



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee MINUTES

Date: March 26, 2025

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Burbach - Chair Presiding, Councillor Nijjar - Vice Chair, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Hunter, Councillor McCabe

Staff Present: Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure Services, Audrey Pascual - Deputy Clerk, Neil Anderson - Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief, Miranda Franken - Council Clerk Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

Respectful Conduct Statement

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 March 26, 2025 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Report of the Manager of Environmental Services

4.1 2024 Annual Water Summary Report to Council (ITS25-005)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the 2024 Water Summary Report (ITS25-005) be received by City Council in accordance with the compliance standards set out in Ontario Regulation 170/03.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Infrastructure Services reviewed the report, highlighting the following:

- the report meeting Ministry regulation requirements as the stewards for Stratford's drinking water system;
- results contained meeting with previous year's results;
- the noted Adverse Drinking Water Quality Incident identifying anomalies during sampling, with resamples having no issue;
- the city receiving 91% approval rating for the auditing indicating high compliance with requirements; and
- minor administrative elements identified with staff intending to improve on these to achieve a higher approval rating.

Discussion on this matter occurred between Sub-committee and Staff. Highlights of the discussion included:

- a member inquired about the capacity at the water treatment plant and the general variance of the capacity that can be accommodated;
- the City water treatment being processed through pump and treat chlorination in water well systems;
- wastewater capacity being significant to accommodate high flows with an older system creating issue with high infiltration inflow, for example during heavy rain or ground thaw events;

- the current mechanism for a significant spike in water received by the plant and exceeding capacity being an overflow storm chamber tank which treats the water before discharging back into the environment;
- no capacity concerns for day to day waste use;
- sewer lining programs and reconstruction helping to minimize infiltration and inflow; and
- much infrastructure to be replaced with sewer video inspection program to identify priority areas for the sewer lining programs.

Motion by Councillor Hunter

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the 2024 Water Summary Report (ITS25-005) be received by City Council in accordance with the compliance standards set out in Ontario Regulation 170/03.

Carried

4.2 2024 Stratford Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Annual Report (ITS25-007)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the 2024 Stratford Water Pollution Control Plant Annual Report be received by City Council for information.

Sub-committee Discussion: Discussion on this matter occurred between Sub-committee and Staff. Highlights of the discussion included:

- a member asked if the influent data regarding the BOD5 averaging 132% of the design capacity presents a problem;
- staff to look into this further;
- a member noted both the suspended solids and TKN also nearing capacity;
- staff noting the Waste Pollution Control Plant having significant capabilities;
- items close to exceeding design constraints can indicate improvements needed to the existing system;
- an aging structure in the plant being the grit separator, resulting in suspended solids etc. not being effectively captured initially, this

being equipment being up for capital renewal in either 2025 or 2026, dependent on the digester;

- as aging components requiring rehabilitation are addressed, improvements in reductions and more effective treatment are expected;
- staff to provide a fulsome response at Committee;
- the Digester Roof still on going;
- staff were not receiving clear messaging from a third party regarding how much of the cost can be provided by the insurance agency and have set up a meeting directly with the agency; and
- this being the delay and a critical point in the decision making.

Motion by Councillor Nijjar

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the 2024 Stratford Water Pollution Control Plant Annual Report be received by City Council for information.

Carried

5. Report of the Events Coordinator

5.1 Request for an Exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for the Caribbean and African Day Event (ITS25-006)

Staff Recommendation: THAT direction be given on the noise exemption requested by the Multicultural Association for the Caribbean and African Day event on Sunday, May 25, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. from the following provisions:

- Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and from 7:00 p.m. of one day to 7:00 a.m. the next day;
- Unreasonable noise provision [Schedule 1, Clause 8];
- Loading and unloading [Schedule 2 clause 4].

Motion by Councillor McCabe

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT direction be given on the noise exemption requested by the Multicultural Association for the Caribbean and African Day event on Sunday, May 25, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. from the following provisions:

- **Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and from 7:00 p.m. of one day to 7:00 a.m. the next day;**
- **Unreasonable noise provision [Schedule 1, Clause 8];**
- **Loading and unloading [Schedule 2 clause 4].**

Carried

6. Department Update

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Infrastructure Services provided the following highlights from the department update:

- pot hole maintenance in process with an online 'Report an Issue' form being on the Public Works page of the City website for residents to submit issues that create next day work orders;
- staff focus being on tendering for reconstruction general contracts and fleet going out;
- the waste survey is now closed with over 1000 surveys completed, and a dozen pages of comments, this being the second highest survey response received;
- staff moving waste services to a request for proposal phase based on the comments received in the survey, hoping for varying options with pricing to be provided;
- staff reviewing a mechanical arm cart system with one impact for this system being inefficiency to provide bag tags;
- a fulsome report to come back to Sub-committee in May with options and survey results;
- Erie Street parking lot construction scheduled for a mid to late April start;
- staff beginning communications with business owners to coordinate necessary accommodation for deliveries;

- the Environmental Consultation Phase 1 completed for the site with fulsome evaluation of historical uses identified;
- for residential consideration on the site, a Phase 2 being required including drilling, wells and a monitoring period to evaluate risk management measures in developing;
- staff reviewing pricing for a Phase 2 to determine next steps;
- following this, staff to review engagement with the area and options for moving discussion on easements forward; and
- engineering filling in for accessibility staff during this transition period with the Director of Infrastructure Services being the Interim Accessibility Steering Committee Chair and questions or concerns regarding current accessibility services being directed to their office.

Discussion on this matter occurred between Sub-committee and Staff. Highlights of the discussion included:

- a Phase 2 Environmental Report being required by the ministry to provide assurances;
- this phase being the physical investigation of the site to indicate potential contaminants at time of development;
- staff noting should 1 to 2 years pass before proceeding, a second Phase 2 will be required;
- this not being costly or onerous and expediting the readiness of the site when requesting proposals;
- past businesses on the site including tanneries, ink press, coal, hardware store, sewing shop, fabric shop with a Phase 2 focus on buried fuel tanks and heating tanks that could remain from an auto shop using the Phase 1 comprehensive list for targeted physical inspection;
- staff not anticipating a significant impact but required to proceed to provide confirmation;
- the resurfacing of the Erie lot being phased with the construction plan for the lower Erie lot first and moving to the upper lot to support the grading; and

- staff noting in 2022 Council authorized procurement of the Cities platform aerial fire truck for 1.8 million dollars, with the same type of truck having been recently sold for 2.7 million dollars and Council having gotten an amazing deal.

7. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

The following Advisory Committee Minutes were provided for the information of Sub-committee:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of January 7, 2025
- Active Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes of January 22, 2025
- Energy & Environment Advisory Committee Minutes of February 6, 2025

7.1 On-Street Parking on John Street

Advisory Committee Recommendation: THAT the Active Transportation Advisory Committee requests Council direct staff to investigate the possibility of removing the parking lane and installing bike lanes on John Street South between Queensland Road and West Gore Street;

AND THAT all required by-law amendments be made.

Sub-committee Discussion: Members discussed a motion made by the Active Transportation Advisory Committee at the January 22, 2025 meeting, regarding item 9.1 "On Street Parking on John Street";

- a member noting a parking lane having been added in the reconstruction of John Street to reduce the width of the road as a traffic calming measure; and
- the member noting the parking lane is not often used and bike lanes on either side could possibly slow traffic as well.

Motion by Councillor Hunter

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Staff be directed to investigate the possibility of removing the parking lane and installing bike lanes on John Street South between Queensland Road and West Gore Street;

AND THAT all required by-law amendments be made.

Carried

8. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting is April 30, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Nijjar

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 4:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:54 P.M.