



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

Meeting #: 4615th  
Date: Monday, May 25, 2020  
Time: 3:00 P.M.  
Location: Electronically

Council Present on Chambers: Mathieson - Chair Presiding, Councillor

Council Present Electronically: Councillor Beatty, Councillor Bunting, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Clifford, \*Councillor Gaffney, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Ingram, Councillor Ritsma, \*Councillor Sebben, \*Councillor Vassilakos

Staff Present in Council Chambers: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Mike Beitz - Corporate Communications Lead

Staff Present Electronically: David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, Ed Dujlovic - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, Jacqueline Mockler - Director of Human Resources, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Janice Beirness - Acting Director of Corporate Services, Stephanie Potter - Policy and Research Associate, Quin Malott - Manager of Parks, Forestry and Cemetery, Mike Mousley – Transit Manager, Eden Grodzinski – Manager of Housing, Jeff Wilson – Manager of Children’s Services, Michelle Pinto – Project Engineer

Others Present Electronically: Media

**1. Call to Order:**

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

Moment of Silent Reflection

**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 of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made by a member of Council at the May 25, 2020 Regular Council meeting.

**3. Adoption of the Minutes:**

R2020-229

**Motion by** Councillor Gaffney

**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford dated May 11, 2020 be adopted as printed.**

**Carried**

**4. Adoption of the Addendum to the Agenda:**

There was no Addendum to the May 25, 2020 Regular Council agenda to be adopted.

**5. Report of the Committee of the Whole In-Camera Session:**

**5.1 From the May 11, 2020 Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, a matter concerning the following item was considered:**

Appointment of Director to Stratford Economic Enterprise Development Corporation

[Personal matters about an identifiable individual(s) including municipal employees or local board employees (section 239.(2)(b))]

R2020-230

**Motion by** Councillor Gaffney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Ritsma

**THAT the following be appointed to the Stratford Economic Enterprise Development Corporation Board of Directors for a three-year term to June, 2023, with an option for an additional three years, or until successors are appointed by City Council:**

- **Christine McWebb as the representative for the Education Sector;**

**AND THAT an exemption be granted to the requirement to be an eligible elector.**

**Carried**

**5.2 At the May 25, 2020 Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, matters concerning the following items were considered:**

- Security of municipal property of the municipality or local board (section 239.(2)(a)), 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)).

At the meeting, a second item relating to Labour relations or employee negotiations (section 239.(2)(d)) was considered.

Direction was given on both items.

**6. Hearings of Deputations and Presentations:**

None scheduled.

**7. Orders of the Day:**

**7.1 Resolution - Update on Waste Management Concerns (COU20-059)**

R2020-231

**Motion by** Councillor Beatty  
**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT this report titled Update on Waste Management Concerns (COU20-059) be received for information.**

It was noted there have been lineups at the landfill and a request was made for an extra hour to be provided. The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised a cost estimate would need to be obtained from the contractor and there would need to be an amendment to the certificate of approval.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

R2020-232

**Motion by** Councillor Burbach

**Seconded By** Councillor Sebben

**THAT the extension of the hazardous waste collection landfill hours by 1-2 hours be referred to Infrastructure and Development Services staff for review.**

**Carried**

**7.2 Resolution - Suspension of Festival Hydro Dividends (COU20-060)**

R2020-233

**Motion by** Councillor Bunting

**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT the report entitled "Suspension of Festival Hydro Dividends" (COU20-060) be received for information.**

**Carried**

**7.3 Proclamation - Gay Pride Month**

R2020-234

**Motion by** Councillor Ritsma

**Seconded By** Councillor Vassilakos

**THAT City Council hereby proclaims June 2020 as "Gay Pride Month" in the City of Stratford and authorizes the flying of the Pride Flag at Stratford City Hall for the month of June.**

**Carried**

**7.4 Resolution - 2019 Stratford Water Pollution Control Plant Annual Report (COU20-061)**

R2020-235

**Motion by** Councillor Vassilakos

**Seconded By** Councillor Burbach

**THAT the 2019 Stratford Water Pollution Control Plant Annual Report (COU20-061) be received for information.**

**Carried**

**7.5 Resolution - Community Garden at Britannia (COU20-062)**

R2020-236

**Motion by** Councillor Sebben

**Seconded By** Councillor Bunting

**THAT the report "Community Garden at Britannia" (COU20-062) be received as information by Council.**

Discussion was held on the feasibility of installing a temporary garden for use by the residents. Issues such as a lack of water and storage were noted.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

**7.6 Resolution - Emergency Child Care to Support Eligible Workers in Stratford, Perth and St. Marys – Town of St. Marys (COU20-063)**

R2020-237

**Motion by** Councillor Ritsma

**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT the Report "Emergency Child Care to Support Eligible Workers in Stratford, Perth and St. Marys – Town of St. Marys" (COU20-063) be accepted for information;**

**THAT Council authorize the Director of Social Services and Chief Administrative Officer to approve temporary emergency day care centres that have received approval from the Ministry of Education and Huron Perth Public Health and to enter into any Memorandums of Understanding for Temporary Emergency Daycares that may be required within the City of Stratford, Town**

**of St. Marys and Perth County during the Declaration of Emergency;**

**AND THAT Council amend Delegation of Authority By-law 135-2017 as amended to authorize this delegation of authority.**

Discussion was held on how these sites are operating. The Director of Social Services advised these sites have been operating well and have received positive results.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

**7.7 Resolution - Active Transportation on Lakeside Drive (COU20-064)**

R2020-238

**Motion by** Councillor Burbach

**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT the information provided in this report titled Active Transportation on Lakeside Drive (COU20-064) be received.**

**Carried**

A request was made to proceed with option #2, a full closure of Lakeside Drive on weekends only. It was further requested that the Queen Street parking lot be opened for use and that the parking spaces closest to the river be designated accessible parking spaces. Concerns were expressed regarding the number of cyclists riding on the path and the number of persons idling while parked along Lakeside Drive. A request was made for signage to be installed advised that individuals on wheels should be on the road and not the pathway.

R2020-239

**Motion by** Councillor Burbach

**Seconded by** Councillor Vassilakos

THAT Option 2, a full closure of Lakeside Drive on weekends from Saturday morning to Sunday evening be approved:

AND THAT the Queen Street parking lot be opened for use and the parking spaces closest to the river be designated accessible parking spaces.

Support for the weekend closure of Lakeside Drive was expressed. This is an opportunity to test drive weekend closures to see how it works and to leverage outdoor spaces for residents and visitors.

Concern was expressed with the full closure of Lakeside Drive. Accessibility concerns were outlined. It was suggested a portion of Lakeside Drive be closed with one lane open for vehicles.

Support for active transportation and a partial closure was expressed. Concern was expressed that the opening of the Queen Street parking lot and designating accessible spaces near the river will not achieve objectives as many seniors do not have accessible parking permits and will not be able to utilize these spaces. It was noted many seniors like to drive past and enjoy the riverside. Concern with limiting the demographics of this motion was noted. A request was made to review street closures in the core where people can be active and shop downtown.

It was questioned how the closure will work and what sort of staffing is required. The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised staff would be required to set up barricades to close the road. Due to the requested hours this work would be completed as part of overtime. Advertising of the closure would be required and there would need to be spot checks scheduled throughout the day.

Concern was expressed that many individuals drive along the river and do not have the ability to stop and walk. It was suggested the road does not need to be closed. The concern expressed in the report by Stratford Police Services was highlighted and it was suggested enforcement would be required. More information on enforcement was requested.

The importance of outdoor spaces going forward was noted. It was suggested the City needs to leverage the parks system as a selling feature to attract tourists.

\*Councillor Vassilakos departed the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

The purpose of the initiative was highlighted. This initiative encourages active transportation and for people to actively move through the space. A limit on weekends ensures users can drive along the road during the week.

\*Councillor Sebben departed and returned to the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

\*Councillor Gaffney departed and returned to the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

A request was made by the mover to amend the motion to approve the closure of Lakeside Drive from Waterloo Street to Queen Street in both directions and to close the west bound lane on Lakeside Drive from the bottom of Snake Hill to Queen Street. A division between east and west bound lane would be required. It was suggested the closure could also end at Queen Street and permit two-way traffic for the remainder of the road. The need for signage was highlighted.

It was requested the closure be completed during staff hours and that it commence on Fridays in the evening until Monday mornings.

\*Councillor Vassilakos returned to the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Concern was expressed with installing and removing the barricades each week. Discussion was held on the options for closing Lakeside Drive at specific intersections.

It was questioned when this closure would end and a request was made for this initiative to proceed until the end of 2020. Discussion was held on previous closures of Lakeside Drive and the addition of parking during the hockey season.

A request was made for a recorded vote.

Concern with completing this initiative properly to ensure safety was expressed. It was suggested a full closure would be safer. It was noted staff would review the details for the closure and prepare a further report for Council's consideration.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion as amended as follows:

**THAT the closure of both lanes of traffic (east and west) on Lakeside Drive from Waterloo Street to Queen Street on weekends from Friday evenings until Monday mornings, until the end of 2020, be approved in principle;**

**AND THAT staff prepare a report outlining a plan for the closure of Lakeside Drive, including information on signage, availability of parking at the Allman Arena and the Queen Street parking lot for use by vehicles and costs associated with the closure.**



Support (10): Councillor Bunting, Councillor Vassilakos, Councillor Ingram, Councillor Burbach, Mayor Mathieson, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Ritsma, Councillor Clifford, Councillor Gaffney

Opposed (1): Councillor Sebben

**Carried**

**7.8 Resolution - 2020 Building Inspection Budget (COU20-065)**

R2020-240

**Motion by** Councillor Vassilakos

**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT this report titled 2020 Building Inspection Budget (COU20-065) be received for information.**

**Carried**

**7.9 Resolution - Stratford Soldier's War Memorial Restoration (COU20-066)**

R2020-241

**Motion by** Councillor Gaffney

**Seconded By** Councillor Beatty

**THAT the City undertakes the restoration of the Stratford Soldier's War Memorial using the grant awarded by Veterans Affairs Canada's Commemorative Partnership Program Community War Memorial Fund and the Community Services Department parks facilities improvement budget;**

**THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to enter into a Contribution Agreement with Veterans Affairs Canada to carry out the memorial restoration project;**

**AND THAT Council grants an exemption from the Purchasing Policy to award the restoration work directly to Andersons Cemetery Contracting.**

It was clarified the subject memorial is the Cenotaph.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

**7.10 Resolution - COVID-19 Financial Position of the City Update (COU20-067)**

R2020-242

**Motion by** Councillor Clifford

**Seconded By** Councillor Burbach

**THAT Council receives the COVID-19 Financial Position of the City Update (COU20-067) report for information.**

**Carried**

**7.11 Resolution - Parking and COVID-19 (COU20-069)**

It was suggested the charging of the daily rental rates for meter hoods is penalizing businesses in the downtown core attempting to provide services with a new model. A request was made for the daily rental rates for meter hood rentals by businesses in the downtown core be withdrawn and that they continue to be required to remit the refundable deposit. It was clarified the waiver of the rental rates would apply for two meter hoods per business.

R2020-243

**Motion by** Councillor Ingram

**Seconded By** Councillor Henderson

**THAT the daily rental rates for meter hood rentals for businesses in the downtown core be waived until August 30, 2020;**

**AND THAT the waiver of rental rates apply to two (2) meter hood rentals per business.**

**Carried**

R2020-244

**Motion by** Councillor Burbach

**Seconded By** Councillor Henderson

**THAT free parking be extended until August 30, 2020;**

**AND THAT current parking permits that have been issued remain valid until August 30, 2020.**

Concern was expressed that the provision of free parking will result in a lack of on-street parking spaces for residents and visitors. A request was made for the City to work with stakeholders on a communication encouraging the use of parking lots by downtown workers.

**Carried**

**7.12 Resolution - Resolution for Urgent Emergency Transit Funding (COU20-070)**

R2020-245

**Motion by** Councillor Ritsma

**Seconded By** Councillor Gaffney

**THAT The Canadian Urban Transit Association's resolution requesting emergency funding from the Government of Canada to provide immediate liquidity to transit agencies and on-going funding to alleviate revenue loss as ridership re-builds, be endorsed;**

**AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Transport Canada, the Minister of Finance Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Member of Parliament for Perth-Wellington, Member of Provincial Parliament for Perth-Wellington and all Ontario municipalities.**

**Carried**

**8. Business for Which Previous Notice Has Been Given:**

None scheduled.

**9. Notice of Intent:**

None scheduled.

\*The meeting moved to Item 12 – New Business.

**10. Reading of the By-laws:**

The following By-laws, including the Confirmatory By-law, required First and Second Readings and Third and Final Readings and were taken collectively upon unanimous vote of Council present:

R2020-246

**Motion by** Councillor Ritsma

**Seconded By** Councillor Beatty

**THAT By-laws 69-2020 to 72-2020 be taken collectively.**

**Carried unanimously**

R2020-247

**Motion by** Councillor Henderson

**Seconded By** Councillor Ingram

**THAT By-laws 69-2020 to 72-2020 be read a First and Second Time.**

**Carried** two-thirds support

R2020-248

**Motion by** Councillor Gaffney

**Seconded By** Councillor Burbach

**THAT By-laws 69-2020 to 72-2020 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.**

**Carried**

### **10.1 Appointments to Seed Co. - By-law 69-2020**

To amend By-law 178-2018 to make appointments to the Stratford Economic Enterprise Development Corporation.

### **10.2 Amend Delegation of Authority By-law 135-2017 with respect to Approval of Temporary Emergency Daycares during a Declaration of Emergency - By-law 70-2020**

To amend By-law 135-2017 to delegate Council's authority to the Director of Social Services and the Chief Administrative Officer to approve temporary emergency day care centres that have received approval from the Ministry of Education and Huron Perth Public Health and to enter into any Memorandums of Understanding for Temporary Emergency Day Cares that may be required within the City of Stratford, Town of St. Marys and Perth County during the Declaration of Emergency.

### **10.3 Commemorative Partnership Program Contribution Agreement with Ministry of Veterans Affairs - By-law 71-2020**

To authorize the entering into and execution of a Commemorative Partnership Program Contribution Agreement, and any other necessary documentation, between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Minister of Veterans Affairs and The Corporation of the City of Stratford to carry out the restoration of the Stratford Soldier's War Memorial.

**11. Consent Agenda: CA-2020-052 to CA-2020-053**

**11.1 CA-2020-053 - Huron and Huntingdon Pedestrian Crossing Update**

It was questioned whether the construction of the pedestrian crossing at Huron and Huntingdon will be affected by the proposed construction. The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised there will not be any changes with its location and that staff do not see an issue.

**12. New Business:**

**12.1 Active Transportation**

It was noted there have been discussions on promoting active transportation as a way for people to get around the City and to work. In addition, the Federal Government has discussed the potential for specifically funding active transportation and cycling projects.

A number of active transportation projects have been approved by Council, but deferred in order to complete required pedestrian crossing work around schools. It was requested that shovel ready projects be identified so that the City can apply for any funding that becomes available. It was noted this is also a good time to complete construction.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised staff are compiling a list of projects that could be eligible. A request was made for the T.J. Dolan closure from St. Vincent Street be added to the project list. The Director advised it is but that it would be subject to approval of the closure.

**12.2 Public Washrooms in Parks - Re-opening Update**

An update was requested on the re-opening of public washrooms in the parks system. The Director of Human Resources advised staff have developed a phased-in approach for the re-opening of public washrooms. Prior to the re-opening there will need to be consultation with the City employee unions.

**12.3 Transit Shelters**

A request was made for transit shelters and benches to be constructed in a manner which would permit social distancing.

R2020-249

**Motion by** Councillor Gaffney

**Seconded By** Councillor Burbach

**THAT the construction of transit shelters and benches to permit social distancing be referred to staff in Community Services for review.**

**Carried**

#### **12.4 Classification of Lakeside Drive**

It was questioned how the sidewalk on Lakeside Drive is classified. The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised it is classified as a trail.

#### **12.5 Stratford Tourism Alliance Report Update**

An update was requested on the report to be provided by the Stratford Tourism Alliance. The Acting Director of Corporate Services advised a report was submitted in May. Efficiencies were identified, however they are still projecting a deficit. It was noted a further report with additional efficiencies is anticipated.

\*The meeting then moved to Item 10 – By-laws and Item 11 – Consent Agenda.

### **13. Confirmatory By-law:**

#### **By-law 10.4 Confirmatory By-law - By-law 72-2020**

To confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford at its meeting held on May 25, 2020.

### **14. Adjournment:**

The next Regular Council meeting is June 8, 2020.

R2020-250

**Motion by** Councillor Vassilakos

**Seconded By** Councillor Bunting

**THAT the May 25, 2020 Regular Council meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 3:00 P.M.  
Meeting End Time: 4:09 P.M.

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Mayor - Daniel B. Mathieson

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Clerk – Tatiana Dafoe