



Stratford City Council Regular Council Open Session MINUTES

Meeting #: 4640th
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020
Time: 3:00 P.M.
Location: Electronically

Council Present in
Council Chambers: Mayor Mathieson - Chair Presiding

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, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk

Staff Present
Electronically: David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, Ed Dujlovic -
Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, Kim
McElroy - Director of Social Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief,
Janice Beirness - Director of Corporate Services, Jodi Akins -
Council Clerk Secretary, Naeem Khan - Manager of IT &
Business Systems, Jeff Leunissen - Interim Manager of Planning,
Johnny Bowes - Manager of Environmental Services

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 declarations of pecuniary interest were made by a member at the December 14, 2020 Regular Council meeting.

3. Adoption of the Minutes:

R2020-682

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT the Minutes of the Special Meetings dated November 16, November 17 and December 4, 2020 and the Regular Meeting dated November 23, 2020 of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford be adopted as printed.

Carried

4. Adoption of the Addendum to the Agenda:

R2020-683

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the Addendum to the Regular Agenda of Council and Standing Committees dated December 14, 2020 to add a delegation and correspondence to Item 4.1 of the Planning and Heritage Committee agenda be added to the Agenda as printed.

Carried

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

5.1 At the November 24, 2020 Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, matters concerning the following items were considered:

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

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose (section 239.(2)(f)), 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 In-camera Session, direction was given on both items.

5.2 At the December 7, 2020, Session under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, a matter concerning the following item was considered:

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose (section 239.(2)(f)), 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 In-camera Session, direction was given.

5.3 At the December 9, 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));
- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose (section 239.(2)(f)), 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 In-camera Session direction was given on both items.

5.4 At the December 14, 2020, Session, under the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, matters concerning the following items were considered

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

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose (section 239.(2)(f)), 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 In-camera Session, direction was given on all items.

6. Hearings of Deputations and Presentations:

It was the consensus of Council to deal with item 7.1 first as the delegate was unavailable.

6.1 Presentation of the Annual Accessibility Award

R2020-684

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Ritsma

THAT the presentation of the annual Accessibility Award by Diane Sims be heard.

Carried

The Accessibility Advisory Committee presents an accessibility award to a local business each year in recognition of the International Day of Persons of Disabilities.

Diane Sims appeared before Council to announce the recipient of the 2020 accessibility award, Infinity Dance Studio at 451 Erie Street. Ms. Sims read a portion of the application form submitted. She advised she visited the site, along with a fellow member on the Committee, and saw many different classes offered with pictures on the walls, including some people in wheelchairs. The studio also has an accessible door with a bell when opened. The hallways are accessible with rails and the whole environment is welcoming to someone with mobility or visual disabilities. Programs are available for people of all ages and accessibility levels.

Jeanine Henderson-Kitching was present and advised that Infinity Dance was celebrating its 10th year and it was an incredible honor to receive this award.

Mayor Mathieson provided his congratulations to the recipient.

Item 7.2 was then considered.

7. Orders of the Day:

7.1 Resolution - Tax Relief under Section 357(1)(d.1) – Sickness or Extreme Poverty (COU20-191)

R2020-685

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the owners of 649 Ontario Street be heard.

Carried

Tony Ghaeinizadeh appeared before Council and stated that this problem began in 2011 when litigation was commenced to deal with a contamination issue. A trial date was set for April 1, 2020 and a payment of \$20,000 was made recently. The property was mostly vacant up until late 2017 and over \$250,000 has been spent in environmental and professional fees. Anything that has been made to date has been used to pay off penalties. The agreement for extension to pay off the remaining balance will make it difficult to maintain and involves paying over \$150,000 in penalties. Mr. Ghaeinizadeh requested the City work with them on forgiving a part of the outstanding penalties and allowing until the end of January or February to pay off the sum of \$175,000.

*Councillor Ritsma departed the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Discussion ensued with respect to:

- an overview of the payments made to date, including \$78,000 received since 2011;
- one request being received in the last 13 years for relief on interest which was denied;
- the annual tax bill being between \$18-19,000.

*Councillor Ritsma returned to the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

R2020-686

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT the request for tax interest relief as presented by the owner of 649 Ontario Street, Stratford be denied;

AND THAT staff proceed to enter into a tax sale extension agreement with the property owner.

Clarification was requested on the agreement. The Director of Corporate Services confirmed that the agreement includes an extension of up to one year with the understanding that if a payment is defaulted then the agreement is void and reverted back to a tax sale.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried

As the representative from the Accessibility Advisory Committee was present at the meeting, Item 6.1 was considered.

7.2 Resolution - Transfer Payment Agreement for Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Public Transit Stream (COU20-188)

R2020-687

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT The Corporation of the City of Stratford enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation to claim Capital project expenses that have been approved through ICIP;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary agreement.

Carried

7.3 Resolution - 2021 Pruning, Removal & Disposal of Designated Trees & Stumps (COU20-190)

R2020-688

Motion by Councillor Bunting

Seconded by Councillor Ritsma

THAT the low bid from Lange Bros. (Tavistock) Limited in the amount of \$319,066.80 including HST be approved for the removal and disposal of designated trees and stumps along with regular and emergency pruning services in 2021.

Carried

7.4 Resolution - T2020-41 Railway Trestle Footbridge Rehabilitation (COU20-192)

R2020-689

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT the tender for the Railway Trestle Footbridge Rehabilitation Contract T2020-41 be awarded to McLean Taylor Construction Limited at a tender price of \$111,820.42 including HST;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary contract documentation.

Carried

7.5 Resolution - T-2020-40 Roof Replacements, Multiple Family Units, Stratford (COU20-193)

R2020-690

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the tender for the roof replacements of 31 family units in Stratford be awarded to T. Hamilton & Son Roofing Inc. in the amount of \$194,284.29 including HST;

AND THAT the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the contract agreement.

Carried

7.6 Resolution - T2020-43 Lake Victoria Footbridge Replacement (COU20-194)

R2020-691

Motion by Councillor Beatty

Seconded by Councillor Bunting

THAT the tender for the Lake Victoria Footbridge Replacement Contract T2020-43 be awarded to McLean Taylor Construction Limited at a tender price of \$153,806.85 including HST;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the necessary contract documentation.

Carried

7.7 Resolution - Revisions to the City of Stratford Sign By-law No. 159-2004 (COU20-196)

R2020-692

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Burbach

THAT the revisions to the City of Stratford Sign By-law as recommended in Report COU20-196 be adopted;

AND THAT staff be directed to enforce the City of Stratford Sign By-law on a pro-active basis.

Carried

8. Business for Which Previous Notice Has Been Given:

None scheduled.

9. Reports of the Standing Committees:

9.1 Report of the Social Services Committee

R2020-693

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Vassilakos

THAT the Report of the Social Services Committee dated December 14, 2020 be adopted as printed.

Carried

9.1.1 Introduction to Bill 204, Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act, 2020 (SOC20-010)

THAT the report titled "Introduction to Bill 204, Helping Tenants and Small Business Act, 2020" (SOC20-010) be received for information.

9.1.2 Delegation of Authorities for Housing Division Agreements, including properties owned by The Corporation of the City of Stratford and Perth & Stratford Housing Corporation (SOC20-011)

THAT the report "Delegation of Authorities for Housing Division Agreements, including properties owned by The Corporation of the City of Stratford and Perth & Stratford Housing Corporation" (SOC20-011) be received for information purposes;

AND THAT Council delegate authority to the Director of Social Services, or Manager of Housing or Supervisor of Social Services, Housing Division to sign agreements between prospective tenants, program recipients, housing providers/landlords and The

Corporation of the City of Stratford and/or the Perth & Stratford Housing Corporation.

**9.1.3 Social Assistance Recovery and Renewal Plan Update
(SOC20-009)**

THAT the report titled "Social Assistance Recovery and Renewal Plan Update (SOC20-009)" be received for information.

10. Notice of Intent:

10.1 Notice of Public Meeting under the Planning Act

Stratford City Council will hold an electronic Public Meeting on January 18, 2021 beginning at 3:00 p.m. to hear all interested persons with respect to Official Plan Amendment Application OPA01-20 and Zoning By-law Amendment Application Z06-20.

This will be an electronic meeting and a link to watch the Public Meeting live will be provided on the agenda which will be posted to the City's website. A video of the meeting will also be posted to the City's website once available.

11. Reading of the By-laws:

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

A member requested that By-law 11.11 be taken separately.

R2020-694

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Ritsma

THAT By-laws 157-2020 to 166-2020 be taken collectively.

Carried unanimously

R2020-695

Motion by Councillor Sebben

Seconded by Councillor Henderson

THAT By-laws 157-2020 to 166-2020 be read a First and Second Time.

Carried two-thirds support

R2020-696

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT By-laws 157-2020 to 166-2020 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.

Carried

R2020-697

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT By-law 167-2020 be read a First and Second Time.

Discussion ensued regarding By-law 11.11 with respect to:

- maintaining the garbage bag tag rate of \$3.50 and funding any increases from the tax rate;
- the price of cat and dog licensing not having increased and just being a reduced amount if purchased before March 31 in any given year;
- the tax levy impact being \$22,000 if providing for increase to garbage tags; and,
- the effectiveness of having more frequent small increases compared to large increases that cause concern.

Mayor Mathieson called the question on the motion.

Carried two-thirds support

R2020-698

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Seconded by Councillor Bunting

THAT By-law 167-2020 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.

Carried

11.1 Delegation of Authority to Sign Housing Agreements - By-law 157-2020

To amend By-law 135-2017 to delegate Council's authority to the Director of Social Services, or Manager of Housing or Supervisor of Social Services, Housing Division to sign agreements between prospective tenants, program recipients, housing providers/landlords and The Corporation of the City of Stratford and/or the Perth & Stratford Housing Corporation.

11.2 Amend Committee of Adjustment Procedural By-law to Permit Electronic Signing of Decisions - By-law 158-2020

To amend the Committee of Adjustment Procedural By-law 113-98, being a by-law to provide for the rules governing the Order and Proceedings of the Committee of Adjustment of the City of Stratford, to permit the electronic signing of decision documents by Committee of Adjustment members when electronic meetings of the Committee are permitted.

11.3 Authorize Execution of Transfer Payment Agreement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - By-law 159-2020

To authorize the execution of the Transfer Payment agreement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP): Public Transit Stream between Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario and The Corporation of the City of Stratford.

11.4 Award of Tender for Pruning, Removal and Disposal of Designated Trees and Stumps in 2021 - By-law 160-2020

To authorize the awarding of a tender, entering into of a contract and the undertaking of the work for the pruning, removal and disposal of designated trees and stumps, along with regular and emergency pruning [T-2020-39].

11.5 Award of Tender for the Railway Trestle Footbridge Rehabilitation Project - By-law 161-2020

To authorize the awarding of a tender, entering into of a contract and the undertaking of the work for the Railway Trestle Footbridge Rehabilitation project [T-2020-41].

11.6 Award of Tender for Roof Replacements for 31 Perth & Stratford Housing Corporation Units - By-law 162-2020

To authorize the awarding of a tender, entering into of a contract and the undertaking of the work for the roof replacements of 31 family units in Stratford [T-2020-40].

11.7 Award of Tender for Lake Victoria Footbridge Replacement - By-law 163-2020

To authorize the awarding of a tender, entering into of a contract and the undertaking of the work for the Lake Victoria Footbridge Replacement [T-2020-43].

11.8 Amend Sign By-law 159-2004 - By-law 164-2020

To amend the Sign By-law 159-2004, as amended, to make various amendments.

11.9 Interim 2021 Tax Levy - By-law 165-2020

To authorize an interim tax levy for 2021 and to govern and regulate the finances of The Corporation of the City of Stratford for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021.

11.10 Temporary Borrowing - By-law 166-2020

To authorize the temporary borrowing of funds from time to time to meet current expenditures during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 until municipal taxes are collected.

11.11 2021 Fees and Charges - By-law 167-2020

To establish fees and charges to be collected by The Corporation of the City of Stratford and to repeal By-law 190-2018 as amended.

12. Consent Agenda: CA-2020-111 to CA-2020-118

Council did not advise of any items to be considered on the Consent Agenda.

13. New Business:

There were no new business items discussed at the meeting.

14. Adjournment to Standing Committees:

The next Regular Council meeting is December 21, 2020.

R2020-699

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT the Council meeting adjourn to convene into Standing Committees as follows:

- **Planning and Heritage Committee [3:05 p.m. or thereafter following the Regular Council meeting];**
- **Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee [3:10 p.m. or thereafter following the Regular Council meeting];**
- **Finance and Labour Relations Committee [3:15 p.m. or thereafter following the Regular Council meeting];**

and to Committee of the Whole if necessary, and to reconvene into Council.

Carried

15. Council Reconvene:

15.1 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest made at Standing Committees

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.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest made at Standing Committee meetings held on December 14, 2020 with respect to the following Items and re-stated at the reconvene portion of the Council meeting:

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No declarations of pecuniary interest were made by a member at the December 14, 2020 reconvene Council meeting.

15.2 Committee Reports

15.2.1 Finance and Labour Relations Committee

The City Clerk requested that any amendments to start times be discussed so that staff can begin scheduling. The resources required are not just I.T related but also include additional meeting support staff which could result in additional overtime for the hosting of electronic meetings.

R2020-700

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT Item 8.1 of the Finance and Labour Relations

Committee meeting dated December 14, 2020 be adopted as follows:

8.1 2021 Council, Committee and Sub-committee Schedule (FIN20-021)

THAT the proposed 2021 Council, Committee and Sub-committee meeting schedule be approved, and that staff be directed to schedule meetings accordingly.

Carried

15.3 Reading of the By-laws (reconvene):

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

By-law 11.12 - Confirmatory By-law 168-2020

To confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford at its meeting held on December 14, 2020.

R2020-701

Motion by Councillor Vassilakos

Seconded by Councillor Sebben

THAT By-law 168-2020 be read a First and Second Time.

Carried two-thirds support

R2020-702

Motion by Councillor Ritsma

Seconded by Councillor Gaffney

THAT By-law 168-2020 be read a Third Time and Finally Passed.

Carried

15.4 Adjournment of Council Meeting

R2020-703

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Seconded by Councillor Beatty

THAT the December 14, 2020 Regular Council meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 3:00 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 3:42 P.M.

Reconvene Meeting Start Time: 5:12 P.M.
Reconvene Meeting End Time: 5:15 P.M.

Mayor - Daniel B. Mathieson

Clerk - Tatiana Dafoe