County Council**

### **Inaugural Meeting Minutes**

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**Date:** Monday, December 1, 2014

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Burford Agricultural Hall, 6 Park Avenue, Burford

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**Present:** Mayor Eddy, Councillors Wheat, Bouma, Simons, Cardy, Powell, Peirce, Chambers, Miller, Coleman and Gatward

**Staff:** Emerson, Bradley, Compeau, Johnston, Reichheld, Trotter, Buranyi and Boyd

Mayor Eddy in the Chair.

#### **Larry Davis, Town Crier**

Mr. Davis read a proclamation welcoming the newly elected Council and challenging them to fulfill their offices to the best of their abilities and for the good of the community over the next four years.

Mayor Eddy welcomed those in attendance and brought greetings on behalf of Brant County Council.

#### **O' Canada**

Larry Davis lead the attendees in the singing of O' Canada.

#### **Certification of Election of Mayor and Members of Brant County Council**

Heather Boyd, Clerk, read the certification of the Election of Mayor and Members of Council for the 2014 – 2018 term and presented the Mayor with the Chain of Office.

#### **Declaration of Elected Office and Oath of Allegiance**

The Honourable Mr. Justice J.C. Kent lead the members of Council in the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance.

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**Nominating Committee Report of November 26, 2014**

Councillor Miller presented the following recommendations from the Nominating Committee meeting of November 26, 2014:

1. That the Cemetery Operations Ad Hoc Committee be discontinued.
2. That appointments to the Economic Development Advisory Committee be consistent with the term of Council.
3. That membership on the County of Brant Library Board be amended from its current appointments of seven (7) citizen representatives and two (2) Council representatives to six (6) citizen representatives and two (2) Council representatives;

And that the appropriate by-law be prepared.

4. That appointments to the Tourism Advisory Committee be consistent with the term of Council.
5. That the Ad Hoc Committee to Review River Access Issues in the Paris Area be reconstituted for the 2014-2018 term of Council.
6. That the following Appointments of Councillors to Committees and Boards be approved:
  - a. Public Works Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors Murray Powell, Don Cardy, David Miller, Brian Coleman and Joan Gatward
  - b. Community Services Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors John Wheat, Willem Bouma, Robert Chambers, Don Cardy and John Peirce
  - c. John Noble Home Committee of Management / Social Services - Councillors Willem Bouma, Shirley Simons, Don Cardy and David Miller
  - d. Brant County Health Unit - Councillors Willem Bouma and Robert Chambers
  - e. Chamber of Commerce Brantford-Brant - Councillor David Miller
  - f. City of Brantford Environmental Policy Committee - Councillor Shirley Simons
  - g. Trees Conservation Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors David Miller, Brian Coleman and Joan Gatward
  - h. Paris Community Pool Building Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors Shirley Simons, Murray Powell, John Peirce and Joan Gatward
  - i. O.P.P. Detachment Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors Murray Powell, John Peirce and Joan Gatward
  - j. Accessibility Advisory Committee - Councillor David Miller
  - k. Brant County Power Transition Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors Willem Bouma, Shirley Simons and Joan Gatward.
  - l. Brant Heritage Committee - Councillor John Wheat
  - m. Brant Municipal Enterprises - Councillor Don Cardy
  - n. Brant West Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee - Councillor Robert Chambers
  - o. Brantford-Oakland-Onondaga Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee - Councillor Joan Gatward
  - p. Brantford Airport Board - Councillor Brian Coleman
  - q. Cemetery Advisory Committee - Councillor Murray Powell
  - r. Community Improvement Plan / Parking Study Steering Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors Shirley Simons, Don Cardy, Murray Powell and John Peirce.

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- s. County of Brant Library Board - Councillors John Wheat and David Miller
  - t. Economic Development Advisory Committee - Mayor Eddy and Councillor Shirley Simons
  - u. Grand River Conservation Authority - Councillors Shirley Simons and Brian Coleman
  - v. Long Point Region Conservation Authority - Councillor Robert Chambers
  - w. Master Plan for Paris Lions Park - Councillor Murray Powell
  - x. Paris Business Improvement Area - Councillor Shirley Simons
  - y. Paris Chamber of Commerce - Councillor Murray Powell
  - z. Paris Farmers' Market - Councillor John Peirce
  - aa. Paris Museum and Historical Society - Councillor Don Cardy
  - bb. Paris Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee - Councillors John Peirce and Shirley Simons
  - cc. Physician Recruitment - Councillor Murray Powell
  - dd. Police Services Board - Mayor Eddy, Councillor Joan Gatward
  - ee. River Access Ad Hoc Committee - Mayor Eddy, Councillors Shirley Simons, Murray Powell and John Peirce
  - ff. Rural Water Quality Program - Councillor David Miller
  - gg. South Central Ontario Region (SCOR) - Mayor Eddy and Councillor Robert Chambers
  - hh. County of Brant / Six Nations Green Energy Commission - Mayor Eddy, Councillors John Wheat and Robert Chambers
  - ii. Society for the Preservation of Paris Architectural History - Councillor Don Cardy
  - jj. South Dumfries / St. George Non-Profit Housing Corporation - Councillors Willem Bouma and John Wheat
  - kk. South Dumfries Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee - Councillors John Wheat and Willem Bouma
  - ll. Tourism Advisory Committee - Mayor Eddy and Councillor Don Cardy
  - mm. Tri Council Working Group - Mayor Eddy and Councillor Don Cardy
  - nn. Biggar's Lane / Waste Management Liaison Committee - Councillor Brian Coleman
  - oo. Brant Waterways Foundation – Member of Community Services Committee, to be selected by Community Services Committee
  - pp. City/County Liaison Committee – Mayor Eddy, Councillors Murray Powell, Don Cardy and Shirley Simons
  - qq. Municipal Elections Review Committee – Councillors Joan Gatward, Shirley Simons and John Peirce
7. That Cliff Atfield be appointed to the Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Fame Induction Committee.
8. That the following Appointments of Citizens to Advisory Committees and Boards be approved:
- a. Accessibility Advisory Committee – Drew Baird, Ruth Ann Broughton, Leona Foster, Lyle Marchewka, Patrick Newstead, Sara Staysa and Lauren Zakamarko
  - b. Agricultural Advisory Committee – Gary Cain, Ken Guest, Kevin Hodge and Owen McIntyre
  - c. Bell Homestead – Linda Guest
  - d. Biggars Lane Waste Management Liaison Committee – Brenda Davis, Ella Haley, Elizabeth Storjohann and Mark Wills
  - e. Brantford-Oakland-Onondaga Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee – Brian Cronkwright, Sandy Crowther, Ella Haley and Steve Pongracz

- f. Brant West Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee – Andrew Balog and Don Glassford
- g. Cemetery Advisory Committee – Donn Bailey, Robert Howes, Pat Smeaton and Edith Stone
- h. Committee of Adjustment – John Bell, Mary-Jane Brown, Bob Hamilton, Joe Kloepfer, Art Lefebvre, Steve Schmitt and John Vamos
- i. Economic Development Advisory Committee – John Bell, Vincent Geerdinck, Don Glassford, Marian Harschnitz, Kevin Hodge, Peter Krause, Arnie Small, Andy Smith, Richard Sroka, Tom Whitney and Karel van Tol.
- j. Brant Heritage Committee – Linda Ford, John Gatward, Lana Jobe, Ruth Lefler, John MacAlpine, Mike O’Byrne and Steve Pinkett
- k. Library Board – Paula Chorpitta, Fred Gladding, Gary Norris, Marilyn Sewell, James Shivas and Joyce Smith
- l. Paris Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee – Steven Acheson, Dave Kerr, Patrick Newstead, Mel Osborne, Paula Purvis and William Williams.
- m. Police Services Board – David Maxwell
- n. South Dumfries Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee – Erin Hardwood
- o. Tourism Advisory Committee – Linda Ford, Ralph Heather, Teresa Jones, Jamie Kent, Shannon McMannis, Patrick Newstead, Tom Pate, Garth Pottruff, Edith Stone and Aad Vermeyden

Moved by – Councillor Miller

Seconded by – Councillor Gatward

That the Nominating Committee report of November 26, 2014 be approved.

.Carried

**Declaration of Appointed Office – Police Services Board, Library Board, Committee of Adjustment**

The Honourable Mr. Justice J.C. Kent lead the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance for appointed members of the Police Services Board, Library Board and Committee of Adjustment.

**Remarks**

Chief Ava Hall, Six Nations, brought greetings to the newly elected Council on behalf of Six Nations Council, noting the importance of our two communities working together through this new term.

**Invocation**

Reverend Adrienne Robertson, Bethel Stone United Church, lead the attendees in an invocation, congratulating the elected and appointed members and challenging them to fulfill their office with a focus on servitude to their own values and beliefs, their communities, their ratepayers and their God.

### **Inaugural Address**

Mayor Eddy made the following Inaugural Address:

“Rev. Robertson, Honourable Justice Kent, Past Wardens of Brant County, Past Councillors, Volunteers, Members of Council and Ladies and Gentlemen. Thank you for attending Council’s inaugural session and sharing your interest in, and support of our municipal government. This is the level of government that supplies you with the most services but takes the least amount of your taxes!

This Council is the 6th elected Council to serve the citizens of the County of Brant since restructuring was affected January 1, 1999. That means we can celebrate our 16th Birthday on New Years Day, January 1 2015. There has been of course a continuance of governance by Councils of the County of Brant since 1852 when Brant was separated from the United Counties of Brant, Halton and Wentworth, previously called the District of Gore.

Previous inaugural sessions of the new Brant County Council have been held in Paris, Mt. Pleasant, St. George, Burford, and the Airport Community Hall, former Brantford Township. Tonight we are meeting in the new Burford Agricultural Hall, - a credit to the vision and determination of the donors, volunteers and citizens who willingly worked and contributed to its construction. Heart warming indeed.

The County of Brant is divided into 5 wards with 2 Council positions for each ward. Although our members are elected on a ward basis, they serve the entire population of the County and support the provision of services throughout. This support means the correction of serious problems, the constant upgrading and replacing, as well as the expansion, of County assets as required. The cooperation of members of Council results in effective government and progress for the municipality. The dedication of County staff to their various responsibilities, and for many during extremely adverse weather conditions, is acknowledged and deeply appreciated. Many of our citizens state their appreciation to members of Council. We also commend and thank the members of our emergency services for their dedication and responses as requested.

Our preferential location in Ontario has resulted in economic development and growth. We have developed successfully the Brant 403 Business Park on Highway 24 – Rest Acres Road at Bethel Road. Why is the location preferred – well because it is located on Main Street Ontario – Highway 403, and on the twinned track of the CNR mainline. We also have the Brantford Municipal Airport and we are outside the high-cost GTA. Wow. That should be enough and apparently it is because our 171 acres purchased for industry is 60% built and will soon be 75% occupied with new companies. Of course it has been costly to development. We purchased land designated for industrial development then proceeded to service it with complete municipal and other utilities. Then came MTO requirements including turning lanes onto and from Bethel Road to and from 403. This project was financed by borrowing from the Province’s financing agency, OSIFA, at lower than market interest rates. Although the OSIFA financing is high, the Park will generate \$2 million of industrial taxes per year – taxes that will cover the financing costs of acquiring, servicing and developing the Park. Financial statements will be prepared to show these facts on an ongoing basis. It is also surprising to see additional industrial development in other parts of Brant as is now happening. An addendum to this report has been prepared to show what is happening, and the resulting number of jobs that will be available.

The County is also developing commercially and residentially, providing growth that results in the need for increases in services, facilities and staffing. Roads become crowded and so the recommendations that will be in our new Transportation study that will be soon completed and released are crucial to solving our road problems.

We will be faced with major road problems when 4 new gravel pits being planned begin extracting and exporting gravel. As most of the gravel is expected to leave Brant via Rest Acres Road and Highway 403, a new interchange on the 403 at Bishopsgate may be needed, especially with the traffic emanating from our 403 Business Park. The Ontario Ministry of Transportation will play a lead role in this proposal.

The recent sale of Brant County Power resulted in the former Council recently establishing a Legacy Fund which will attract higher rates of interest, grow the fund and also contribute funds to our annual budget as Brant County Power did in the past. The details of this transaction can be found on our new website.

Brant Municipal Enterprises, incorporated under the Municipal Act, was established by Council to replace Brant County Power Services Inc, incorporated under the Electricity Act, in the summer of 2013. It provides fibre optic services in the County and solar powered units in the County and Six Nations. These services followed the expansion of broadband internet services throughout Brant and Six Nations that was sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Food and Rural Affairs. BME will also be responsible for calling and supervising the contract to replace streetlighting throughout Brant with LED lights to reduce the annual cost of streetlighting from \$500,000 to \$200,000, with a pay back in 8 years.

The Brant/Brantford Boundary request remains open. Our former Council made a revised offer to City Council with a request that negotiations take place but no action has taken place. I request Council to meet to become fully informed about the matter and previous negotiations and then decide the procedure to follow.

Although the current Ministry of Municipal Affairs has advised that the Province will not decide the matter, both the City and the County are affected by the Province's Places to Grow Legislation, and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, in fact we are a part of it.

Addition challenges and Issues for Council include:

1. Proposed construction of a new Brant County OPP headquarters
2. Expansion of Biggar's Lane Sanitary Landfill
3. A new zoning By-law to complement our present land use Official Plan. Staff have just circulated a draft plan for review.
4. Repair of the Cainsville Lagoon.
5. Construction of Paris Water Tower at the north end to serve present and future development.
6. Additional access to the Grand River for the ever increasing number of tourists who visit to travel it.

Relations with the Council of the City of Brantford are fine and we appreciate participating in the operation of several joint services with the City. Relations with the elected Council of Six Nations of the Grand River are fine and we appreciate the accomplishments achieved through the provisions of our joint Green Energy Accord that was approved a few years ago. The Accord is beneficial and working. We should continue to build on our fine relationships with our neighbours.

Brant County works cooperatively with other neighbours, as well through our membership in the South-Central Ontario Region Economic Development Group and the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus.

Tonight we acknowledge and express appreciation to all of our volunteers. The County of Brant is blessed with volunteers. The members of our Library Board, Council Advisory Committees and Local Boards serve without remuneration and offer valuable advice to Council. We thank you.

In addition, many service clubs operating in Brant stand out, and continue to help us with activities and financial donations to County facilities. The Scotland Optimists operates Scotland Park. The Mt. Pleasant Optimists operate the Mt. Pleasant Nature Park. Thank you. In addition, many service clubs contribute time, energy and money to help provide programs and facilities for our youth. Thank you. To all organizations and individuals that assist in any of so many ways, we need you, and we thank you.

Members of Council, the challenges are ours. The decisions that we make will propel this County progressively in to the future, or otherwise. By continuing to work together we will move forward and continue the progressive development of this municipality, and the continued protection of our arable farmland to ensure and continue this Brant as the outstanding area of the Province to live, work and play that it is!

This last note acknowledges the adverse weather conditions we have experienced during this last year but especially this last month that has been so disastrous on the grain harvest.

In closing, I commit to work with this Council and our staff to be a team player for the coming term”.

### **By-laws**

Moved by – Councillor Powell

Seconded by – Councillor Cardy

That the following by-laws be now read a first time:

- By-law number 167-14 to amend By-law Number 2-99 establishing a public library in the County of Brant and determining the size and composition of the Library Board.
- By-law Number 168-14 to amend By-law Number 16-99 to constitute a Committee of Adjustment for the County of Brant (Number of Appointees).
- By-law Number 169-14 to appoint members of Council to Committees and Boards.
- By-law Number 170-14 to appoint citizens to Committees and Boards.
- By-law Number 171-14 to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

Moved by – Councillor Powell  
Seconded by – Councillor Cardy

That the following by-laws be now read a second time and all clauses and preambles be adopted:

- By-law number 167-14 to amend By-law Number 2-99 establishing a public library in the County of Brant and determining the size and composition of the Library Board.
- By-law Number 168-14 to amend By-law Number 16-99 to constitute a Committee of Adjustment for the County of Brant (Number of Appointees).
- By-law Number 169-14 to appoint members of Council to Committees and Boards.
- By-law Number 170-14 to appoint citizens to Committees and Boards.
- By-law Number 171-14 to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

Moved by – Councillor Powell  
Seconded by – Councillor Cardy

That the following by-laws be now read a third time, passed, signed and sealed:

- By-law number 167-14 to amend By-law Number 2-99 establishing a public library in the County of Brant and determining the size and composition of the Library Board.
- By-law Number 168-14 to amend By-law Number 16-99 to constitute a Committee of Adjustment for the County of Brant (Number of Appointees).
- By-law Number 169-14 to appoint members of Council to Committees and Boards.
- By-law Number 170-14 to appoint citizens to Committees and Boards.
- By-law Number 171-14 to confirm the proceedings of Council.

.Carried

### **Next Meeting and Adjournment**

Council adjourned at 8:35 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at the Brant County Council Chambers.

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Ron Eddy, Mayor

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Date Minutes Adopted

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Secretary