



The Municipal Corporation of the
Town of Fort Erie

Council-in-Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 5, 2020

Council Chambers via Video Teleconference

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Closure of Town Hall

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:

Town's Website:

<https://www.forterrie.ca/pages/CouncilAgendasandMinutes>

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Redekop at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Redekop acknowledged the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the New Credit and Anishinaabe people, many of whom continue to reside in this area.

2. Roll Call

Present (In Council Chambers): His Worship Mayor Redekop

Present (Via Zoom Teleconference): Councillors Butler, Dubanow, McDermott, Noyes and Zanko

Absent: Councillor Lubberts

Staff (Via Zoom Teleconference): A. Dilwaria, K. Dolch, J. Ferraccioli, J. Janzen, E. Melanson, C. Schofield, and K. Walsh

This meeting was held in compliance with the electronic participation provisions of Council Rules of Procedure By-law No. 36-2016, as amended.

3. **Announcements/Addenda**

Mayor Redekop made the following announcements:

- **COVID-19 Pandemic**

We are embarking on a perilous period of the COVID-19 pandemic, one during which the number of people infected is surging upward despite our efforts to contain the spread.

During the first 5 months of the pandemic, Fort Erie experienced 26 cases of COVID-19. During the past 6 weeks, with increasing regularity, Fort Erie has experienced 12 cases. The statistics indicate that recent cases are predominated by those under 40 years of age, caused by close or community contact.

In view of the record number of cases experienced in Ontario, the Premier has halted further steps to reopen society and placed revised restrictions on gatherings – indoors, outdoors and within families. The health and safety of the residents in Ontario, and in Fort Erie and Niagara, remain the focus of actions by government and public health authorities. The basic health guidelines for individuals to follow remain the same: maintain physical distance from others, wash your hands frequently, don't touch your face, limit your visits outside your home, wear a mask inside public places. But we need to remember some of the earlier advice also proffered by health authorities: go for walks, get exercise, enjoy the outdoors, maintain contact with loved ones at a distance by using the technology available. We are all in this together – so let's recognize the importance of doing everything we can to protect those around us: our loved ones, family, friends, neighbours, and those we come in contact with. The ability to manage this crisis is in our own hands.

By and large, the overwhelming number of residents have been following the public health guidelines. Now, everyone needs to get on board. We are not going to eliminate COVID-19, but we have the ability to limit its spread and reduce the costs of the pandemic: personal, economic, social. There is no excuse for irresponsible conduct or disregarding the essential public health guidelines and provincial orders. COVID-19 is serious. It strikes people of all ages, all ethnicities, all genders, anywhere. It can be deadly. When it is not, it can result in long-term health conditions for those who have been infected. That in itself should be a motivator for everyone to get with the program.

If you become infected, before you test positive you are a spreader of the virus. Those you come in contact with are at risk. That could be family members, young and old; friends; those you encounter in a store, restaurant, gathering, health facility. You could infect a nurse, a store clerk, a teacher or student, your best friend, your child or your parent. No one has that right. What we have in this time of peril is responsibility – to everyone in our community.

I urge all residents of Fort Erie to be vigilant, to be cautious, to follow public health guidelines, provincial orders and municipal by-laws, to be good citizens. Those around you are depending on it.

- **Broadband Connectivity Task Force**

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance and essential nature of fast, reliable internet as a means of communication in our lives. While that service is available in most of the built-up areas of Fort Erie, it is not in our rural and semi-urban areas. What was once considered a luxury is now a necessity. Whether for business, education, governance or maintaining connections with family and friends, the internet is now as essential in our daily lives as electricity, running water, natural gas, the telephone.

While I and Town staff have had meetings and discussions with major and minor internet service providers over the past several years, the pandemic has given a sense of urgency to our efforts to meet this vital need for our residents and businesses. Town staff has been working on a strategy and has consulted the community with respect to internet connectivity. I have decided to establish a Task Force to assist and facilitate the Town's efforts to complete a strategy, establish a road map forward, prioritize areas of need, identify which service providers can and will meet specific needs within the community, remove obstacles to the installation of broadband in our community and work with upper levels of government for funding and support. The ultimate goal is fast, reliable internet for every residence and business in Fort Erie.

The Task Force will be made up of Town staff, including the CAO, Economic Development Services Manager and IT Manager, Councillors Butler and Dubanow and several – perhaps 4 or 5 – members of the community, and will commence work without delay.

- **Diversity and Inclusion**

A small group of concerned residents – the Fort Erie Coalition on Diversity and Inclusion - has revived the notion of a Citizens' Coalition to provide advice to the Mayor and Council with respect to diversity and inclusion issues. The group has met 3 times and has been drafting Terms of Reference to guide its work. Before finalizing those Terms of Reference, the Coalition would like to expand its numbers to reflect the makeup of our community.

The Coalition will be advertising for new members and the Town will be facilitating the initiative by posting information on our website and social media.

Over the years, Fort Erie has been known for welcoming newcomers and for being a progressive force embracing diversity and including everyone in the life of the community. This provides our community with an opportunity to continue and expand that vital work. If you are interested, please contact me by email through the Town's website or Riley Zimac through the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre's website.

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

5. Notice of Upcoming Public Meetings

- (a) Public Open House

Re: Official Plan Amendment - Housekeeping - Tuesday, October 6, 2020 - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Via Video Teleconference.

6. Public Meetings

- (a) Proposed Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendment

Re: Garrison Road & 0-10389 Helena Street - Owner - 575 Garrison Road Inc. (David Kompson) - Agent - Adam Hawkswell (Niacon Construction). The Applicant is requesting an Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment to add a Special Policy Area designation and to rezone to a new site-specific Highway Commercial (C3) Zone. The site-specific regulations are requested to add a self-storage facility (indoor and outdoor) to the list of permitted uses and a reduction in the number of parking spaces.

Mayor Redekop announced that this portion of the meeting would be devoted to the holding of a Public Meeting to consider an Application for Proposed Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendment for Garrison Road & 0-10389 Helena Street - Owner - 575 Garrison Road Inc. (David Kompson) - Agent - Adam Hawkswell (Niacon Construction).

Ms. Dilwaria, Senior Development Planner, delivered a PowerPoint Presentation which is available for viewing on the Town's website.

Ms. Dilwaria summarized the purpose of the Application, and public comments received.

Mayor Redekop requested staff to bring the Applicant or Agent in to participate in the meeting.

Emilio Raimondo, Agent for the Applicant

Mr. Raimondo advised that he was aware there are questions related to the number of jobs, the location and commercial use, and the potential market. Their client sees a great benefit in terms of marketability at this location, and he believes there is a definite need for this type of development in the Town of Fort Erie. In terms of the perspective of having a development of this type of use in a commercial zone, the nature of the site needs to be looked at. It's off of Garrison Road, accessed by a very long driveway. It has a rail corridor to the south-east side. One would look at sort of the type of development that could be placed on a parcel of that nature, and one could see perhaps why they have come to the table with a commercial self-storage type of development.

Mr. Raimondo advised that the other thing is, these types of developments, although earmarked in industrial uses in terms of how the By-law or Official Plan is set up, they also provide a complimentary use to the commercial users. Self-storage today are used by a multitude of commercial and residential users. He advised that he thinks one needs to give that consideration in the argument for their location.

Mr. Raimondo advised that with respect to concern about the drainage ditch, their client is working at maintaining the existing overland flows that are currently there. Although one might consider the location and zoning under industrial, self storage today is a complimentary and use for some of the commercial

and residential uses. Their understanding is they aren't necessarily fitting in an industrial use given the type of development that's occurring along Garrison Road. They feel this case would be a highly complimentary use.

In closing, Mr. Raimondo advised he would be open to any questions Council may have.

Mr. Butler provided information on electronic participation for members of the public who wished to provide input relative to the Application.

Mayor Redekop enquired whether there were any members of the public in the waiting room who wish to speak in favour of the Application.

(a) Gino Vendittelli, 575 Garrison Road

Mr. Vendittelli advised that he wished to clarify that he is a partner at 575 Garrison Road, which is north of the subject property. The owner of 625 Garrison Road owned their parcel under 575 Garrison Road Incorporated, severed their parcel, and they purchased it. Although the name of the owner sounds like their property, the developer doesn't own 575 Garrison Road. It's a separate entity.

In closing, Mr. Vendittelli advised that they have no objections, and he only wanted to make the clarification.

Mayor Redekop enquired whether there were any members of the public in the waiting room who wish to speak in opposition to the Application.

(a) Anthony Annunziata, 900 Helena Street

Mr. Annunziata advised that he is the owner of 900 Helena Street, which is a 29 acre parcel that shares the southern property line with the Applicant, and he's owned the property since 2009.

Mr. Annunziata stated that in 2016, the Town of Fort Erie made an Official Plan change for the Helena Street lands, and it was determined by planning staff at the time, and supported by Studies, to change the land use for his property and the surrounding properties. His property at the time was zoned Neighborhood Residential at the time he

purchased, it and it was changed to Dry Industrial use.

The dry industrial use provided a variety of uses, including public storage. He proceeded to investigate the feasibility of using public storage on the site, and hired a consultant to prepare a Feasibility and Demand Study that examined everything from new residential development, existing commercial development, zoned lands, existing supply, and proximity of any competition and competitive developments. He then proceeded to invest what has now turned into hundreds of thousands of dollars in Site Plan approval, engineering, architectural, and deposits on materials. The site is site plan approved for 180,000 square feet of public storage. The Applicant is applying for 107,000 square feet, not 60,000 square feet.

Mr. Annunziata advised that he has Site Plan approval and he thinks that fact deserved a little bit more consideration in the Analysis in the report, in that there is a significant amount of supply in that approved Site Plan. He applied for building permits in March and he's just waiting for building permit approval at this time.

Mr. Annunziata stated that an Official Plan Amendment is quite a significant planning consideration, and it requires a higher standard of consideration than simply a Zoning Amendment. For this reason, he would like to point to the fact that the Application does not currently meet the Provincial Policy Standard of 50 residents in jobs per hectare. Instead it suggests that the easterly portion of the lands, which the Applicant is applying to sever, would somehow meet this Provincial Standard in the future. He advised how the developer would look to develop C3 Commercial uses on Helena Street when Planning and Town Council have signaled the market that the C3 Commercial uses will not work on Garrison Road, which has 20 times the vehicle traffic,. If Planning and Town Council do not believe C3 Commercial land use is appropriate at the center of the commercial hub of Fort Erie, where it's a contiguous commercial area, then why does the Applicant believe it will work on Helena Street? If the Town wanted to look at this commercial area and continue to look at advancing the commercial interests of the center of Fort Erie, then it would maintain its Commercial C3 zoning.

Mr. Annunziata referred to page 100 of the report the Applicant's Agent suggests that this operation will have shorter hours of operation, and that these facilities, would be less disruptive. Normally public storage facilities are gated facilities that operate 24/7, so there's not a lesser use or standard of use for this particular Application.

Mr. Annunziata stated that another point is the Applicant is attempting to create a new definition of a term called "commercial storage", when there is no such term within the usage designation. It is an industrial use, whether it's for small commercial operators, industrial, or light industrial use. His proposal for his Site Plan is to provide for those very exact same uses.

Mr. Annunziata continued that the Applicant is looking for a 60% reduction in parking requirements, meaning that for the 99 parking spaces required, he's proposing 40 parking spaces for that site. using a C3 Commercial standard in applying the lot coverage for the site. C3 Commercial provides for 60% lot coverage, whereas the appropriately zoned locations, like his to the south, provides for 30% lot coverage.

He continued that at the Open House, he expressed significant concern about the Applicant's Stormwater Management Plan. It was noted on page 108 of the report that the Applicant will be required to obtain permission from adjacent property owners to outlet on their properties. To date, he hasn't received any request and would not support such a request.

Mr. Annunziata referred to the concern expressed by the Region over access and traffic management access to the property off Garrison Road. It was not clear from the Application as to what that might look like and no detail has been provided. He thinks that's a significant concern when using Garrison Road as a commercial corridor and access for this particular use, and would be a significant consideration to have for the public to comment on.

In closing, Mr. Annunziata advised that Mr. Raimondo is aware that he is a partner with David Kompson in other properties. Mr. Raimondo is their architect of choice, and knows that Mr. Kompson is not the developer of this project and has offered no support for this project. He stated that

Mr. Kompson would be offended that his name was used as an attempt to convince Council that somehow his reputation is attached to this development. He stated he can tell Council without reservation that Mr. Kompson is not attached to this development.

(b) Ben Kooh, 644 Garrison Road

Mr. Butler read into the Minutes a comment made through the chat feature of the video teleconference, as Mr. Kooh was unable to use video or audio.

“My name is Ben Kooh, owner of 644 Garrison Rd., and I have a question regarding traffic. Is the site allowed to have a full turning capacity? Anamika, as you are aware, we are working with our Traffic Consultant for a new traffic light for the future residential development on our site. Due to the exit/entrance off Garrison Rd. for this development, how much traffic would add to our study? Can you send us the traffic study of this proposed development?”

Mayor Redekop closed the Public Meeting.

7. Consent Agenda Items

7.1 Request to Remove Consent Agenda Items

None.

7.2 Consent Agenda Items for Approval

CAO-17-2020 Climate Change

That: Council receives Administrative Report No. CAO-17-2020 for information purposes. **(Carried)**

CAO-19/LC-06-2020 Land Matters: September 24, 2020 Land Committee Meeting Minutes

That: Council receives the September 24, 2020 Land Committee meeting minutes attached as Appendix “1” to Report No. CAO-19/LC-06-2020. **(Carried)**

CAO-20-2020 2019 Health & Safety Report

That: Council receives Report No. CAO-20-2020 for information purposes. **(Carried)**

CAO-21-2020 Proposed Amendments to The Corporation's Health and Safety Policy

That: Council approves an amended Health and Safety Policy for The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie in the form attached as Appendix "1" in Report No. CAO-21-2020. **(Carried)**

CS-16-2020 2021 Budget Planning

That: Council receives for information the 2021 Budget Forecast as explained in Report No. CS-16-2020 and quantified in Appendix "1" and "2", and further

That: Council approves the proposed 2021 Budget Timetable as per Appendix "3". **(Carried)**

Consent Agenda Recommendation

Recommendation No. 1
Moved by: Councillor Zanko

That: Council approves the Consent Agenda Items as recommended. **(Carried)**

7.3 Items Removed to be Dealt with Separately

None.

8. Planning and Development Services

Chaired by Councillor Zanko.

8.1 Presentations and Delegations

None.

8.2 Reports

PDS-39-2020 Intent to Amend Schedule "A" of By-law No. 135-99 - Being a By-law to Designate Lands at 477 Ridge Road North (Birthplace of Dr. Edmund J. Zavitz) as being of Architectural and Historical Value or Interest Property **(Postponed from September 14, 2020 Council-in-Committee Meeting - Previously Moved by Councillor McDermott as Recommendation No. 3)**

That: Council approves the amendment to Schedule "A" of By-law No. 135-99, to remove the heritage designation on the dwelling at 477 Ridge Road North, under Section 30.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and further

That: Council directs staff to provide Notice of Intention to Amend a Designating By-law in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Recommendation No. 2
Moved by: Mayor Redekop

That: Report No. PDS-39-2020 be postponed until the owner attends a Council meeting to respond to questions regarding the property. **(Carried)**

PDS-43-2020 Proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment - 625 Garrison Road and 0-10389 Helena Street - Niacon Construction - Adam Hawkswell (Agent) - 575 Garrison Road Inc. - David Kompson (Owner)

Recommendation No. 3
Moved by: Councillor Dubanow

That: Council receives for information purposes Report No. PDS-43-2020 regarding amendments to the Town's Official Plan and Zoning By-law for 625 Garrison Road and a portion of 0-10389 Helena Street. **(Lost)**

PDS-44-2020 Amendment to Comprehensive Zoning By-law No. 129-90 - Housekeeping Amendment

Recommendation No. 4
Moved by: Mayor Redekop

That: Council authorizes staff to initiate a housekeeping amendment to the Town's Comprehensive Zoning By-law No.129-90 in accordance with the Planning Act, as outlined in Report No. PDS-44-2020. **(Carried)**

8.3 New Business/Enquiries

(a) Councillor Butler

Councillor Butler advised that over the last couple of weeks, Council has been receiving letters from homeowners with respect to short-term rentals and policy change requests. She questioned whether the Clerk gets copies of those or if the Director of Planning has received copies. She also questioned whether Councillors should be directing all of the emails to the Planning Director as Director will be

providing an update with respect to short term rentals.

Ms. Dolch advised that she is receiving a lot of emails with concerns, but doesn't know if she's receiving all of them. Staff will attach the emails to the future report.

Councillor Butler asked when the report would be coming forward. Ms. Dolch advised it would be before the end of the year, and if not, early next year.

Mayor Redekop advised that it is his intention to respond to the various individuals that have contacted them to let them know what Ms. Dolch just indicated so that they're aware that we've received them. He advised that a lot of them came from one area of the Town, but he's sure there are others. He will copy Councillors so that they get the information. It'll be one letter that will go out to each of the residents individually, but it will be "If you read one, you'll have read them all".

8.4 Business Status Report

No changes.

9. Infrastructure Services

Chaired by Councillor Noyes.

9.1 Presentations and Delegations

None.

9.2 Reports

None.

9.3 New Business/Enquiries

(a) Councillor Butler.

Councillor Butler advised she wished to say what a great job Infrastructure Services did with the new signs that are appearing throughout Town. They're beautiful, and it was well worth the wait.

(b) Councillor Noyes

Councillor Noyes advised that she and Mr. Walsh discussed Burger Road earlier today. The amount of trucking that

occurred in the last while has done significant damage to the road, and this is a road that the residents waited years to get redone. It was done about a year and a half ago, and now it is in bad shape again. She understands it is going to be around \$250,000 to fix it, and she is wondering who's going to be paying for it. She added that she also spoke to Ms. Dolch.

Councillor Noyes advised that she doesn't know what the process or mechanism is to get those who damaged the road to repair it, or even if we can. Knowing that this has happened once, there should be some safeguards put in place on roads that would prevent this from happening again - that those who damaged the road are responsible for repairing it and there are some checks and balances to make sure it occurs. She asked Mr. Walsh to comment and also provide a timeline as to when the road will be repaired.

Mr. Walsh responded that Councillor Noyes is correct. Burger Road is in very rough condition. The original road work was in the summer of 2019. Unfortunately, the damage was done too late in the season this year to address it properly, so staff will be addressing it in 2021 and putting in a separate budget item for the repair. Further, they will be taking all actions that they can, whether they're through negotiation or legal means so that the rate payers of Fort Erie are not responsible as much as possible. The Town has an Agreement with the owner of the property, but he hasn't seen the details yet. Staff also has a Damage Deposit on the roads. He believes that means they've accepted responsibility for it. Whether the Town can get the additional money from them, he thinks is a different conversation. But as to further actions in general, himself, the CAO and his Managers that are involved in road management, are upset as well. They are looking to make changes to their policies so that they catch this before it happens next time. For example, surface treated roads are no heavy trucks allowed, and if someone wants to bring in a series of loads, they will have to obtain a Permit. The process can be controlled in that manner.

(c) Councillor Zanko

Councillor Zanko advised that it seems that roads being damage has happened often, and she is dealing with a similar issue on Pound Avenue. Heavy construction

vehicles are not allowed, yet there's a development in behind, and every single day she receives complaints from residents because there's not only daily, but all day long, use of heavy equipment. The contractors aren't following the designated road. The residents' road was already in bad shape, and now it's worse. It seems there's really nothing that we can do. She stated she has talked with Mr. Walsh with regard to when the road will be repaired, but it's not fair to the taxpayer when developers are not following what the Town's rules are, and then the burden lies on the taxpayer. It's something that the Town needs to look at right away.

Mr. Walsh advised that staff are hoping to bring the policy to Council before spring.

Mayor Redekop questioned that the Town must have the ability to post a limit for weight on some of these roads that can't handle heavy trucks, and asked if the Town can institute that on Pound Avenue.

Mr. Walsh advised that the Town can, and this came up in a discussion with Ms. Dolch. Planning & Development Services has repeatedly communicated this to the builder, and they still do it. With respect to Burger Road, the actions had gone on for 2 or 3 days before staff had been notified. By that time the road was already damaged. He is expecting that the policy will include penalties to have the road restored at the developer's cost, not at the residents and businesses of Fort Erie.

Mayor Redekop advised he would still like staff to look at whether the Town can post something with respect to weight, because that road isn't built for heavy trucks or heavy equipment.

Councillor Noyes asked Mr. Walsh who does the enforcement on the roads currently now. Mr. Walsh advised that staff would have to call the Ministry of Transportation. They would then direct the vehicle to the closest weigh scale, which he believes is in Vineland, and they would issue fines from there. It's not an easy process.

9.4 Business Status Report

No changes.

10. Corporate and Community Services

Chaired by Councillor McDermott.

10.1 Presentations and Delegations

- (a) Carol Nagy, Executive Director, Hospice Niagara

Re: Funding Request for Residential Hospice Niagara Expansion (Report No. CAO-18-2020)

Ms. Nagy delivered a PowerPoint Presentation which is available for viewing on the Town's website.

Ms. Nagy provided a summary of her PowerPoint Presentation slides, as follows:

At Hospice Niagara, they have 10 hospice residents beds in St. Catherine's. Their Board realizes that in all the referrals that they receive for those 10 beds from across the Region, they were only able to serve a quarter of those people. They made a lot of changes to improve their intake process and to try to expediate people getting into those beds. Every time they made improvements, there were more people that were being referred. They are never been able to get on top of being able to serve one quarter, which is approximately 250 to 300 people each year, that would use the hospice residents. They also have a number of community programs that continue to increase by about 40% in their need across the Region. They had to do something as far as growth.

What came to their attention were 2 Long-Term Care Homes in Niagara, 1 in Fort Erie, and 1 in Welland, which were due to expansion. They have been in dialogue with them for about 2 years. They are looking at it as an opportunity to build in a sustainable way and to take advantage of the economies of scales, wherein Fort Erie's Gilmore Lodge is expanding and building over 230 beds, and they're building 10. This provides an opportunity for a not-for-profit smaller organization, like Hospice Niagara, to advantage the site construction that's happening at a lower cost. In Fort, there's a particular interest that they have in serving the indigenous community, and also recognizing that Fort

Erie is an underserved community. It's easy to build hospices in communities where there's a large economic base, but it's not as easy in communities that are underserved.

Ms. Nagy advised it couldn't be more important to bring this service to Fort Erie, and it is also making it accessible and culturally relevant and safe for indigenous people. They recently partnered with the Indigenous Health Network to work with them on these aspects of the project. They also recognize that in Fort Erie, there's a particular issue coming up. When the hospital closes in Fort Erie, there's 5 end of life beds that are currently being offered in Fort Erie, serving all of South Niagara from Wainfleet and Port Colborne, with overflow. Those beds are at risk of closing when the hospital moves to the new site, that would take those beds out of this area permanently. As well, there are 6 beds that are offered to the community at Hotel Dieu Shaver Rehabilitation Hospital. The province has been very clear that that hospital can not expand to any more bed capacity, and they're already behind by about 20 beds in order to serve the community. That will be a rehabilitation hospital primarily without any further growth and end of life. This is a critical service that we could be losing. It comes at a time with before the pandemic, where we already knew that, and in Niagara, we had only 3 beds per 100,000, and really we should be up to 7 or 10 beds per 100,000. This puts on the hospital, where more people, if they can't die, be supported at home, and there's not a hospice bed for them, they're going to go to hospital. We had the second highest hospital costs in 1997 for acute palliative care at 118 million. That's the cost of people dying in hospital. Then we look at the number of people in those alternative level of care beds that are actually waiting for a transfer out. If we look at many of them, they're already deemed palliative and they end up dying in those beds before they can move out. We have in Ontario, prior to the pandemic, the largest emergency department provider in Ontario, and the fourth largest average hallway-bed conditions in Ontario, those are not good statistics for Niagara. Our hospice beds, and increasing them to 30 across the Region and although they don't address all those issues, it's a step in the right direction for our community. If we look at the cost those

5 beds in the hospital that we have right now are about 110,000 per days. They are offering hospice beds at half that price. We have had 5. We're going to give you 10 for the Region instead. Once they put the hospice residents into the community, she is sure they are going to be able to attract doctors who practice in palliative care and nurse practitioners. They will be able to start to offer those services in people's homes, through their volunteers, and also then advocating with the Ontario health team, which will probably be in place at that point. Advocating with the Ontario health team, they will need to continue to grow community services and not always put all of this money to bricks and mortar. They're anticipating they would have at least 8,000 people served through the hospice residences and the community teams, once in full service. Hospice Niagara has a phenomenal reputation due to the commitment of their staff and volunteers.

Ms. Nagy continued that the other part of their growth plan is to open in conjunction with Foyer Richelieu in Welland, that's the other site of 10 beds. That will be a hospice that is also bilingual to serve their Francophone community.

Ms. Nagy advised that the Ministry of Health has approved their Growth Plan by securing operational funding, when these beds become open. They are now working with the Province to secure capital funding in a grant for both locations. This is the first step for Niagara and they will be serving all of the Region through these beds. People will travel here to get this kind of quality care, within the Region.

Ms. Nagy stated they have started their capital campaign. The target of the campaign is \$14 million, that they're hoping to raise.

In closing, Ms. Nagy advised that she has come to Council to ask support of this plan. They are asking for \$4.83 per capita on the 2016 census for the population of Fort Erie. That puts this ask at, approximately, a \$150,000 over 3 years to support the capital build part of this project. They have secured operational funds at the backend and Hospice Niagara has a small, but mighty fund development team, that will then be in the

community, looking at how they continue to support the hospice going forward.

10.2 Reports

CAO-18-2020 Funding Request for Residential Hospice
Niagara Expansion

Recommendation No. 5
Moved by: Councillor Zanko

That: Council approves the grant funding request from Hospice Niagara in the amount of \$150,000 to be paid over 3 years, beginning in 2021 to invest in the expansion of Residential Hospice Niagara, and further

That: Council directs staff to include \$50,000 in the 2021 General Levy Operating Budget and 2022 to 2023 forecasts for Council's consideration with funding from the Community Health and Wellness Reserve. **(Carried)**

10.3 New Business/Enquiries

None.

10.4 Business Status Report

No changes.

11. Scheduling of Meetings

- Traffic Coordinating Committee, Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 12:00 noon, via Zoom Teleconference

12. Adjournment

Recommendation No. 6
Moved by: Councillor Butler

That: Council-in-Committee hereby adjourns at 7:59 p.m. **(Carried)**

Mayor

Clerk