



## Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

**Place:** Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook  
**Date:** Thursday, October 3, 2024  
**Presiding Officer:** Mayor Greg Henley  
**Councillors Present:** Deputy Mayor Arnold MacDonald, Carla Black, Olivia Canning-Sweet, Brenton Colborne, Paul Jones and Chrystal McNutt.  
**Councillor Regrets:** *Nil*

***A quorum was present throughout the meeting.***

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Cloney - CAO, Stan McDougall - Admin Assistant (recording secretary), and Ruthann Brookins - Manager of Finance.

**Presenters in attendance:** *Nil*

**Media In Attendance:** Mark Rushton, Hello Oxford – online news.

**Gallery in attendance:** *Nil*

### **1. Call to Order**

At 5:30 PM, Mayor Henley called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance at the meeting.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and seconded by Councillor Black that the agenda of the Special Council Meeting for Thursday, October 3, 2024, be approved, as presented.

***Motion Carried***

**3. Public Hearing – Transfer of Municipal Property – 177 Lower Main Street to the Oxford Community Centre Association**

Mayor Henley called the Public Hearing in the matter of the transfer of municipal property, located at 177 Lower Main Street, Oxford to the Oxford Community Centre Association to order at 5:30 PM.

Mayor Henley turned the floor over to Linda Cloney, CAO, to present a review of the information leading up to this Public Hearing to all in attendance in person and via Zoom.

Currently, the Oxford Community Centre Association is leasing the land located at 177 Lower Main Street.

The idea of the Community Centre being built there has been part of discussions of the Council as far back as 2022.

The idea probably stemmed from the loss of the Oxford and Area Lions Club facility that hosted many different events for our community due to the formation of the Sinkhole that happened in 2018.

There are many benefits the Oxford Community Centre will bring to the Town. The purpose of the Community Centre is to promote community involvement, not just in relation to the centre's programming, but also by building relationships with and among people in the community. The Centre will foster a sense of belonging, provide educational opportunities, promote health and wellness, offer recreational activities, and support economic development. It will be a place where local people can come together, share resources, and work towards a common goal of building a stronger and more vibrant community. The Centre will be a gathering place where friendships and social networks are built. It will serve as a neutral ground where people of all ages, ethnicities, and socioeconomic statuses can meet, interact, and engage with each other.

The Council gave direction to staff to start the proceedings to sell the municipal property (PID#25500943) to the Oxford Community Centre at a Special Council Meeting held on July 17, 2024.

The first step was to determine whether the fair market value is more than \$10,000, this could be done by an appraiser. In this case, it came back at \$97,500. If more than 10,000 we will need to have a public hearing.

Normally a resolution would need to be passed by a majority, but with this matter, we need a two-thirds majority. To be clear, we would need 5 out of 7 votes.

Mayor Henley announced that there was one submission from an Oxford resident in the form of a letter for the Council's consideration and turned the floor back over to Linda Cloney to review.

Linda reviewed with the Council that a notice of Public Hearing had been sent out on September 16, 2024, on our municipal website and was also posted on social media. Submissions in support or opposition to the proposed transfer of land were requested to be written to the attention of the CAO by email no later than October 1, 2024.

One letter was received via email on September 25, 2024, from resident Brenda Robinson in opposition. The letter was read to the Council.

Mayor Henley inquired if there were any further submissions for the public hearing for the Council's consideration. Linda Cloney confirmed that there were no further submissions and reviewing that there were no members of the public present in the gallery, and there being nothing further, Mayor Henley ended the Public Hearing at 5:36 PM.

Moved by Councillor Canning and seconded by Councillor Black that Oxford Town Council has received a request from the Oxford Community Centre Association for the transfer of municipal property located at 177 Lower Main Street for one dollar;

And that the Oxford Community Centre Association pays for all expenses involved with the transfer of property;

And that Oxford Town Council considers the Oxford Community Centre Association to carry out future activities beneficial to the Town of Oxford when the build of the centre is completed;

And the estimated market value of the property has been appraised at \$97,500.00;

And that a public hearing was duly advertised on September 16, 2024, and held on October 3, 2024, before the passing of the resolution.

Councillor McNutt – Yes  
Deputy Mayor MacDonald – Yes  
Mayor Henley – Yes  
Councillor Black – Yes  
Councillor Canning – Yes  
Councillor Colborne – Yes  
Councillor Jones - Yes

4. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM

  
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**Mayor Greg Henley, Chair**

  
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**Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant**

10-30-2024  
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**Date Approved**