



## **Stratford City Council Special Council Open Session MINUTES**

Meeting #: 4779th  
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025  
Time: 5:00 P.M.  
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

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

Regrets: Councillor Biehn, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Sebben

Staff Present: Adam Betteridge – Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Karmen Krueger – Director of Corporate Services, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Audrey Pascual - Deputy Clerk

Also Present: Member of the Public

### **1. Call to Order:**

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

Councillor Biehn and Councillor Henderson provided regrets for this meeting.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

Respectful Conduct Statement

## **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 Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest made by a Member at the August 13, 2025, Special Council meeting.

## **3. Adjournment into Closed Session:**

R2025-367

**Motion by** Councillor Beatty

**Seconded by** Councillor McCabe

**THAT Council move into closed session to consider the following matter:**

**4.1 Confidential Report of the Chief Executive Officer of Festival Hydro with respect to a commercial matter (CM-25-18) - A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization (section 239.(2)(i)); 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)).**

**Carried**

The Special Council meeting adjourned to a closed session at 5:03 p.m.

The Special Council meeting reconvened at 5:47 p.m.

#### **4. Closed Meeting Summary**

At the In-camera Session, direction was given to the CEO of Festival Hydro Inc. on Item 4.1, "Confidential Report of the Chief Executive Officer of Festival Hydro with respect to a commercial matter (CM-25-18)."

#### **5. Report of the Director of Corporate Services**

##### **5.1 Resolution - Proposed 2026 Multi-Year Budget Process and Tentative Schedule (COU25-104)**

R2025-368

**Motion by** Councillor Hunter

**Seconded by** Councillor Wordofa

**THAT the report titled, "Proposed 2026 Budget Process and Tentative Schedule (COU25-104), dated August 13, 2025, be received;**

**AND THAT Council provide direction regarding any changes to the budget survey and/or public engagement format preference;**

**THAT Council provide staff with any specific known initiatives to be brought forward for consideration by the Mayor, changes or additions to capital projects identified in the current 10-year capital forecasts, and changes in service levels or activities to advance the approved strategic priority goals it wishes to be considered for the 2026 fiscal year, if any at this time;**

**THAT Council reduce the period as set out in subsection 7(3) of O. Reg. 530/22 to pass a resolution making an amendment to the proposed budget from 30 days to 15 days;**

**AND THAT Council reduce the period as set out in subsection 7(10) of O. Reg. 530/22 to override the head of council's veto of an amendment to the proposed budget from 15 days to 7 days.**

**Carried**

#### **6. Reading of the By-laws:**

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

### 6.1 Confirmatory By-law 104-2025

To confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford at its meeting held on August 13, 2025.

R2025-369

**Motion by** Councillor Beatty

**Seconded by** Councillor Nijjar

**THAT By-law 104-2025 be read a First and Second Time.**

**Carried** two-thirds support

R2025-370

**Motion by** Councillor Hunter

**Seconded by** Councillor Burbach

**THAT By-law 104-2025 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.**

**Carried**

## 7. **Adjournment:**

R2025-371

**Motion by** Councillor McCabe

**Seconded by** Councillor Briscoe

**THAT the August 13, 2025, Special Council Meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 5:00 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 5:50 P.M.

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Mayor - Martin Ritsma

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Clerk - Tatiana Dafoe