



Stratford City Council Regular Council Open Session MINUTES

Meeting #:	4644th
Date:	Monday, January 25, 2021
Time:	3:00 P.M.
Location:	Electronic Meeting
Council Present in Council Chambers:	Mayor Mathieson - Chair Presiding
Council Present Electronically:	Councillor Beatty, Councillor Bunting, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Clifford, Councillor Gaffney, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Ritsma, Councillor Sebben, Councillor Vassilakos
Regrets:	Councillor Ingram
Staff Present in Council Chambers:	Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk
Staff Present Electronically:	David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, Ed Dujlovic - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Janice Beirness - Director of Corporate Services, Jodi Akins - Council Clerk Secretary, Alyssa Bridge – Manager of Planning, Jeff Bannon – Planner, Eden Grodzinski – Manager of Housing

1. Call to Order:

Mayor Mathieson, Chair presiding, called the Council meeting to order.

Moment of Silent Reflection

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and to otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of pecuniary interest were made by a member at the January 25, 2021 Regular Council meeting.

3. Adoption of the Minutes:

R2021-21

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Bunting

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated January 11, 2021 and the Special Meeting dated January 18, 2021 of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford be adopted as printed.

Carried

4. Adoption of the Addendum to the Agenda

There was no addendum to be adopted.

5. Report of the Committee of the Whole In-Camera Session:

5.1 From the January 11, 2021 Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, a matter concerning the following item was considered:

Appointment to Festival Hydro Services Inc.

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual(s) including municipal employees or local board employees (section 239.(2)(b)).

R2021-22

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT Gerry Guthrie be appointed for a two year term on the Board of Directors of Festival Hydro Services Inc., to November 14, 2022 or until a successor is appointed.

Carried

5.2 From the January 13, 2021 Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, a matter concerning the following item was considered:

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose (section 239.(2)(f)).

At the In-camera Session direction was given.

5.3 At the January 25, 2021 Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, matters concerning the following items were considered:

- Proposed or pending acquisition or disposal of land by the municipality or local board (section 239.(2)(c)) (includes municipal property leased for more than 21 years;
- Proposed or pending acquisition or disposal of land by the municipality or local board (section 239.(2)(c)) (includes municipal property leased for more than 21 years;
- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose (section 239.(2)(f)), And A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board (section 239.(2)(k));
- Personal matters about an identifiable individual(s) including municipal employees or local board employees (section 239.(2)(b)).

At the In-camera Session direction was given on all items.

6. Hearings of Deputations and Presentations:

None scheduled.

7. Orders of the Day:

7.1 Resolution - Downtown Traffic Study (COU21-009)

R2021-23

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Seconded by Councillor Vassilakos

THAT the presentation of the Downtown Traffic Study by Nick Palomba, Vice President and Adam Mildenberger, Transportation Planner of R.V. Anderson Associates Limited be heard.

Carried

Nick Palomba, Vice President, and Adam Mildenberger, Transportation Planner, of R.V. Anderson Associates Limited provide a PowerPoint presentation on the Downtown Traffic Study. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the purpose of the study being to analyze intersection operations and pedestrian crossing safety;
- the study area limits including 23 intersections within the downtown;
- intersection capacity analyses for the Ontario Street corridor, Waterloo Street corridor, and Downie Street corridor showing no significant capacity concerns out to 2030;
- recommendation for a signal timing adjustment to mitigate queuing at the St. Patrick Street intersection;
- the undertaking of regular traffic counts at signalized intersections;
- geometric improvements within the Ontario Street corridor at the intersections of Ontario and Church Street, Ontario and Erie/Downie Street, and Ontario and Waterloo Street;
- geometric improvements within the Downie Street corridor at the intersections of Downie and George Street, Downie and St. Patrick/Douro Street, and Downie Street at the Transit Terminal/Milton and Shakespeare Street;
- the Erie Street dedicated cycling facility review not recommending a reduction in through lanes;
- the Lakeside/Veterans Drive dedicated cycling facility review not being recommended due to projected deterioration in intersection operations along Ontario Street; and,
- Waterloo Street dedicated cycling facility review not being recommended due to overall impacts and loss of parking.

A question and answer period ensued with respect to:

- reviewing the distribution of green-light time at signalized intersections to accommodate pedestrian cross time and vehicles turning left;
- minimal traffic impact if Shakespeare Street access is closed from Downie Street;
- public consultation not being completed as a part of this study;
- the intersection near the transit terminal being a semi actuated signal that only changes as needed compared to being on a loop;
- consideration for a cycle track on Erie Street if on-street parking were removed and accommodated elsewhere;
- preferred bike lane width being between 2.4m and 3m;
- maintaining on-street parking being an important factor when reviewing this study;
- additional cycling improvements at downtown intersections being further reviewed when updating the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan;
- using areas identified for recapture or greenspace as options for further cycling accommodations;
- the elimination of parking near intersections being an option to improve sightlines; and,
- reviewing options to eliminate certain movements at intersections with high traffic volume through the adjustment of signal timing or signage.

R2021-24

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the Stratford Downtown Traffic Study outlining the key findings presented by R.V. Anderson Associates Limited be received for information.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services responded to a question about staff reporting back on next steps. He advised this study and the recommendations would be used when completing future improvements and planning for future capital budgets. It was further advised that the recommendations from the study would be implemented over multiple years.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

7.2 Resolution - Update on Draft Plan of Subdivision 31T19-001 and Zone Change application Z09-19 for 236 Britannia Street (COU21-007)

R2021-25

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the correspondence from Bonnie Lindsay dated January 10, 2021 with respect to Draft Plan of Subdivision 31T19-001 and Zone Change Application Z09-19 for 236 Britannia Street, be received.

Carried

R2021-26

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT the report on Draft Plan of Subdivision 31T19-001 and Zone Change application Z09-19 for 236 Britannia Street (COU21-007), be received for information;

AND THAT the Planning Report on Draft Plan of Subdivision 31T19-001 and Zone Change Application Z09-19 at 236 Britannia Street be presented to Council for consideration when discussions between the developer and the residents have concluded.

Carried

7.3 Resolution - Gas Tax Letter of Agreement

R2021-27

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Vassilakos

THAT Council authorize the entering into of a Letter of Agreement dated January 14, 2021 with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for funding under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program for the 2020/2021 program term.

It was questioned how the 2021 funding allocation compares to the amount of funding received previously. The Director of Corporate Services

advised the 2021 amount is between \$450,000 and \$475,000 and is similar to what has been provided in the past.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

7.4 Correspondence - Resignation from Heritage Stratford

R2021-28

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Seconded by Councillor Bunting

THAT the resignation of Derek Smith as the alternate SABA representative from the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee be accepted.

Carried

7.5 Resolution - T2020-29 Huron Street Reconstruction Road Preliminary Design Report (COU21-008)

R2021-29

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the report on Huron Street Reconstruction (COU21-008) be received for information;

AND THAT staff report back to the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee after the conclusion of the open house.

A question and answer period ensued between members and staff with respect to:

- Whether Huron Street will face the same traffic volumes expected by 2030 as outlined in the Downtown Traffic Study. It was noted Huron Street is different in that it is a 3 lane operation with a center turn lane. This configuration can handle up to 20,000 vehicles per day and is very different from a 2 lane operation road;
- Questioned why 3 lanes of traffic was not considered on Erie Street. It was noted the traffic study looked at the options on Erie Street from a bike lane perspective. On Huron Street, bike lanes are not proposed which is the main difference; and,

- Request consideration for some kind of bike accommodation to be installed over the bridge at Huron Street. It was noted staff would review but that it would be dependent on pavement widths.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

7.6 Resolution - Social Services Relief Fund Phase 2 (COU21-010)

R2021-30

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Bunting

THAT the Mayor and the City Clerk and the Director of Social Services be authorized to execute the Contribution Agreement for the Social Service Relief Fund (SSRF) Phase 2 Holdback with the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) as required for the purpose of establishing the City's obligations to use the funds in accordance with the SSRF Program Guidelines for the construction of eight modular supportive housing units at 398 Erie Street, Stratford.

A question and answer period ensued between members and staff with respect to:

- the project pending approval with CMHC and holding an open house once approved; and,
- the 8 units proposed being restricted to the zoning in the area at this time.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

7.7 Resolution - Heavy Truck Restrictions on Forman Ave., Fraser Dr., Matilda St., Oakdale Ave., Orr St., and Short St. (COU21-011)

R2021-31

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Vassilakos

THAT Schedule 12 – Heavy Truck Restrictions of Traffic and Parking By-law 159-2008 be amended to include the following roads:

Forman Avenue between Short Street and Orr Street

Fraser Drive between McCarthy Road West and Forman Avenue

Matilda Street between Oakdale Avenue and Short Street
Oakdale Avenue between O'Loane Avenue and Matilda Street
Orr Street between McCarthy Street West and Forman Avenue
Short Street between O'Loane Avenue and Forman Avenue;
AND THAT the restrictions be for anytime.

A question and answer period ensued between members and staff with respect to:

- the placement of new signage to advise drivers of the restrictions;
- signs not being permanent but being up for a couple of years;
- work and items such as deliveries on a restricted street being exempt from the provisions while the work is being completed; and,
- uncertainty of mapping programs recognizing the new restrictions.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

8. Business for Which Previous Notice Has Been Given:

None scheduled.

9. Reports of the Standing Committees:

9.1 Report of the Planning and Heritage Committee:

R2021-32

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the Report of the Planning and Heritage Committee dated January 25, 2021 be adopted as printed.

Carried

9.1.1 January 2021 Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review Update (PLA21-001)

THAT Section 5.4.3 a) and b) of the draft Comprehensive Zoning By-law be amended to increase the size of Type B accessible parking spaces from 2.4 meter wide to 2.8 meter wide.

**9.1.2 January 2021 Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review
Update (PLA21-001)**

THAT Council receive for information this report on Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review (PLA21-001);

AND THAT staff send Notice of Consideration to consider adoption of a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law to all those who requested receiving such notice.

10. Notice of Intent:

None scheduled.

11. Reading of the By-laws:

The following By-laws required First and Second Readings and Third and Final Readings and were taken collectively upon unanimous vote of Council present:

R2021-33

Motion by Councillor Beatty

Seconded by Councillor Bunting

THAT By-laws 04-2021 to 08-2021 be taken collectively.

A member sought clarification on the overall tax increase.

A member reiterated concerns about the inclusion of Saturday on-demand transit in the budget.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried unanimously

R2021-34

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Ritsma

THAT By-laws 04-2021 to 08-2021 be read a First and Second Time.

The Director of Corporate Services advised the increase is 2.02% when compared to 2020. After considering the estimated 2020 assessment growth, the adjusted tax levy increase is approximately 1.33%.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried two-thirds support

R2021-35

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Sebben

THAT By-laws 04-2021 to 08-2021 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.

Carried

11.1 Appointment to Festival Hydro Services Inc. Board of Directors - By-law 04-2021

To amend By-law 178-2018 as amended, to make appointments to the Festival Hydro Services Inc. Board of Directors.

11.2 Adopt 2021 Budget - By-law 05-2021

To adopt the budget (estimates of revenues and expenditures) for tax supported and user pay purposes for the year 2021.

11.3 Letter of Agreement for Dedicated Gas Tax Funds - By-law 06-2021

To authorize the entering into and execution of a Letter of Agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario, related to funding under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for the Public Transportation Program for 2020/2021.

11.4 Contribution Agreement for the Social Services Relief Fund Phase 2 Holdback - By-law 07-2021

To authorize the entering into and execution of a Contribution Agreement, and all other necessary documents, with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services for the Province of Ontario and/or the Government of Canada, related to funding under the Social Services Relief Fund Phase 2 Holdback.

11.5 Amend Traffic and Parking By-law - Heavy Truck Restrictions - By-law 08-2021

To amend Schedule 12, Heavy Truck Restrictions, of the Traffic and Parking By-law 159-2008 as amended to include additional restrictions.

12. Consent Agenda: CA-2021-004 to CA-2021-009

12.1 CA-2021-007

R2021-36

Motion by Councillor Ritsma

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT CA-2021-007, being a Resolution from the Township of South Glengarry in support of Bill 156 to protect all Ontario farm families and food processors, be endorsed.

A member raised concern about endorsing this resolution, stating that it has been struck down elsewhere and is opposed by Humane Society International Canada. A second member stated that the bill feels unnecessary and that there are other, more important, animal welfare bills and regulations that need attention.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

13. New Business:

13.1 Avon River Skating

A member inquired as to the possibility of clearing snow off the ice on the Avon river for skating once COVID-19 restrictions are reduced. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that staff would review and report back to Council.

14. Adjournment to Standing Committees:

The next Regular Council meeting is February 8, 2020 in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

R2021-37

Motion by Councillor Sebben

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT the Council meeting adjourn to convene into Standing Committees as follows:

- **Planning and Heritage Committee [3:05 p.m. or thereafter following the Regular Council meeting];**
- **Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee [3:10 p.m. or thereafter following the Regular Council meeting];**

and to Committee of the Whole if necessary, and to reconvene into Council.

Carried

15. Council Reconvene:

15.1 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest made at Standing Committees

The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the Act.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest made at Standing Committee meetings held on January 25, 2021 with respect to the following Items and re-stated at the reconvene portion of the Council meeting:

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of pecuniary interest were made by a member at the January 25, 2021 Reconvene Council meeting.

15.2 Committee Reports

15.2.1 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee

R2021-38

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT Item 4.1 of the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee meeting dated January 25, 2021 be adopted as follows:

4.1 Noise By-law Exemption for Lake Victoria Footbridge Replacement (T-2020-43) (ITS21-001)

THAT an exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 be granted to McLean Taylor Construction Limited to facilitate construction for the Lake Victoria Footbridge Replacement project, under the operation of construction equipment provision (Schedule 2 clause 5) from 7:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. on date(s) to be determined subject to the approval of the Director of Infrastructure and Development Services.

Carried

15.3 Reading of the By-laws (reconvene):

The following By-law required First and Second Readings and Third and Final Readings:

By-law 11.6 - Confirmatory By-law 09-2021

To confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford at its meeting held on January 25, 2021.

R2021-39

Motion by Councillor Sebben

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT By-law 09-2021 be read a First and Second Time.

Carried two-thirds support

R2021-40

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Ritsma

THAT By-law 09-2021 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.

Carried

15.4 Adjournment of Council Meeting

R2021-41

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the January 25, 2021 Regular Council meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 3:00 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:12 P.M.

Reconvene Meeting Start Time: 4:22 P.M.

Reconvene Meeting End Time: 4:24 P.M.

Mayor - Daniel B. Mathieson

Clerk - Tatiana Dafoe