



MINUTES

City Council Meeting

4:00 PM - Tuesday, April 9, 2024
Council Chambers/Zoom App.

The City Council Meeting of the City of Niagara Falls was called to order on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 4:07 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Jim Diodati, Councillor Tony Baldinelli, Councillor Wayne Campbell, Councillor Lori Lococo, Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg, Councillor Mona Patel, Councillor Victor Pietrangelo, Councillor Wayne Thomson

COUNCIL ABSENT: Councillor Mike Strange

STAFF PRESENT: Jason Burgess, Bill Matson, Shelley Darlington, Kira Dolch, Kathy Moldenhauer, Chief Jo Zambito, Nidhi Punyarthi, James Dowling, Erik Nickel, Margaret Corbett (attended in Council Chambers)
Trent Dark, Gerald Spencer (attended via Zoom)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 PM.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1. Council Minutes of March 19, 2024

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Thomson

THAT Council APPROVE the minutes of the March 19, 2024 meeting as presented.

Carried Unanimously

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

a) Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg declared a conflict of interest to Item #5.5 regarding the Summer Street Shelter, as the Councillor has property in the area.

4. MAYOR'S REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Mayor Diodati extended condolences to the following:

- Eleanor Waters, mother of Sue Scerbo of our Planning Department.
- Linda Halliday, mother of Lee Halliday of our Bylaw Department.
- Amanda Symington, wife of Ken Beaman, retired City Solicitor.
- Alan Molloy, stepfather of Paul Brown, our Manager of Parking Services.
- Laura Carroll, retired City Staff Member from the Mayor's Office.

- Gord Singleton

b) Mayor Diodati mentioned the following events:

Niagara Riverhawks Playoff Challenge

- Accepted a friendly challenge
 - from Grimsby Council Member, Jacob [Ber-AD-zee]
- Niagara Riverhawks and Grimsby Peach Kings playoff series
- Peach Kings won out- and I wear agreed to wear the jersey!

Eclipse

- City staff thank you
- Tourism partners- thank you!
 - NPC/ NFT/ Niagara City Cruises/ Niagara River Trading/ Sunlife/ Provincial Government
- Smooth day with lots for locals and visitors alike

Councillor Strange – Canadian Amateur Boxing Wall of Fame

- 3-time Olympic boxer (the only boxer ever from this country to say that)
 - 1992, 1996 and 2000
- Commonwealth Games champion winning gold in 1994 and 1998
- Inducted into the Canadian Amateur Boxing Hall of Fame on March 23, 2024 in Calgary during the National amateur boxing championships.
- He will join other former hall of fame boxers like
 - Lennox Lewis, Willie Dewitt, Shawn O’Sullivan, Dale Walters, and Scotty (The Bulldog) Olson.
- Congratulations to our very own, Councillor Mike Strange
- **Mental Health Fair at Exchange**
- Also attended by Councillors Patel and Nieuwesteeg

Chair Bradley’s State of the Region Address

Komedy for Kidneys

- Also attended by Councillor Patel and Nieuwesteeg

Community Easter Egg Hunt at Firemen’s Park

- Also attended by Councillor Patel

Niagara College Renaissance Gala

- Also attended by Councillors Strange and Patel

Minister Piccini Announcement in Niagara Falls

- Also attended by Councillors

Councillor Representation

Councillor Patel	Balti Indian Restaurant event
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Business Happenings:

- **Grand Opening Craig’s Cookies**

- Also attended by Councillors Nieuwesteeg and Patel
 - **Grand Opening Pizza Formaggio Food Truck**
- c) The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

5. APPOINTMENTS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

5.1. Rotary District Conference

The District Governor Elect for Rotary (Rotary Club of Welland), David Alexander, spoke before Council regarding the upcoming Rotary District Conference on Saturday, October 26, 2024.

(This brings together Rotarians from upstate New York and parts of South West Ontario. The topic is volunteering and the aim is to bring together all the leading community organizations to discuss trends, issues, needs, and opportunities. We are looking for a venue and buy-in by partners. Main need right now: arranging and securing a venue).

Moved by Councillor Mona Patel
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Thomson

THAT Council direct staff to assist in sourcing an appropriate venue for the Saturday, October 26, 2024 event - Rotary District Conference for approximately 300-400 people.

Carried Unanimously

5.2. Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza

The 3rd Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza, organized by the Filipino community in Niagara will be held on Saturday, August 3rd and Sunday, August 4th, 2024 at Firemen's Park.

The organizer and Chairperson of Community Affairs, Eileen Tinio-Hind, Founder and President and Rizza Gatbonton made a presentation to Council inviting Council and the community to attend this event. There are 6 Fiesta Extravaganza events in selected cities in Canada. Highlights include: Musicial Extravaganza, cultural presentations, food expo, exhibits, games and community spotlight.

The organizers of the event requested the following:

Extend the invitation to attend the Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza to all City Council members and request for support in the promotion of the festival through social media and the City's website.

Request an exemption to the City's Noise-By-law to all for the playing of music until 10:30 PM at Firemen's Park on Saturday, August 3rd, 2024 and Sunday, August 4, 2024.

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

THAT Council approve the request to extend the invitation to attend the

Niagara Fiesta Extravaganza to all City Council members and to provide support by promoting the festival through the City's social media channels and the City's website; furthermore, THAT Council approve the request for an exemption to the City's Noise-By-law to all for the playing of music until 10:30 PM at Firemen's Park on Saturday, August 3rd, 2024 and Sunday, August 4, 2024.

Carried Unanimously

5.3. **MIST Music Festival - 75th Anniversary Celebration of Filipino Canadian Friendship (Presentation and event has been cancelled - notification received post Council meeting)**

Noise By-law Extension Request:

The event organizers are also looking to request an exemption to the City's Noise-By-law for the playing of music until 1:00 AM at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre (indoor event) on Saturday, May 18, 2024.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Council approved the request for an exemption to the City's Noise-By-law for the playing of music until 1:00 AM at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre (indoor event) on Saturday, May 18, 2024.

Carried Unanimously

5.4. **Family and Children's Services Niagara (FACS) - Mountainview LemonAID Day**

Jayden Polgrabia, along with FACS Niagara Foundation Board President Caroline Polgrabia, presented before Council to speak on the upcoming Mountainview LemonAID Day to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2024.

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Thomson

THAT Council declare Saturday, June 8, 2024 as Mountainview LemonAID Day to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2024; AND to request that MYAC (Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee) take a lead and investigate certain city locations to host a LemonAID stand and; THAT Council direct staff to promote the event through our social media channels and FURTHERMORE, THAT Council request the Niagara Falls Illumination Board to change the colour of the Falls to yellow to draw awareness to the event.

Carried Unanimously

5.5. **Summer Street Shelter**

Residents concerned with safety issues around the Summer Street Shelter, attended the Council meeting. Amanda Jellema, resident, addressed Council on behalf of the residents and businesses in the Main Street, Lowell Avenue and Summer Street area. Amanda cited many concerns, including an unsafe environment and unwanted behaviour and explained how these issues have negatively impacted the neighbourhood. Amanda presented Council with a petition signed by many local residents (112) opposed to the temporary site becoming permanent.

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Councillor Lori Lococo

THAT Council direct staff to come back with a fullsome report outlining responses and solutions to the outstanding safety issues from our partners; and to arrange a meeting with all partners (Regional Councillors, Public Health representatives, Niagara Regional Police, City by-law enforcement) and to include a spokesperson from the neighbourhood to look for solutions to address the problems collectively.

Carried Unanimously (Councillor Nieuwesteeg declared a conflict of interest).

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Staff direct staff to waive the procedural by-law to receive the petition submitted from the residents.

Carried Unanimously

6. IN CAMERA SESSION OF COUNCIL

6.1. In-Camera Resolution

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Councillor Tony Baldinelli

THAT Council enter into an In-Camera session at 6:09 PM.

Carried Unanimously

7. REPORTS

Open Council meeting resumed at 7:16 PM.

Councillor Pietrangelo left Chambers at 7:16 PM and returned at 7:17 PM.

7.1. L-2024-04

Restriction of Certain Forms of Participation and Engagement in Council Meetings

Our File No.: 2024-64

Moved by Councillor Mona Patel
Seconded by Councillor Tony Baldinelli

1. THAT Council **RECEIVE** this report and its companion report L-2024-03 for information, which provides that Staff has statutory authority to:
 - a. exclude any correspondence or any delegation request where Staff determine that the correspondence or requested delegation has one or more of the following characteristics:

- i. The correspondence or proposed delegation is vexatious and will cause the City to incur additional costs;
 - ii. The correspondence or proposed delegation is without factual or legal merit or misrepresents the process and purpose of Council; or
 - iii. The correspondence or proposed delegation harasses or is abusive towards Council or Staff;
- b. exclude any correspondence or proposed delegation from anyone that has one or more of the three listed characteristics above; and
 - c. amend, where necessary, the City's policies and procedures on delegations and correspondence to refer to these three listed criteria for exclusion.

Carried Unanimously

**7.2. MW-2024-16
Audio Trails Wayfinding Proposal for Millennium Trail**

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg

1. THAT Report MW-2024-16 **BE RECEIVED** for information; and further,
2. THAT Council **AUTHORIZE** a single source procurement with Access Labs for audio trail wayfinding Millennium trail as a pilot project in the amount of **\$13,479.00 plus applicable taxes** in accordance with Section 18 of the City's Procurement Bylaw 2021-04; and further,
3. THAT Council **AUTHORIZE** Staff to enter into a contract with Access Labs to establish an Audio Trails Wayfinding system along the Millennium trail as a pilot project; and further,
4. THAT Council **APPROVE** a 2024 Capital Budget Amendment in the amount of \$13,479 funded from Capital Special Purpose Reserves, for the implementation related costs; and further,
5. THAT the annual operating budget impact of \$2,950 be **REFERRED** to the 2025 Operating Budget Process.

Carried Unanimously

**7.3. PBD-2024-11
Proclaimed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and New O. Reg. 41/24**

Moved by Councillor Mona Patel
Seconded by Councillor Lori Lococo

THAT Council **RECEIVE** PBD-2024-11 for information.

Carried Unanimously

7.4. **PBD-2024-13**
Housing Accelerator Fund Application Update

Moved by Councillor Mona Patel
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Council **RECEIVE** this report for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

7.5. **PBD-2024-14**
Financial Assistance request for a 100-112 unit affordable housing project on 8055 McLeod Road

Moved by Councillor Lori Lococo
Seconded by Councillor Tony Baldinelli

THAT Council allow members of public (John Potts, Board Director of Niagara Falls Non-Profit Housing (NFNP) to speak to this item (Item #7.5).

Carried Unanimously

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Lori Lococo

1. THAT Council **APPROVE** the Planning fee waivers totaling \$35,700.00, subject to Niagara Falls Not for Profit entering into an agreement with Niagara Regional Housing to provide rental subsidy for 25 units in a 9 storey building or 28 units in a 10 storey building that will be between 65-70% of the CHMC MMR;

2. THAT Council **APPROVE** a grant equivalent to the Building Permit Fees of \$165,311.91 for a 9 storey building or \$183,679.90 for a 10 storey building subject to Niagara Falls Not for Profit entering into an agreement with Niagara Regional Housing to provide rental subsidy for 25 units in a 9 storey building or 28 units in a 10 storey building that will be between 65-70% of the CHMC MMR; and

3. THAT Council **APPROVE** a discretionary exemption to Community Benefit totaling \$160,000.00, subject to Niagara Falls Not for Profit entering into an agreement with Niagara Regional Housing to provide rental subsidy for 25 units in a 9 storey building or 28 units in a 10 storey building that will be between 65-70% of the CHMC MMR.

Carried Unanimously

7.6. **R&C-2024-03**
Anti-Racism Committee New Committee Member

Moved by Councillor Wayne Thomson
Seconded by Councillor Mona Patel

1. THAT Council **APPROVE** adding Johnathan Frazier to the Anti-Racism Committee.

Carried Unanimously

7.7. **F-2024-14**
2024 Development Charge Update

The City is currently updating its Development Charges (DC) Background Study and By-Law. Staff has engaged Hemson Consulting Ltd. to assist with the update of the Background Study and By-Law.

Throughout the update process, Staff, Hemson Consulting, and Development Stakeholders have identified several opportunities. This report provides Council with recommendations related to these opportunities in advance of the updated DC By-Laws being adopted.

Moved by Councillor Mona Patel
Seconded by Councillor Tony Baldinelli

1. THAT Council after having given **CONSIDERATION** to the use of "area rating" or "area-specific development charges", **APPROVE** the use of a city-wide non-residential development charge rate as outlined in the 2024 Development Charges Background Study, in place of the Area Specific Development Charges levied under the 2019 DC By-Law.
2. THAT Council **DIRECT** staff to create a policy for Council's Approval for Industry Development Charges, to maintain the current exemption in a more flexible format outside of the DC By-Law and consider its inclusion in the scheduled Community Improvement Plan update.
3. THAT Council **DIRECT** staff to create a policy for Council's Approval for Community Improvement Plan (CIP) exemptions, to maintain the current exemptions outside of the DC By-Law, to enable them to be updated during the upcoming CIP review without requiring a DC By-Law Amendment.
4. THAT Council **DIRECT** staff to report back with an analysis of additional transitional measures, in addition to legislative requirements, such as DC deferral programs and discretionary phase-in programs to ease the transition to the new DC rates for the development industry.
5. THAT Council **APPROVE** an amendment remove Paragraph 2 of Section 6.5 of Policy # 700.33 "Development Charge Payment Policy regarding Sections 26.1 and 26.2 of the Development Charges Act" that currently reads "An interest rate of 0% shall be used for the purposes of 26.1 and 26.2 for development projects that align with the City strategic initiatives, non-profit housing development as defined under section 11.1 (3) of O. Reg. 82/98"

Carried (Councillor Lococo was opposed to the vote).

7.8. **PBD-2024-12**
2023 Housing & Growth Monitoring Report - Year in Review

Moved by Councillor Wayne Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

THAT Council **RECEIVE** the Development and Housing Monitoring Report that reviews the status of development and growth management activity for the City for the year 2023.

Carried Unanimously

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Jason Burgess, CAO, left the meeting at 8:08 PM.

8.1. CLK-2024-02 Request to Review Applications for Mayor's Accessibility Advisory Committee

Moved by Councillor Mona Patel
Seconded by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

THAT Council **REVIEW** the Committee's applications to fill any vacancies at an upcoming Council meeting and THAT committees no longer provide recommendations as to how to fill vacancies.

Carried Unanimously

8.2. F-2024-15 Final Tax Notice Due Dates

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

1. THAT Council **APPROVE** June 28 and September 30 as the 2024 Final Due Dates for the Residential, Pipeline, Farmland and Managed Forest Assessment Classes.
2. THAT Council **APPROVE** August 30 and October 31 as the 2024 Final Due Dates for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-residential Assessment Classes.

Carried Unanimously

8.3. F-2024-16 2024 Property Tax Rates

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Council **APPROVE** the 2024 Property Tax Rates as illustrated in attachments 1 through 3.

Carried (Councillor Lococo was opposed).

8.4. R&C-2024-04

2023 Annual Update from the Culture Section

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Council **RECEIVE** report R&C 2024-04 for information.

Carried Unanimously

9. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

9.1. **Niagara Region Correspondence**

Attached is correspondence sent from the Niagara Region regarding the following:

1. Niagara Region Motion respecting Federal Infrastructure Investment

Recommendation: For the Approval/Support of Council.

9.2. **Proclamation Request - Canadian Viral Hepatitis Elimination Day**

The Hepatitis C Care Clinic is requesting Niagara Falls Council to proclaim Thursday, May 9, 2024 as Canadian Viral Hepatitis Elimination Day.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.3. **Proclamation and Flag-Lowering Request - National Day of Mourning**

The Niagara Regional Labour Council will observe the National Day of Mourning to remember those who have suffered injury and/or died on the job. As we remember those who have died in workplace catastrophes, those who have been exposed to toxic substances and those who have been injured due to dangerous work conditions, we rededicate ourselves to fight for safe workplaces.

Therefore, as we approach April 28th, the Niagara Regional Council are requesting that the City Council consider and issue a Proclamation with respect to the "National Day of Mourning" and that flags be flown at half-mast at City Hall on Sunday, April 28th, 2024.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.4. **Proclamation Request - Moose Hide Campaign Day**

The Moose Hide Campaign is a grassroots organization that is indigenous-led hoping to raise awareness around issues of reconciliation and violence against women and girls.

The organization is looking for Council to proclaim Thursday, May 16, 2024 as Moose Hide Campaign Day.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.5. **Flag-Raising Request - Dig Safe Month**

April is "Dig Safe" month. Looking to increase public awareness, informing

those that dig, to make sure they call for locates first, prior to excavating and the rules of working around buried utility lines.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.6. **Proclamation and Flag-Raising Request - Shriners Week**

The Niagara Shrine Club requests a proclamation declaring the week of June 3, 2024 - June 9, 2024 as "Shriners Week" and a flag raising ceremony on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at City Hall.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.7. **Proclamation and Flag-Raising Request - Haitian Day**

The attached correspondence is a request for Council to proclaim Saturday, May 18, 2024 as "Haitian Day" in the City of Niagara Falls and to raise the Haitian flag and illuminate the Niagara Falls with the colours of Haiti (red and blue).

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.8. **Proclamation Request - Menstrual Health Day**

On behalf of The Period Purse (TPP), this registered charity is requesting Niagara Falls' Council proclaim Tuesday, May 28, 2024 as Menstrual Health Day.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

9.9. **Proclamation and Flag-Raising Request - Sikh Heritage Month**

The Sikh community of Niagara Falls requests Niagara Falls Council to proclaim the month of April as "Sikh Heritage Month" and to arrange for a flag-raising ceremony during the month of April as a symbol of solidarity and respect towards the Sikh community.

Recommendation: For the Approval of Council.

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Councillor Wayne Thomson

THAT Council **APPROVE/SUPPORT** Item #9.1 through to and including Item #9.9.

Carried Unanimously

10. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

10.1. **Niagara Falls Public Library - 2024 (Revised) Operating Budget**

Attached is the Niagara Falls Public Library's 2024 revised Operating Budget for Council's information.

Recommendation: For the Information of Council.

10.2. **Niagara Region Correspondence**

Attached is correspondence sent from the Niagara Region regarding the following:

1. Niagara Region Report PDS 7-2024 respecting Regional Archaeological Management Plan.
2. Niagara Region Report CSD 7-2024 2024 Property Tax Policy, Ratios and Rates.
3. Niagara Region Report CSC-C 4-2024 Motion - New Funding Model Resolution

Recommendation: For the Information of Council.

10.3. **Correspondence from Enbridge Gas Inc.**

Attached is and email from Enbridge Gas Inc., providing Council with information regarding securing the future of natural gas in Ontario.

Mark Freeman, citizen of Niagara Region, spoke before Council, opposed to the Enbridge decision and in support of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB).

Recommendation: For the Information of Council.

10.4. **Resolution - Town of Pelham - Bill 165 and support of OEB Decision to end gas pipeline study**

Attached is correspondence relating to a Resolution passed by the Council of the Town of Pelham during the March 27, 2024 Council Meeting, pertaining to the OEB Decision to end gas pipeline study.

Recommendation: For the Information of Council.

10.5. **Resolution - City of Brantford - Home Heating Sustainability**

Attached is the decision of Brantford City Council from its meeting held on March 26, 2024 regarding Home Heating Sustainability.

Recommendation: For the Information of Council.

10.6. **Resolution - Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA)**

Attached correspondence pertains to Board direction, regarding New Conservation Authorities Act Legislative and Regulatory Requirements - NPCA Housekeeping Policy Amendments and Transition Plan.

Recommendation: For the Information of Council.

Moved by Councillor Wayne Thomson

Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Council receive and file for information Item #10.1 through to and including Item #10.6.

Carried Unanimously

11. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

11.1. **Noise By-law Extension Request - Chippawa Slo-Pitch Tournament and Street Dance - 2024**

On June 29, 2024 the Chippawa Volunteer Firefighters Association (CVFA) will be hosting the annual SPN Slo-Pitch Tournament and Street Dance, "Streets on Fire."

The event will be held at the Chippawa Lions Park.

The CVFA is requesting Council to approve an extension of the Noise By-law to 11:30 PM for this event on Saturday, June 29, 2024. Bands are scheduled to start playing at 1:00 PM.

Recommendation: THAT Council **APPROVE** the request to extend the noise by-law to 11:30 PM for the Annual SPN Slo-Pitch Tournament and Street Dance to be held on Saturday, June 29th, 2024 at the Chippawa Lions Park.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

Seconded by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg

THAT Council APPROVE the request to extend the noise by-law to 11:30 PM for the Annual SPN Slo-Pitch Tournament and Street Dance to be held on Saturday, June 29th, 2024 at the Chippawa Lions Park.

Carried Unanimously

11.2. **Noise By-law Extension Request - St. George & St. Archangel Michael Church Grounds - Serbian Picnic Grounds**

The St. George & St. Archangel Michael Church is requesting Council to approve the following noise by-law extensions:

- 1) Folklore Concert - Saturday, June 8, 2024 - until midnight.
- 2) Serbian Day - June 21, 22 & 23, 2024 - until midnight.
- 3) Knezevic, Srdjan Engagement Party - Saturday, August 31, 2024 - until midnight.
- 4) Bijelic Wedding - Saturday, September 7, 2024 - until midnight.
- 5) Bowling Tournament - October 11, 12 & 13, 2024 - until midnight.

Recommendation: THAT Council **APPROVE** the request to extend the noise by-law for the following dates and times at the Serbian Picnic grounds:

- 1) Folklore Concert - Saturday, June 8, 2024 - until midnight.
- 2) Serbian Day - June 21, 22 & 23, 2024 - until midnight.
- 3) Knezevic, Srdjan Engagement Party - Saturday, August 31, 2024 - until midnight.
- 4) Bijelic Wedding - Saturday, September 7, 2024 - until midnight.
- 5) Bowling Tournament - October 11, 12 & 13, 2024 - until midnight.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

Seconded by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg

THAT Council **APPROVE** the request to extend the noise by-law for the following dates and times at the Serbian Picnic grounds:

- 1) Folklore Concert - Saturday, June 8, 2024 - until midnight.
- 2) Serbian Day - June 21, 22 & 23, 2024 - until midnight.
- 3) Knezevic, Srdjan Engagement Party - Saturday, August 31, 2024 - until

midnight.

4) Bijelic Wedding - Saturday, September 7, 2024 - until midnight.

5) Bowling Tournament - October 11, 12 & 13, 2024 - until midnight.

Carried Unanimously

11.3. Noise By-law Extension Request - Silverline Group Inc

Silverline Group Inc., is planning to complete a storm, sanitary and watermain connection across/through McLeod Road. These services will connect into the Livwell site of 7219 Sharon Avenue. As such, Silverline Group Inc., are requesting an allowance of nightwork, with an exemption of the noise by-law. The work will take place between the hours of 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM beginning on April 15th, 2024 for 3 nights.

Recommendation: THAT Council **APPROVE** the request to extend the noise by-law to allow for construction work to be completed from Silverline Group Inc. across/through McLeod Road, beginning April 15th, 2024 for 3 nights.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

Seconded by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg

THAT Council **APPROVE** the request to extend the noise by-law to allow for construction work to be completed from Silverline Group Inc. across/through McLeod Road, beginning April 15th, 2024 for 3 nights.

Carried Unanimously

11.4. Memo from City Clerk - Noise By-law Exemptions

Attached is a memo from the City Clerk proposing minor amendments to the City's Noise By-law.

Recommendation: THAT Council **DIRECT** staff to prepare the necessary amendments to the City's Noise By-law to allow for some delegated authority to allow staff to approve necessary exemptions.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

Seconded by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg

THAT Council **DIRECT** staff to prepare the necessary amendments to the City's Noise By-law to allow for some delegated authority to allow staff to approve necessary exemptions.

Carried Unanimously

11.5. Correspondence from resident to Mayor and Council - Go Train station

Attached is correspondence from a local resident expressing his concerns about the Niagara Falls Go Train station.

Recommendation: To be Referred to Staff.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

Seconded by Councillor Wayne Thomson

THAT the matter be referred to staff and shared with Niagara Parks

12. RATIFICATION OF IN-CAMERA

- a) Ratification of In-Camera

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Thomson

THAT Council **APPROVE** the purchase of land at 12761 Sodom Road; AND THAT the City Solicitor and CAO, or their designate, be **AUTHORIZED** to execute all documentation and take whatever steps necessary to carry out and complete the transaction; AND THAT Council **DIRECT** staff to approach the Province to investigate the designation of the QEW corridor between Niagara Falls and Fort Erie as a Provincially Significant Employment Zone.

Carried Unanimously

13. NOTICE OF MOTION/NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Mooned T-shirts - available for sale to the public.**

Councillor Lococo informed Council that she has numerous inquiries from the public as to how to purchase the mooned t-shirts worn by the Mayor on the Solar Eclipse Day.

Direction to Staff: Mayor Jim informed Council that he would direct staff to inquire as to how the mooned t-shirts could become available for public purchase.

14. MOTIONS

- 14.1. **Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT)** - At the Council meeting of March 19, 2024, Councillor Tony Baldinelli brought forth the following motion:

Motion:

THAT Staff bring an update on current practices and a report to explain our options for the Municipal Accommodation Tax and its best practices and to include the following:

1. What is the Municipal Accommodation Tax and what is it presently used for?
2. Why is our current MAT significantly less than most municipalities in Ontario?
3. How much revenue is the MAT expected to generate (approx.) year over year?
4. How would the City of Niagara Falls' use of the MAT currently compare to those municipalities with a significant tourism component to their economy?
5. How can we improve and/or enhance the tourism experience while trying to ensure that we're respecting our community?
6. What are the current impacts of tourism on the municipality, and can the MAT be used to implement measures that try to alleviate the pressure of

tourism on the residents and the city itself?

Moved by Councillor Tony Baldinelli
Seconded by Councillor Lori Lococo

THAT Staff bring an update on current practices and a report to explain our options for the Municipal Accommodation Tax and its best practices.

Carried Unanimously

- 14.2. **Review of Housing Strategy** - At the Council meeting of March 19, 2024, Councillor Lori Lococo brought forth the following motion:

Motion:

THAT Council review the Housing Strategy Report for the education, information and discussion of Council.

Moved by Councillor Lori Lococo
Seconded by Councillor Wayne Campbell

THAT Council review the Housing Strategy Report for the education, information and discussion of Council.

Carried (Councillor Patel and Councillor Pietrangelo were opposed).

- 14.3. **Integrity Commissioner Report** - At the Council meeting of March 19, 2024, Councillor Lori Lococo brought forth the following motion:

Motion:

THAT Staff prepare a report on Integrity Commissioner complaints from other cities in the Region, and to include the number of complaints, costs of complaints and filing fees.

Moved by Councillor Lori Lococo

THAT Staff prepare a report on Integrity Commissioner complaints from other cities in the Region, and to include the number of complaints, costs of complaints and filing fees.

Not put (no seconder)

- 14.4. **Procedural By-law** - At the Council meeting of March 19, 2024, Councillor Mike Strange brought forth the following motion:

Motion:

THAT Staff be directed to look for efficiencies in running the Council meetings via updates to the Procedural By-law.

This motion was deferred until the next Council meeting on April 30, 2024, as Councillor Strange was absent.

- 14.5. **Cummington Square Parking** - At the Council meeting of March 19, 2024, Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg brought forth the following motion:

Motion:

THAT Staff be directed to remove paid parking at Cummington Square to better serve the residents of this area.

Moved by Councillor Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo

THAT Staff be directed to report back to Council providing parking options for Cummington Square to better serve the residents and business owners of this area.

Carried Unanimously

15. BY-LAWS

2024-040. A by-law to set and levy the rates of taxation for City purposes, for Regional purposes, and for Education purposes for the year 2024.

2024-041. A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of the City Council at its meeting held on the 9th day of April, 2024.

Moved by Councillor Victor Pietrangelo
Seconded by Councillor Tony Baldinelli

THAT the by-laws be read a first, second and third time and passed.

Carried (Councillor Lococo opposed to By-law 2024-040).

16. ADJOURNMENT

a) Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Wayne Thomson
Seconded by Councillor Mona Patel

THAT Council adjourn the meeting at 9:26 PM.

Carried Unanimously

Mayor

City Clerk