



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Social Services Committee MINUTES

Date: Monday, September 23, 2024
Time: 7:34 P.M.
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Committee Present: Councillor Briscoe - Chair Presiding, Mayor Ritsma, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Biehn, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Hunter, Councillor McCabe, Councillor Nijjar, Councillor Wordofa

Regrets: Councillor Henderson and Councillor Sebben

Staff Present: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Karmen Krueger - Director of Corporate Services, Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure Services, Adam Betteridge - Director of Building and Planning Services, Neil Anderson - Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief, Michael Mousley - Transit Manager, Jeff Wilson - Manager of Housing, Audrey Pascual - Deputy Clerk, Shannon Archer - Business Integration Manager, Alex Burgess - Manager of Ontario Works, Kelly Stone - Supervisor of Housing

Also Present: Members of the Public and Media

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

2. Disclosure 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 otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made by a member at the September 23, 2024 Social Services Committee meeting.

3. Sub-committee Minutes

There were no Sub-committee minutes to be provided.

4. Delegations

None scheduled.

5. Report of the Director of Social Services

5.1 Annual Community Income Tax Clinic for Completion of 2023 Returns (SOC24-009)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the City of Stratford issue a thank you to all businesses that provided their support and services during the Annual Community Income Tax Clinic.

Committee Discussion: The Business Integration Manager provided the Committee with an update on the annual community income tax clinic serving low-income residents of the City of Stratford, Town of St. Marys, and County of Perth. The Business Integration Manager noted that for this year, 124 returns were completed free of charge by two local accounting firms.

Motion by Mayor Ritsma

Seconded by Councillor Biehn

Committee Recommendation: THAT the City of Stratford issue a thank you to all businesses that provided their support and services during the Annual Community Income Tax Clinic.

Carried

5.2 Introduction to Quarterly Infographics (SOC24-010)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Introduction to Quarterly Infographics" (SOC24-010), be received for information.

Committee Discussion: The Manager of Housing provided an overview of the staff report which pertains to a series of infographics about key statistics relating to Housing, Ontario Works, and Children Services for the City of Stratford, Town of St. Marys, and County of Perth.

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Seconded by Councillor Nijjar

Committee Recommendation: **THAT the report titled, "Introduction to Quarterly Infographics" (SOC24-010), be received for information.**

Carried

6. Report of the Supervisor of Social Services Housing

6.1 Supported Transitional Housing Pilot Project (SOC24-011)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Supported Transitional Housing Pilot Project" (SOC24-011), be received for information.

Committee Discussion: The Supervisor of Social Services for Housing provided an overview of the staff report on the Supported Transitional Housing Pilot Project in select units in the Perth and Stratford Housing Corporation.

Motion by Councillor Biehn

Seconded by Councillor Hunter

Committee Recommendation: **THAT the report titled, "Supported Transitional Housing Pilot Project" (SOC24-011), be received for information.**

Carried

7. Report of the Manager of Ontario Works

7.1 Updated Fixed Site Supported Housing Agreements (SOC24-008)

Staff Recommendation: THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into an agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron-Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services for the operation of the North Perth Fixed Site Supported Housing program;

THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into an agreement with Little Lake Residential for the operation of the St. Marys Fixed Site Supported Housing program;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreements with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron-Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services and Little Lake Residential on behalf of The Corporation of the City of Stratford.

Committee Discussion: The Manager of Ontario Works provided an overview of the staff report on the updates to the Fixed Site Supported Housing Agreements.

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Seconded by Councillor Biehn

Committee Recommendation: THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into an agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron-Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services for the operation of the North Perth Fixed Site Supported Housing program;

THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into an agreement with Little Lake Residential for the operation of the St. Marys Fixed Site Supported Housing program;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreements with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron-Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services and Little Lake Residential on behalf of The Corporation of the City of Stratford.

Carried

8. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor McCabe

Seconded by Councillor Wordofa

Committee Decision: THAT the Social Services Committee meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 7:34 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 7:42 P.M.