



**The Corporation of the City of Stratford  
Committee of the Whole In-camera Session  
Minutes**

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held in In-camera Session on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 1 Wellington Street, Stratford, ON N5A 6W1 at 5:30 p.m.

**Council Present:** Mayor Ritsma - Chair presiding, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Biehn, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Henderson, Councillor McCabe, Councillor Nijjar, Councillor Sebben and Councillor Wordofa

**Regrets:** Councillor Hunter and Councillor Briscoe

**Staff Present:** Joan Thomson – Chief Administrative Officer, Tatiana Dafoe – City Clerk, Audrey Pascual – Deputy Clerk, Karmen Krueger – Director of Corporate Services, Kim McElroy – Director of Social Services, Taylor Crinklaw – Director of Infrastructure Services, Tim Wolfe – Director of Community Services, Neil Anderson – Director of Emergency Services / Fire Chief, Adam Betteridge – Director of Building and Planning Services, Dave Bush – Director of Human Resources, Paula Lombardi – City Solicitor

Prior to going to In-camera session, Item 1.0 was dealt with in open session.

Call to Order by Mayor Ritsma

**1.0 Adjournment into In-camera Session**

Councillor Hunter and Councillor Briscoe provided regrets for this meeting.

Motion by Councillor Nijjar and Councillor Henderson

**THAT the meeting adjourn to an In-camera Session to discuss:**

- 4.1 Confidential Report of the Chief Administrative Officer with respect to the Proposed Disposition of Land - 270 Water Street (CM-24-01) – proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land s. 239(2)(c) 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))**
- 4.2 Confidential Report of the Chief Administrative Officer with respect to a Shared Services Agreement (CM-24-02) – 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))**

Councillor Sebben advised he was opposed to going in-camera for Item 4.1. Councillor Sebben stated discussion or direction on the disposition of 270 Water Street, the Discovery Centre, should take place in open session. Councillor Sebben requested a recorded vote be taken.

Councillor Henderson asked the City Solicitor to comment on considering this matter in-camera.

The City Solicitor advised it has been a standard procedure in terms of going in-camera when it relates to the disposition of property under section 239.(2)(c). It is well within Council's ability to go in In-camera in terms of discussing disposition of property. In terms of case law on this matter, it supports going into in-camera for negotiations and costing as it relates to the sale of the property. Generally, the purpose is to have full and frank discussion in closed session prior to making a determination in open session on whether or not to dispose of municipal property.

A recorded vote was taken.

In Support (7): Councillor Biehn, Councillor McCabe, Mayor Ritsma, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Nijjar, and Councillor Burbach

Opposed (2): Councillor Sebben and Councillor Wordofa

Absent (2): Councillor Briscoe and Councillor Hunter

**Carried**

The meeting then adjourned to an In-camera Session at 5:35 p.m.