



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

Date: November 25, 2020
Time: 3:30 P.M.
Location: Electronically

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Vassilakos - Chair Presiding, Councillor Burbach - Vice Chair, Councillor Gaffney

Regrets: Councillor Ingram, Councillor Sebben

Staff Present: Ed Dujlovic - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Jodi Akins - Council Clerk Secretary, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk, Johnny Bowes - Manager of Environmental Services

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

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made by a member at the November 25, 2020 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Report of the Manager of Environmental Services

4.1 Water, Sanitary and Storm Service Ownership Policies and Subsidy Program (ITS20-025)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the following Policies be approved:

S.1.6 Sanitary Service Ownership

S.1.7 Storm Service Ownership

W.1.1 Water Service Ownership

S.1.8 Sanitary Service Subsidy Program General Requirements

S.1.9 Sanitary Service Subsidy Program during reconstruction

S.1.10 Upgrade of Sanitary Service Under the Subsidy Program;

AND THAT the following Sections of Policy S.1.3 Installation or Replacement of Private Sanitary Connections be rescinded:

- S.1.3.3 and S.1.3.4

Sub-committee Discussion: The Manager of Environmental Services advised that the purpose of the report and attached policies is to clarify ownership of residential and commercial water, sanitary and storm services as it is often misunderstood by owners.

The City currently does not have a policy that clearly outlines ownership and responsibility. The Manager suggested adoption of the proposed policies to assist staff with delivering consistent messaging to residents.

With respect to the proposed policies, three are in reference to ownership of services and three are regarding the subsidy program. The City has had a subsidy program in some form since 2001 and the updated policies will bring the program up to date with current construction costs and new technologies.

The Manager advised that should these policies be adopted by Council, the Corporate Communications Lead will create a communication for residents explaining the policies. It was noted by Sub-committee that graphics are appreciated.

The Manager responded to questions with respect to settling of soil around the curb box and how to handle a sewage back-up.

A member advised that as part of a past study on future storm water management, there was discussion about requiring homeowners to disconnect private connections from their buildings into the storm water management system. It was questioned whether that program still exists. The Manager responded that a policy was created between 2003-2005, separate from these proposed policies, called downspout disconnect. There is also a subsidy for owners to disconnect weeping tile or sump pumps from the sanitary line. He noted that it is difficult because homeowners often do not know there is a cross-connection until there is a problem. Discussion took place about promoting the program to homeowners who may not know about it.

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the following Policies be approved:

S.1.6 Sanitary Service Ownership

S.1.7 Storm Service Ownership

W.1.1 Water Service Ownership

S.1.8 Sanitary Service Subsidy Program General Requirements

S.1.9 Sanitary Service Subsidy Program during reconstruction

S.1.10 Upgrade of Sanitary Service Under the Subsidy Program;

AND THAT the following Sections of Policy S.1.3 Installation or Replacement of Private Sanitary Connections be rescinded:

- **S.1.3.3 and S.1.3.4**

In response to why sewer re-lining cannot occur in a shared connection, the Manager confirmed it is because the sock can only do one pipe and cannot accommodate a "Y" connection. It was noted that all properties should have a private connection anyway.

The Chair called the question on the motion on the floor.

Carried

5. Report of the City Clerk

5.1 Renewal of the Town of Goderich Fire Dispatching Agreement (ITS20-023)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the renewal of the full time fire dispatching services agreement with the Town of Goderich for a period of one year to December 30, 2021.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Fire Chief advised that in 2019 the Town of Goderich requested full time dispatching services. Previously, the City had been providing back-up dispatch services to the Town.

The Town is happy with the service and has requested to extend the agreement for a further year. Staff are seeking approval of the extension.

In response to whether the City provides this service to other municipalities, the Fire Chief advised that they provide this service to approximately 20 municipalities in Perth and Huron counties.

With respect to previous discussion on upgrading dispatch equipment, the Fire Chief advised that they have been working towards it for some time and will be for a while still. There are next generation 911 requirements which set out very specific upgrades that need to be in place by June 2024.

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the renewal of the full time fire dispatching services agreement with the Town of Goderich for a period of one year to December 30, 2021.

Carried

6. Capital Project Update

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services reviewed the highlights of the update as follows:

- O'Loane Avenue is almost complete. A few deficiencies were noted by Canada Post and they are being completed so that Canada Post can resume mail delivery in this area.
- A permit was issued to the contractor by the rail authority for the Erie Street sidewalk section that crosses the rail tracks. The contractor hopes to have it completed in the next week.
- Staff have spoken with the consultant for the Downtown Traffic Study and they are looking at presenting to Sub-committee in January.

- Redford Crescent curb and base asphalt is in. It is anticipated the work will be finished by next week, although landscape restoration will not occur until the spring.
- The design for the Huron Street reconstruction is underway.
- Staff are looking at a January/February presentation on the long term liability study for the landfill.

With respect to operations, staff will continue to advise Council and the Corporate Communications Lead of the winter maintenance response. Staff have also created a new routing map to outline which roads take priority for snow clearing.

In response to whether the intersection at Douglas, Huron and TJ Dolan will be reconfigured as part of the Huron Street reconstruction project, the Director advised that he has not seen any designs yet, but the consultant is looking at all options.

A member noted that when the City purchased the lands that the stormwater management ponds are located on at Lorne Avenue at Downie, it was discussed that a landfill cell could be located there. The Director advised that there is still approximately 25 years of life left in the landfill. It takes 5-7 years to site a new landfill and they cannot presuppose a certain spot. The consultant has suggested looking at requesting permission to take the current landfill higher. Staff continue to do everything they can to extend the life of the current landfill. In response to a question from the Chair with respect to adjacent landowners refusing landfills in other municipalities, the Director advised that those regulations relate to both private and public landfills.

The Chair suggested that the downtown traffic and landfill liability studies be presented to Committee.

7. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

There were no Advisory Committee/Outside Board minutes to be provided

8. New Business

8.1 Energy and Environment Committee Minutes

In response to a question regarding the availability of Energy and Environment Advisory Committee minutes, the Chair advised that they are listed on the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee

agenda once they are adopted by the Energy and Environment Committee.

8.2 Safety Concerns at Romeo and Devon Street Intersection

A Sub-committee member advised a resident expressed a concern related to pedestrians crossing the intersection at Romeo Street and Devon Street. The Director advised he is aware of the issue and reviewed the warrant process for counting traffic and pedestrian volumes. The warrant results will advise which type of pedestrian crossing would be permitted, if necessary. Staff will be completing counts in the summer.

8.3 Litter on Forman Avenue

A Sub-committee member advised a number of residents have expressed concerns relating to a large amount of litter on Forman Avenue. It is suspected the litter is from student traffic at lunchtime. It was suggested that staff could locate trash cans in the area. The Director advised that staff can take a look and see what is available. It was noted that the garbage seems to be worse closer to Huron Street and that the principals would be contacted.

9. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The Chair requested that the December Sub-committee meeting be cancelled and directed that any time sensitive items be listed directly on Committee or Council.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

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

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 3:34 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:04 P.M.