



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Social Services Committee

MINUTES

Date: Monday, January 27, 2025
Time: 8:12 P.M.
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

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

Staff Present: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Karmen Krueger - Director of Corporate Services, Tim Wolfe - Director of Community Services, Adam Betteridge - Director of Building and Planning Services, Dave Bush - Director of Human Resources, Chris Van Bargaen - Deputy Fire Chief, Audrey Pascual - Deputy Clerk, Nancy Roulston - Manager of Engineering

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

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest made by a member at the January 27, 2025 Social Services Committee meeting.

3. Sub-committee Minutes

Sub-committee minutes were provided for background regarding the discussion held at the January 14, 2025, Sub-committee meeting.

4. Delegations

None scheduled

5. Report of the Manager of Ontario Works

5.1 Ontario Works 2024 Business Plan (SOC25-001)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Ontario Works 2024 Business Plan" (SOC25-001), be received for information.

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Ontario Works 2024 Business Plan" (SOC25-001), be received for information.

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

Committee Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Ontario Works 2024 Business Plan" (SOC25-001), be received for information.

Carried

5.2 CMHA Outreach Worker Service Agreement (SOC25-002)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into a three-year agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services for the provision of services defined in the Outreach Worker Service Agreement;

THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Outreach Worker Service Agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to approve any contract amendments, subject to no changes to the financial considerations or identified performance concerns, for the duration of the

contract and subject to providing the City Clerk with any approved contract amendments.

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into a three-year agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services for the provision of services defined in the Outreach Worker Service Agreement;

THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Outreach Worker Service Agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to approve any contract amendments, subject to no changes to the financial considerations or identified performance concerns, for the duration of the contract and subject to providing the City Clerk with any approved contract amendments.

Motion by Mayor Ritsma

Seconded by Councillor Nijjar

Committee Recommendation: THAT the Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into a three-year agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services for the provision of services defined in the Outreach Worker Service Agreement;

THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Outreach Worker Service Agreement with the Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth Addictions and Mental Health Services;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to approve any contract amendments, subject to no changes to the financial considerations or identified performance concerns, for the duration of the contract and subject to providing the City Clerk with any approved contract amendments.

Carried

5.3 Optimism Place Outreach Worker Service Agreement (SOC24-003)

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council authorize The Corporation of the City of Stratford to enter into an agreement with Optimism Place, Women's Shelter, and Support Services for the provision of services defined in the Outreach Worker Service Agreement;

THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Outreach Worker Service Agreement with Optimism Place, Women's Shelter, and Support Services;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to approve any contract amendments, subject to no changes to the financial considerations or identified performance concerns, for the duration of the contract and subject to a copy of any approved amended contract being provided to the City Clerk.

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Council authorize The Corporation of the City of Stratford to enter into an agreement with Optimism Place, Women's Shelter, and Support Services for the provision of services defined in the Outreach Worker Service Agreement;

THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Outreach Worker Service Agreement with Optimism Place, Women's Shelter, and Support Services;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to approve any contract amendments, subject to no changes to the financial considerations or identified performance concerns, for the duration of the contract and subject to a copy of any approved amended contract being provided to the City Clerk.

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Seconded by Councillor Biehn

Committee Recommendation: THAT Council authorize The Corporation of the City of Stratford to enter into an agreement with Optimism Place, Women's Shelter, and Support Services for the provision of services defined in the Outreach Worker Service Agreement;

THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the Outreach Worker Service Agreement with Optimism Place, Women's Shelter, and Support Services;

AND THAT the Director of Social Services be authorized to approve any contract amendments, subject to no changes to the financial considerations or identified performance concerns, for the duration of the contract and subject to a copy of any approved amended contract being provided to the City Clerk.

Carried

6. For the Information of Committee

6.1 Department Update

The following Department Update Infographics of November 2024 were provided for the information of Committee:

- Monthly Children's Services Report
- Monthly Homelessness Report
- Monthly Housing Report
- Monthly Ontario Works Report

Committee Discussion: Members of Council and the Director of Social Services held a discussion with respect to:

- the numbers for Stratford being noted separately in the monthly reports; and,
- the Mayor thanking Social Services staff for their work in providing emergency shelters during this winter.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

Committee Decision: THAT the Social Services Committee meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 8:12 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 8:17 P.M.