



**DRAFT Special Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, August 24, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Dunchurch Community Centre and Zoom Video Conferencing**

- Present:** Mayor, George Comrie (in person)  
Joe Lamb, Councillor (in person)  
Scott Nash, Councillor (in person)  
Brian Woods, Councillor (in person)
- Regrets:** Janice Bray, Councillor
- Staff:** Michelle Hendry, CAO/Clerk (in person)  
Paula Macri, Planning Assistant (in person)  
Bob Whitman, Fire Chief (in person)
- Guests:** 54 - in person  
39 - via Zoom video or telephone

**1. Roll Call and Call to Order** 7:00 p.m.

National Anthem

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement

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

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

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

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

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

### 3. Approval of the Agenda

#### Resolution No. 2023-401

**Moved by:** Councillor Joe Lamb

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**WHEREAS** the Members of Council have been presented with an Agenda for the August 24, 2023 Special Council meeting;

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

#### Clerks Note:

- Councillor Lamb requested to speak to the motion to approve the agenda
- Discussion in respect of the motion to approve the agenda ensued
- Mayor Comrie advised Councillor Lamb that he was being called on a Point of Order and requested that no defamatory or inappropriate remarks be made
- Councillor Lamb reiterated that he owned the motion and wished to speak to why the Special Council meeting was called
- Councillor Nash spoke and referenced By-law No. 40-2012, section 19.6, and requested that Council be permitted to vote on the matter of Mayor Comrie's Point of Order
- Mayor Comrie advised that Councillor Lamb could continue and indicated a vote was not needed
- Mayor Comrie and Councillor Lamb agree that Councillor Lamb will continue to speak
- Councillor Nash reiterated his request for a vote and indicated he was making a motion under Point of Privilege. He didn't feel Councillor Lamb should have been called out of order for speaking
- The Clerk called a recorded vote as requested by Councillor Nash

THAT Councillor Lamb should not be called out of order

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
Councillor, Janice Bray			
Councillor, Joe Lamb	X		
Councillor, Scott Nash	X		
Councillor, Brian Woods	X		
Mayor, George Comrie	X		

**Carried**

**Clerks Note:** Resolution No. 2023-401 (as referenced above) was voted on.

**Carried**

#### Move into Committee of the Whole

#### Resolution No. 2023-402

**Moved by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**Seconded by:** Councillor Scott Nash

**THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone move into Committee of the Whole at 7:26 p.m.

**Carried**

## Reconvene into Regular Meeting

### Resolution No. 2023-403

**Moved by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**Seconded by:** Councillor Joe Lamb

**THAT** this meeting be reconvened to the Regular Meeting at 9:30 p.m.

**Carried**

## Matters Arising from Committee of the Whole

### Resolution No. 2023-404

**Moved by:** Councillor Joe Lamb

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone receives for information the Power Point Presentation “The Future of West Parry Sound, A Whitestone Perspective” presented by Mayor George Comrie.

**Carried**

### Resolution No. 2023-405

**Moved by:** Councillor Joe Lamb

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**WHEREAS** the Mayors of Parry Sound and Seguin met with MPP Steven Clark and MPP Graydon Smith on August 3, 2023 to discuss opportunities associated with Regional amalgamation of West Parry Sound area municipalities; and

**WHEREAS** the Mayors of the West Parry Sound District met on August 10, 2023 in the Seguin offices to discuss Regional amalgamation; and

**WHEREAS** it is our understanding that the province has stated that no municipality will be forced to amalgamate with any other municipalities without permission and agreement; and

**WHEREAS** there was discussion of an independent third-party study of shared services and governance of the seven (7) area municipalities which may be funded by the Province; and

**WHEREAS** this study was to include asset management, shared services, human resources, taxation, by-laws etc.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Municipality of Whitestone has no interest in amalgamating with any other area municipalities as we see no economic benefit to amalgamation which would only result in higher taxes and reduced services for Whitestone rate payers; and

**THAT** the Municipality of Whitestone has no interest in participating in any of the suggested studies with the other area municipalities as we view this as a ‘slippery slope’ leading to amalgamation; and

**THAT** this motion be circulated to the West Parry Sound area municipalities, MPP Steven Clark, MPP Graydon Smith and Premier Doug Ford.

**Clerks Note:** Mayor Comrie made a motion to sever the motion into two separate matters. The motion to sever was not seconded, therefore the motion was not considered

**Recorded Vote: requested by Councillor Nash**

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	
Councillor, Janice Bray				
Councillor, Joe Lamb	X			
Councillor, Scott Nash	X			
Councillor, Brian Woods	X			
Mayor, George Comrie		X		
				<b>Carried</b>

**Resolution No. 2023-406**

**Moved by:** Councillor Scott Nash

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**WHEREAS** Council transparency and communication is critical to the smooth functioning of Whitestone Council business; and

**WHEREAS** in the case of amalgamation discussions, it is felt that the Mayor did not effectively and, in a timely manner communicate the results of the meeting on amalgamation to both his Council and more importantly to the ratepayers of Whitestone; and

**WHEREAS** it is felt that the Mayor seldom engages Councillor's on issues of importance to the community in a timely and transparent manner;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone encourages the Mayor to be more transparent, communicate more often and effectively with Council.

**Recorded Vote: requested by Councillor Lamb**

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	
Councillor, Janice Bray				
Councillor, Joe Lamb	X			
Councillor, Scott Nash	X			
Councillor, Brian Woods	X			
Mayor, George Comrie	X			
				<b>Carried</b>

**5. Confirming By-law**

**Resolution No. 2023-407**

**Moved by:** Councillor Joe Lamb

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**THAT** By-law 56-2023 Being the Confirmatory By-law for the Special Council meeting of Thursday August 24, 2023, be given a First, Second, Third and final reading and is passed as of this date.

**Carried**

**6. Adjournment**

**Resolution No. 2023-408**

**Moved by:** Councillor Brian Woods

**Seconded by:** Councillor Scott Nash

**WHEREAS** the business of this Meeting has concluded;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this meeting be adjourned at 10:06 p.m. until the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday, September 5 at 4:00 p.m. or at the call of the chair.

**Carried**

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**George Comrie**

**Mayor**

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**Michelle Hendry**

**CAO/Clerk**