



The Corporation of the City of Stratford
Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee
Open Session
AGENDA

Date: August 9, 2021

Time: 3:05 P.M.

Location: Electronic Meeting

Committee Present: Councillor Vassilakos - Chair Presiding, Councillor Burbach - Vice Chair, Mayor Mathieson, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Bunting, Councillor Clifford, Councillor Gaffney, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Ingram, Councillor Ritsma, Councillor Sebben

Staff Present: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, Anne Kircos - Acting Director of Human Resources, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk, Jodi Akins - Council Clerk Secretary

To watch the Committee meeting live, please click the following link: <https://stratford-ca.zoom.us/j/85402260078?pwd=THdZQ2pEZTg4U3djTVo3M3hZektyUT09>

A video recording of the meeting will also be available on the [City's website](#) following the meeting.
Pages

1. Call to Order

The Chair to call 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

3. Sub-committee Minutes

6 - 12

Sub-committee minutes are attached for background regarding the discussion held at the July 28, 2021 Sub-committee meeting.

4. Delegations

None scheduled.

5. Report of the Events Coordinator

5.1. Resolution - Request for Exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 for wedding at private residence at 378 William Street (ITS21-026)

13 - 16

Staff Recommendation: THAT approval be given to the homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for a private event held at their property on Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]
- The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16], and,

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in place at that time.

Motion by _____

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT approval be given to the homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for a private event held at their property on Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]
- The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16], and,

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in

place at that time.

5.2. Request for Exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 and Fireworks By-law 73-2006 for the 2021 Kinsmen Family Day of Music and Fireworks (ITS21-028)

17 - 22

Motion by _____

Staff Recommendation: THAT approval be given to Stratford Kinsmen for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for the Stratford Kinsmen Family Day of Music and Fireworks held at the SERC Site from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]
- The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]
- The denotation of fireworks [Schedule 2 Clause 6],
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16],
- The operation of musical instruments [Schedule 2 Clause 17] and,

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in place at that time.

And THAT the request from Stratford Kinsmen to set off display fireworks on municipal property located at SERC Site on Sunday, September 5, 2021, be approved, subject to the necessary permits being obtained and the required certificate of insurance being provided in accordance with Fireworks By-law 73-2006.

6. Report of the Manager of Environmental Services

6.1. COVID-19 Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative (ITS21-027)

23 - 25

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council receives Report ITS21-027 for information and is aware of the collaboration between the City of Stratford, Huron Perth Public Health and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in the COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.

Motion by _____

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Council receives Report ITS21-027 for information and is aware of the collaboration between the City of Stratford, Huron Perth Public Health and the Ministry of the Environment,

Conservation and Parks in the COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.

7. For the Information of Committee

7.1. Presentation by Reusable Container Project

26 - 34

The Stratford Container Committee requested to address Sub-committee with regard to the development and roll out of a new, volunteer-led (with the active support of several prominent local restaurateurs and the BIA) waste reduction program for the City's downtown core.

The program is being piloted to help introduce and recover reusable take out containers in restaurants across the city to offset the amount of avoidable waste that is increasing due to take out demand.

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Takeout Waste Reduction Project be referred to the Energy and Environment Committee for consideration.

7.2. Capital Project Update

35 - 38

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services provided the highlights of the July Capital Projects Update as follows:

- Queen Street Storm Sewer tender closes on July 29
- Cedar Street culvert – Tender awarded to Steve Smith Construction, work scheduled to commence early August
- Prep work is ongoing for Romeo Street asphalt resurfacing
- A virtual open house is scheduled in August for the Huron Street Reconstruction, Phase 1 project
- Development Services is very busy
- The Manager of Development Services has been appointed as the area representative on the Upper Thames Conservation Authority (UTRCA) Source Water Protection Committee.
- Grass cutting continues in the City.
- The July household hazardous waste collection was very successful, with almost 800 cars passing through.
- Staff have been in discussion with stakeholders and awaiting reports regarding the RNG project.

The balance of the July Capital Project Update will be included with the

August 9, 2021 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee agenda.

The environmental impact of gas-powered grass cutting equipment was noted and questioned whether there were certain grass lengths to be maintained. The Director advised that ditches need to be cut on an annual basis to stop tree growth. Grass cutting is completed 2-4 times per year.

7.3. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

39 - 52

The following Advisory Committee/Outside Board minutes are provided for the information of Committee:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of May 4, 2021
- Energy and Environment Committee minutes of May 6, 2021

8. Adjournment

Meeting Start Time:

Meeting End Time:

Motion by _____

Committee Decision: THAT the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee meeting adjourn.



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

Date: July 28, 2021
Time: 3:30 P.M.
Location: Electronic Meeting

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

Staff Present: Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Jodi Akins - Council Clerk Secretary, Allison Jordan - Events Coordinator, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk, Johnny Bowes - Manager of Environmental Services

Also present: Vicki Lass, Geoff Love, Members of the Public

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 July 28, 2021 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

3.1 Presentation by Reusable Container Project

The Stratford Container Committee has requested to address Sub-committee with regard to the development and roll out of a new, volunteer-led (with the active support of several prominent local restauranteurs and the BIA) waste reduction program for the City's downtown core.

The program is being piloted to help introduce and recover reusable take out containers in restaurants across the city to offset the amount of avoidable waste that is increasing due to take out demand.

Motion by Councillor Ingram

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the presentation by Vicki Lass on behalf of the Stratford Container Committee be heard.

Carried

Sub-committee Discussion: Referring to a Powerpoint presentation, Vicki Lass provided information on how the project got started and what the next steps are as follows:

- An increased in waste being due to COVID-19 and the need for better waste disposal options;
- interviewing strategic partners such as restauranteurs, the BIA, City staff, local environmental groups and local recycling and compost collectors to see what the challenges were and what it would take to switch to reusables;
- completing consultation from October 2020 to January 2021;
- challenges being the cost, availability, ability to keep food warm, sanitizing, use of petroleum products, compost disposal options and understanding of recycling and compost options;
- the holding of a Public meeting in February 2021;
- Successes to date including presentations by A Friendlier Company (AFC) to 15 restaurants, 10 of which have signed on, a survey completed by the BIA to establish a baseline, research on other reusable options ongoing, working with Al Fresco and City to increase waste disposal options in Market Square and parks system, education

and information sessions and charitable donations through AFC being explored; and,

- Upcoming items being education by the Energy and Environment Committee, a pilot program run by the BIA, discussion with Rotary about reusable options at events like Ribfest, searching for reusable coffee cups to be used City-wide, and a promotion campaign.

Geoff Love reviewed the "asks" of City Council as follows:

- that City staff (and interested councillors) participate in monthly reusables committee meetings to stay "plugged in" to what's happening;
- acknowledging and supporting citizen's growing interest in more City action on collaborative green initiatives; and,
- considering future measures such as more garbage and recycling containers city-wide, a more fulsome composting program for restaurants and a review of the City's "away from home" waste diversion program.

It was suggested by Sub-committee this may fall under the Energy and Environment Committee's mandate. Ms. Lass clarified that the current working group would like to participate but not control this initiative, as there is no need for another permanent committee. They would be very interested in handing control over to the Energy and Environment Committee or the BIA, but they are in no rush to download and could continue the work through the summer.

It was suggested that a working group under the Energy and Environment Committee would be a natural progression for this initiative as committee member Sammie Orr already sits on the E&E Committee as well.

Concern was noted at possibly providing a subsidy to private business through this project and suggested that advice be sought from the Clerk. Ms. Lass clarified that this is not a large ask financially. Although they are looking to the City to support waste disposal infrastructure, it is of benefit to the City and tourism as a whole to not see overflowing waste containers.

It was stated that the BIA may not be the most appropriate place to house this program, as they are restricted to the downtown core.

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Takeout Waste Reduction Project be referred to the Energy and Environment Committee for consideration.

Carried

4. Report of the Manager of Environmental Services

4.1 COVID-19 Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative (ITS21-027)

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council receives Report ITS21-027 for information and is aware of the collaboration between the City of Stratford, Huron Perth Public Health and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in the COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Manager of Environmental Services reviewed the staff report, providing the highlights as follows:

- the Province has committed \$12 million to COVID-19 wastewater surveillance;
- 32 of the 34 public health units have joined so far;
- Stratford and Goderich wastewater plants have been asked to participate;
- McMaster University will do the testing for Stratford;
- an explanation of composite sampling was provided;
- OCWA is a proponent of this project and onboard with participating. They are already taking the samples and there is very little extra labour required;
- gives bio-markers for early COVID-19 detection, or predictive modelling; and,
- Ottawa and Waterloo are participating and were able to predict spikes in their areas, which enables public health to reallocate resources accordingly.

Motion by Councillor Gaffney

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Council receives Report ITS21-027 for information and is aware of the collaboration between the City of Stratford, Huron Perth Public Health and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in the COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.

It was suggested that this project can establish testing protocols for new variants, as well as new pathogens that can be added to a surveillance system.

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

Carried

5. Report of the Events Coordinator

5.1 Resolution - Request for Exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 for wedding at private residence at 378 William Street (ITS21-026)

Staff Recommendation: THAT approval be given to the homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for a private event held at their property on Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]
- The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16], and,

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in place at that time.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Events Coordinator summarized the request from the homeowners at 378 William Street for a noise by-law exemption request. The wedding is to be held September 5, 2021 at their residence and they are requesting an exemption from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 midnight.

Letters were circulated to neighbours as per standard practice, as well as listed in the Town Crier, and no concerns were received.

Motion by Councillor Ingram

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT approval be given to the homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for a private event held at their property on Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- **Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]**
- **The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]**
- **Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16], and,**

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in place at that time.

Carried

6. Capital Project Update

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services provided the highlights of the July Capital Projects Update as follows:

- Queen Street Storm Sewer tender closes on July 29;
- Cedar Street culvert – Tender awarded to Steve Smith Construction, work scheduled to commence early August;
- Prep work is ongoing for Romeo Street asphalt resurfacing;
- A virtual open house is scheduled in August for the Huron Street Reconstruction, Phase 1 project;
- The Manager of Development Services has been appointed as the area representative on the Upper Thames Conservation Authority (UTRCA) Source Water Protection Committee;
- Grass cutting continues in the City;
- The July household hazardous waste collection was very successful, with almost 800 cars passing through; and,
- Staff have been in discussion with stakeholders and awaiting reports regarding the RNG project.

The balance of the July Capital Project Update will be included with the August 9, 2021 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee agenda.

The environmental impact of gas-powered grass cutting equipment was noted and questioned whether there were certain grass lengths to be maintained. The Director advised that ditches need to be cut on an annual basis to stop tree growth. Grass cutting is completed 2-4 times per year.

7. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

The following Advisory Committee/Outside Board minutes were provided for the information of Sub-committee:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of May 4, 2021
- Energy and Environment Committee minutes of May 6, 2021

8. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting is Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Burbach

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

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 3:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:13 P.M.



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: July 28, 2021
To: Infrastructure, Transportation, and Safety Sub-committee
From: Allison Jordan, Events Coordinator
Report#: ITS21-026
Attachments: 2021 Hiller - Wedding Noise Exemption Request

Title: Request for Exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 for wedding at private residence at 378 William Street

Objective: To consider the request from homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 for a private event on Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021.

Background: The City has been approached by homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption from the City's Noise Control By-law for a backyard wedding. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021.

The production, reproduction or amplification of sound is one of the sounds regulated by Noise Control By-law 113-79 as follows:

No person shall make, cause or permit an unreasonable noise or a noise that is likely to disturb inhabitants of the City [Schedule 1 clause 8].

The operation of any electronic device or group of connected electronic devices incorporating one or more loudspeakers or other electro-mechanical transducers, and intended for the production, reproduction or amplification of sound [Schedule 2 clause 2]. Prohibited Zones and Times:

Quiet Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Residential Zone – Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and from 17:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day.

Commercial Zone - Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and 23:00 hours of one day to 7:00 hours next day Monday to Thursday, and 24:00 hours of one day to 7:00 hours next day Friday and Saturday.

Park Zone – Prohibited from 23:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day, 09:00 hours Sundays.

Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 clause 16]. Prohibited Zones and Times:

Quiet Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Residential Zone – Prohibited from 23:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day, 09:00 hours Sundays

Commercial Zone – Prohibited from 23:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day, 09:00 hours Sundays

Park Zone – Prohibited from 23:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day, 09:00 hours Sundays

Noise By-laws are designed to reduce and control both unnecessary and excessive sound which can be a nuisance and generally degrade the quality and peacefulness of neighbourhoods.

Organizers mailed notices to property owners within 120-metres of the location on June 26, 2021 with a deadline for comments of July 9, 2021. As of the deadline, no concerns were received for the requested noise exemption.

A notice of the request was also issued in the Town Crier with a deadline for comments of July 12, 2021. As of the deadline, the City has not received any comments.

Analysis: The City's Noise Control By-law defines parameters for noise and emissions that may impact local citizens. Any exemption to these time limitations is subject to Council review and final decision.

The organizers have sought public input by mailing notices to residents within 120-metres of the location. The location is designated within a residential zone and the 120-metre radius extends into residential zones and park zones. No submissions were received.

The intention of the noise exemption is to permit the following from 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 4, 2021 until 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021:

- Noise produced by the event for the duration of hours. Unreasonable noise is prohibited per the unreasonable noise provision [Schedule 1 clause 8].

- The operation of loud speakers and amplification of sound for music played by a DJ. This activity is prohibited under Schedule 2 Clause 2 for residential zones after 5:00 p.m. and after 11:00 p.m. in park zones.
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing. This activity is prohibited under Schedule 2 Clause 16 for residential zones after 11:00 p.m. and after 11:00 p.m. for park zones.

Financial Impact: None identified.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Strengthening our Plans, Strategies and Partnerships

Partnering with the community to make plans for our collective priorities in arts, culture, heritage and more. Communicating clearly with the public around our plans and activities.

Staff Recommendation: THAT approval be given to the homeowners of 378 William Street for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for a private event held at their property on Saturday, September 4, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]
- The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16], and,

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in place at that time.



Allison Jordan, Events Coordinator



David St Louis, Director of Community Services & Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Friday, June 25, 2021

Special Events Application – Requesting a Noise Control By-law Exemption

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider this request for noise control exemption for the following planned event:

Outdoor wedding ceremony and reception at 378 William Street, Stratford on September 4, 2021.

The ceremony is planned for 3:30pm with a reception to follow on-site, with sound/music, provided by a DJ. The planned number of guests is 50 (but will be adjusted as needed, adhering to Pandemic restrictions at that time). We would plan to wrap everything up by midnight.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Allison Hiller



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: August 9, 2021
To: Infrastructure, Transportation, and Safety Committee
From: Allison Jordan, Events Coordinator
Report#: ITS21-028
Attachments: 2021 Family Day Event – Complaint 1_redacted
 2021 Family Day Event – Complaint 2_redacted

Title: Request for Exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 and Fireworks By-law 73-2006 for the 2021 Kinsmen Family Day of Music and Fireworks

Objective: To consider the request from Stratford Kinsmen for an exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 and Fireworks By-law 73-2006 for the 2021 Stratford Kinsmen Family Day of Music and Fireworks event on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Background: The Stratford Kinsmen was unable to host their annual Canada Day Celebration due to Provincial Orders and Public Health Guideline limitations from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The event has been delayed to Sunday, September 5, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Stratford Education and Recreation Centre (SERC site) and re-titled to the "Stratford Kinsmen Family Day of Music and Fireworks". The City has been approached by Stratford Kinsmen for an exemption from the City's Noise Control By-law and Fireworks By-law.

The production, reproduction or amplification of sound is one of the sounds regulated by Noise Control By-law 113-79 as follows:

No person shall make, cause or permit an unreasonable noise or a noise that is likely to disturb inhabitants of the City [Schedule 1 clause 8].

The operation of any electronic device or group of connected electronic devices incorporating one or more loudspeakers or other electro-mechanical transducers, and intended for the production, reproduction or amplification of sound [Schedule 2 clause 2]. Prohibited Zones and Times:

Quiet Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Residential Zone – Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and from 17:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day.

Commercial Zone - Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and 23:00 hours of one day to 7:00 hours next day Monday to Thursday, and 24:00 hours of one day to 7:00 hours next day Friday and Saturday.

Park Zone – Prohibited from 23:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day, 09:00 hours Sundays.

Detonation of fireworks or explosive devices not used in construction [Schedule 2 Clause 6]. Prohibited Zones and Times:

Quiet Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Residential Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Commercial Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Park Zone – Prohibited at all times.

- i) in accordance with the Fireworks By-law of the City of Stratford, on designated days related to Victoria Day and Canada Day, certain fireworks may be set off in residential zones and commercial zones between 8:00 pm and 12:00 midnight of the same day;
- ii) with the approval of the Fire Chief, and in accordance with the Fireworks By-law of the City of Stratford, certain fireworks may be set off on the day and time specified by the Fire Chief in residential zones, commercial zones and park zones.

The operation or use of musical instruments or noise making equipment. [Schedule 2 clause 17]. Prohibited Zones and Times:

Quiet Zone – Prohibited at all times;

Residential Zone – Prohibited all day Sundays and Statutory Holidays, and from 19:00 hours of one day to 07:00 hours next day.

Commercial Zone – Prohibited from 01:00 hours to 07:00 hours the same day.

Park Zone – No prohibited times listed.

Noise By-laws are designed to reduce and control both unnecessary and excessive sound which can be a nuisance and generally degrade the quality and peacefulness of neighbourhoods.

Organizers mailed notices to property owners within 120-metres of the location on July 15, 2021 with a deadline for comments of July 29, 2021. As of the deadline, two comments were received opposing the use of fireworks due to the impacts on the environment and animals. The communication is attached with this report.

A notice of the request was also issued in the Town Crier with a deadline for comments of July 26, 2021. As of the deadline, the City has not received any comments.

The Fireworks By-law 73-2006 sets out the parameters for use of fireworks in the City as follows:

7.9 A Display Fireworks permit may be issued for the purpose of celebrating Victoria Day or Canada Day or such other event approved by the Fire Chief, subject to the following:

- a) If Display Fireworks are to be held on municipal property, approval of Council must be obtained prior to applying for a permit.

Analysis: The City's Noise Control By-law defines parameters for noise and emissions that may impact local citizens. Any exemption to these time limitations is subject to Council review and final decision.

The organizers have sought public input by mailing notices to residents within 120-metres of the location. The location is designated within a park zone and the 120-metre radius extends into residential zones and park zones. Two submissions were received.

The intention of the noise exemption is to permit the following from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021:

- Noise produced by the event for the duration of hours. Unreasonable noise is prohibited per the unreasonable noise provision [Schedule 1 clause 8].
- The operation of loud speakers and amplification of sound for music played by a band. This activity is prohibited under Schedule 2 Clause 2 for residential zones after 5:00 p.m. and after 11:00 p.m. in park zones.
- Detonation of fireworks. This activity is prohibited at all times under Schedule 2 Clause 6 in residential zones and park zones.
- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing. This activity is prohibited under Schedule 2 Clause 16 for residential zones after 11:00 p.m. and after 11:00 p.m. for park zones.
- Operation of musical instruments for the band. This activity is prohibited under Schedule 2 Clause 17 all day on Sundays in residential zones.

Organizers have requested use of fireworks for the event. Council approval is required for Display Fireworks held on Municipal Property per the Fireworks By-law. The Fire Chief may approve setting off Display Fireworks on a day other than Victoria Day or Canada Day for the celebration of a special event or community event in the City.

Financial Impact: None identified.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Strengthening our Plans, Strategies and Partnerships

Partnering with the community to make plans for our collective priorities in arts, culture, heritage and more. Communicating clearly with the public around our plans and activities.

Staff Recommendation: THAT approval be given to Stratford Kinsmen for an exemption to the Noise Control By-law 113-79 for the Stratford Kinsmen Family Day of Music and Fireworks held at the SERC Site from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 5, 2021 from the following provisions:

- **Unreasonable noise [Schedule 1 clause 8]**
- **The operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2]**
- **The denotation of fireworks [Schedule 2 Clause 6],**
- **Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing [Schedule 2 Clause 16],**
- **The operation of musical instruments [Schedule 2 Clause 17] and,**

subject to applicable Provincial Orders and Public Health Guidelines in place at that time.

And THAT the request from Stratford Kinsmen to set off display fireworks on municipal property located at SERC Site on Sunday, September 5, 2021, be approved, subject to the necessary permits being obtained and the required certificate of insurance being provided in accordance with Fireworks By-law 73-2006.



Allison Jordan, Events Coordinator



David St Louis, Director of Community Services



Joan Thomson, Chief Administrative Officer

Allison Jordan

From: Trevor Exner <exner@execulink.com>
Sent: July 30, 2021 7:47 PM
To: Allison Jordan
Subject: Our First Complaint about the fireworks Kinsmen Stratford Family Day

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Subject:Kinsmen Stratford Family Day

Date:2021-07-14 19:35

From:Carolyn B [REDACTED]
To:exner@execulink.com

We got your flyer in the mail box re the event you have planned on September 5th at the SERC, it sounds like a fun thing for families.
 My concern is not the noise from music but rather the fireworks.
 We object very strongly, fireworks terrify the wild life and the various dogs that live in the neighborhood, our dog is petrified even though we take him to a quiet spot in our basement.
 We believe it's time to ban fireworks totally, I believe some municipalities are talking about doing this already. Their are other ways of providing entertainment.
 Carol and John B [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Allison Jordan

From: Trevor Exner <exner@execulink.com>
Sent: July 30, 2021 7:48 PM
To: Allison Jordan
Subject: Here is the Second Complaint for Kinsmen Stratford Family Day

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

----- Original message -----

From: Jane F [REDACTED]
 Date: 2021-07-16 11:37 a.m. (GMT-05:00)
 To: exner@execulink.com
 Subject: Kinsmen Stratford Family Day

Dear Trevor:

I am writing to you as I strongly oppose having fireworks at your Family Day on Sunday, September 5, 2021. I support your other festivities and I believe you can have lots of fun without fireworks.

As a retired registered nurse and also a former volunteer of the Stratford Cystic Fibrosis Chapter, I know that the Kinsmen Club is a big supporter of Cystic Fibrosis Canada. Fireworks cause extensive air pollution leaving metal particles, dangerous carcinogenic toxins, harmful chemicals and smoke in the air for hours and days! Exposure to this dangerous smoke and haze causes coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, asthma attacks, and even heart attacks! Children, the elderly, and animals are at greatest risk! How in good conscience can the Kinsmen Club be part of this? I believe the Kinsmen Club work to better their communities and improve the environment.

My other concern is the detrimental impact fireworks have on animals, particularly dogs. A dogs survival instinct makes them naturally afraid of loud noises. Fireworks come with no warnings. Dogs suffer severe anxiety from this stress! This stress causes dogs to hyperventilate, tremble, shake, pant, and pace. Also dogs hearts can race from the fear they are experiencing. The panic and anxiety from hearing fireworks can last for weeks in dogs.

Wildlife is also negatively affected by fireworks. Nesting birds and small mammals abandon their nests, leaving their defenceless babies behind. The extremely loud noise from fireworks causes tremendous anxiety in animals. They become disoriented, leading deer to flee into roadways and birds to fly into windows. Firework debris left behind can entangle species or if consumed can result in death.

Please reconsider your decision to have fireworks at your Family Day at the SERC. Neighborhood families with dogs will thank you! Perhaps the Kinsmen Club can set an example to promote health and protect our environment.

Sincerely,

Jane F [REDACTED]



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Date: July 28, 2021
To: Infrastructure, Transportation & Safety Sub-committee
From: Johnny Bowes, Manager of Environmental Services
Report#: ITS21-027
Attachments: None

Title: COVID-19 Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative

Objective: To inform Council of the Environmental Services Department collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) for the COVID-19 Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.

Background: As part of Ontario's COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan to quickly identify, manage and prevent outbreaks, the province is investing over \$12 million into a COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Initiative to test wastewater samples in communities across the province to determine how wastewater surveillance can be used in conjunction with clinical data as a tool to inform public health responses.

Studies have shown that a significant proportion of people with active COVID-19 infections shed the virus in their stool, sometimes even before symptoms start. Wastewater Based Epidemiology (WBE) surveillance for COVID-19 is underway in many jurisdictions globally as well as provincially, most notably in Ottawa and Hamilton.

Wastewater Surveillance tests look to identify the presence of genetic material (known as RNA) in wastewater effluent. It offers the ability to test the whole subpopulation including people with and without COVID-19 to identify community trends at a relatively low cost. The testing is not limited to personal behavior (e.g. choosing not to get tested or vaccinated) and captures both symptomatic and asymptomatic people. While this method of testing does not offer information on the number of cases, it does indicate the presence and trends of COVID-19 in the community generally a few days earlier than when individuals present symptoms.

The MECP has partnered with many universities across the province to complete the laboratory testing and analysis portion of the program so that the health units can continue to focus on the clinical testing.

To date, the MECP has onboarded 32 out of the 34 public health units. They currently do not have coverage and are looking to expand the Wastewater Surveillance Initiative to Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH). The MECP has funding to sample at 2 wastewater treatment plants in the HPPH region. The MECP has met with the team from HPPH who have expressed interest in sampling in Stratford and Goderich due to their population coverage, suitable sampling points at the treatment plants and they represent areas that may be hotspots for the spread of COVID-19.

Analysis: The City of Stratford will be joining a progressive initiative that benefits multiple stakeholders at many different levels. From a Public Health perspective, they will be able to use the data from this program in the following ways:

1. Identifying transmission trends and informing predictive modeling.
2. Optimizing the allocation and application of resources for clinical testing.
3. Protecting the capacity of Public Health Ontario, hospital and private laboratories.
4. Helping evaluate response effectiveness.
5. Making informed decisions of future surveillance expansion or relocation.

The City of Stratford has been fortunate in the fact that the COVID-19 cases have been relatively low since the start of the pandemic. A large reason for this was because there was a low number of tourists which in turn, limited the exposure and transmission from outside sources. With the province entering Stage 3 of the COVID re-opening plan, tourism in the city will increase significantly. With the data provided to the City and HPPH from surveillance testing, we will be able to better predict trends and this will help make informed decisions on where and how to mobilize resources in response.

The Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) which is owned by the City of Stratford and operated under contract by the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) meets the current requirements to be used as a testing point for this program. They would be required to take a composite 24 hour sample, three times a week. They are already equipped with the instrumentation required for this type of testing.

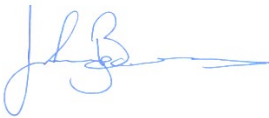
Financial Impact: All costs related to the sampling materials, shipping charges, laboratory testing and analysis are all covered under the funding from the Provincial government. The WPCP staff will be required to collect the composite samples 3 times a week and prepare them for shipping. The costs for physically taking the samples are covered under the operating contract between the City and OCWA as routine work. It has been confirmed with the OCWA plant manager for the City that this additional work will not impact their resources in any way as they already do similar sampling for routine regulatory testing.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Developing our Resources

Optimizing Stratford's physical assets and digital resources. Planning a sustainable future for Stratford's resources and environment.

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council receives Report ITS21-027 for information and is aware of the collaboration between the City of Stratford, Huron Perth Public Health and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in the COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.



Johnny Bowes, Manager of Environmental Services



Taylor Crinklaw, Director of Infrastructure and Development Services



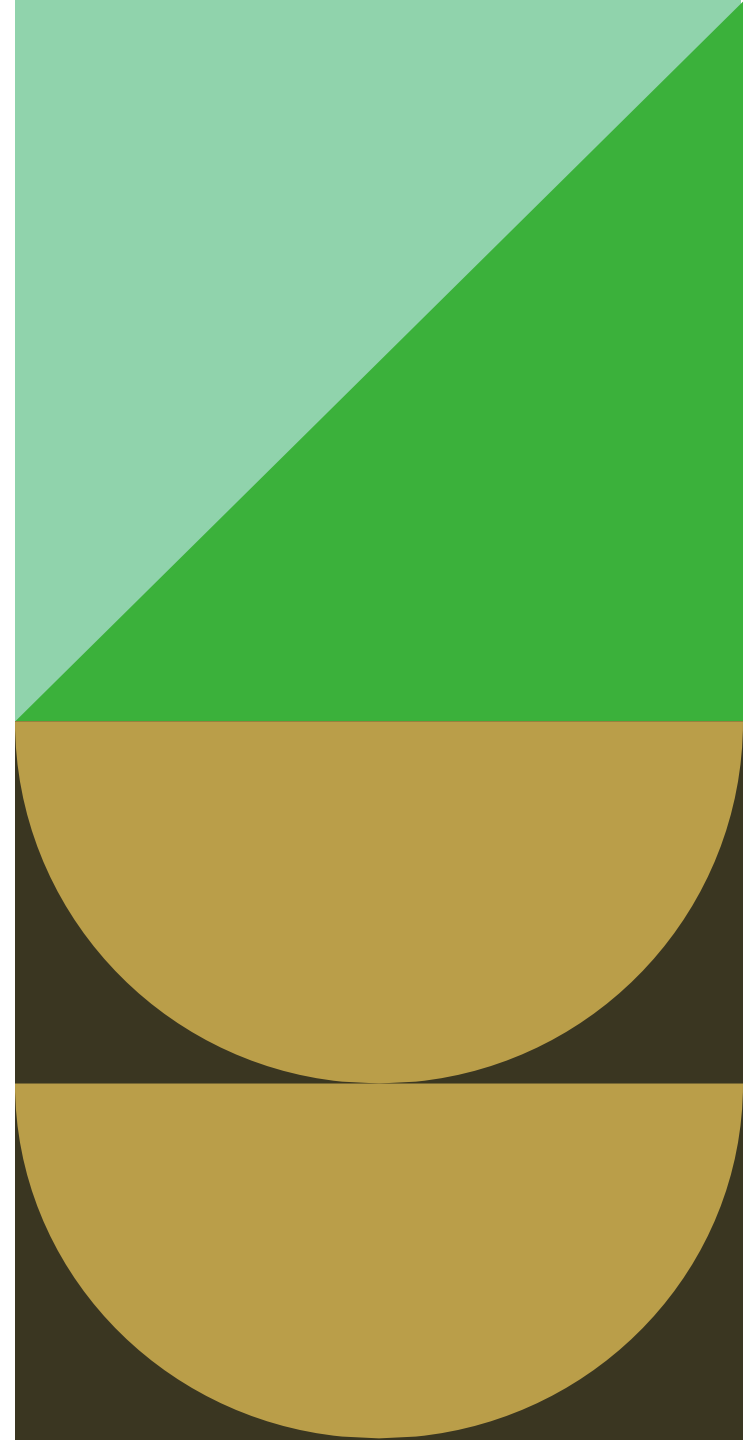
David St. Louis, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Takeout Waste Reduction Project

Stratford Restaurateurs & Supportive Citizen's Working Together to Heal the Environment

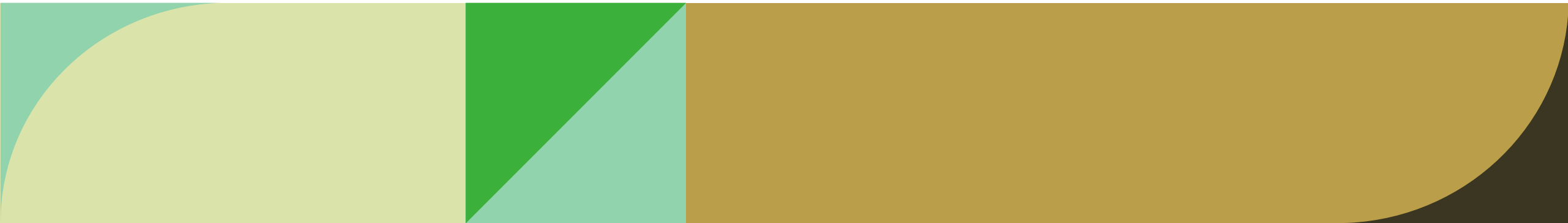
Began Fall 2020

- Articles on Social Media about reusable takeout container businesses prompted thoughtful action
- Al Fresco program 2020 highlighted need for better waste disposal options
- COVID shut down's created increased waste
- Citizen's supported local restaurants with takeout options but troubled by amount of waste
- Good examples of reusables demonstrated in Stratford
- Concerned about restaurants' capacity to shift to new containers or container program



First Step

- **Identify strategic partners to learn more about current situation**
 - Local restaurant owners interviewed
 - BIA, Destination Stratford, Invest Stratford, LCFC
 - Stratford (Kate) and Climate Change Coordinator
 - HPPH
 - Environment and Energy Committee
 - Climate Momentum
 - City Council Members (Jo-Dee and Bonnie)
 - Stratford Secondary School Eco Club Members
 - Bluewater Recycling and Storm (Fischer Compost)



Challenges

Cost

Availability

Ability to keep food warm for transport

Petroleum products – even if reusable

Disposal options for compostables

Understanding recycling and compost options in Stratford

Gauge Public Interest – Agreement to Move Forward



Called a public meeting to discuss current situation and challenges



Public meeting to

Determine interest to assist restaurants in seeking out options
Taking on some leg work to reduce burden on local restaurateurs
engage working group
25 attended meeting
10 formed a working group

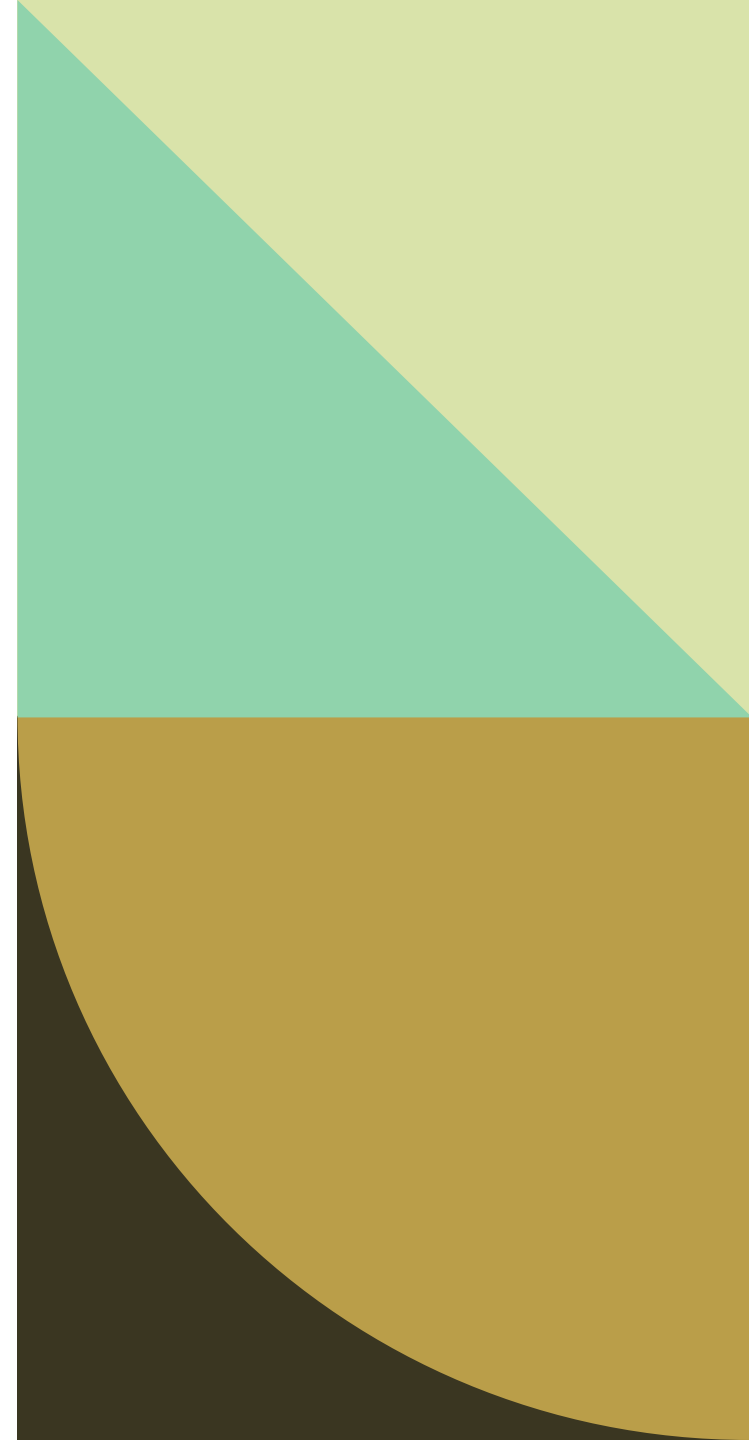


Look at options:

Reusable programs – what is available
Better composting and recycling information – what goes where?
More containers in public places
Higher degree of service in downtown core for waste pick up
Collect data to understand options being used currently and challenges

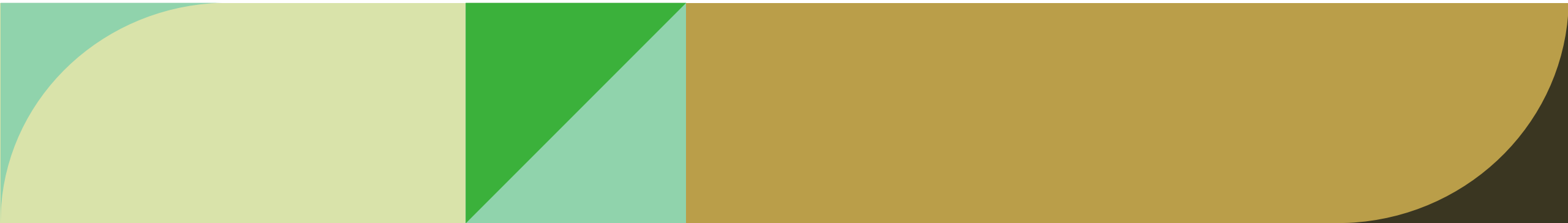
Successes to Date

- A Friendlier Company (AFC) program invited to present to restaurateurs
- 10 establishments signed on with AFC
- Survey completed by Stratford City Centre BIA – focus on establishing a baseline to be able to measure future impact
- Research being done into other reusable options to present to restaurateurs
- Working with Al Fresco and City of Stratford to meet need for waste disposal containers of all types at Market Square and throughout the park system
- Promotion Strategy for how to recycle and compost in Stratford – education/information sessions for residents
- Charitable Donations being explored IRSS program, United Way



On the Horizon

- E & E taking on education pc – including waste app,
- BIA taking pilot to work with downtown restaurants
- Rotary – in conversation about support and reusable containers at local food fundraisers like Ribfest
- Looking for reusable coffee cups and lids to be adopted city wide
- Catching people doing it right!! Promotion campaign to highlight reusable options in Stratford and celebrating those concerned with the environment
- Continuing dialogue regarding single use plastics



Ask for ITS & City of Stratford



City staff (and interested councillors) participate in monthly reusables committee meetings



Acknowledge and support citizens growing interest in more city action on collaborative green initiatives



Consider future measures such as:

More garbage and recycling containers city-wide

A more fulsome composting program for city restaurants

A review of the city's "away from home" waste diversion program over the next year

Questions



Capital Projects, Engineering, and Operations Update July 2021

1. Queen Street Storm Sewer
 - Tender issued, closes July 29
 - Various utility works commencing in preparation for construction
2. Transportation Master Plan Update
 - RFP for consultant services being prepared
 - New Transportation Master Plan to also update and incorporate the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan
3. Storm Model and Master Plan Update
 - RFP for consultant services being prepared
 - Update to existing storm model and consolidation of all existing storm master plans and EA reports
 - Climate change adaptation to be included
4. Sanitary Master Plan Update
 - RFP for consultant services being prepared
 - New sanitary model to be used to update existing sanitary master plan and incorporate all lands annexed since 2004
5. Bridge Appraisal 2021
 - BM Ross review of the Bridge, Foot Bridge, Retaining Walls, Culverts and Subways as per OSIM requirements
 - Assessments scheduled for late fall
 - Final year of current contract with BM Ross
6. Bridge and Culvert Improvements
 - Cedar Street culvert – Tender awarded to Steve Smith Construction, work scheduled to commence early August
 - Romeo Street underpass sidewalk support wall repairs design by BM Ross for tendering later this year
 - RFP for a consultant to design the replacement of the concrete retaining walls near the CN overpass on TJ Dolan Drive
7. Redford Crescent Reconstruction
 - New watermain, sanitary sewer, some storm sewer, new street lighting
 - Tender awarded to Bre-Ex Construction Inc.
 - Final restoration ongoing, topcoat later in the year
8. Asphalt Resurfacing 2020
 - O’Loane Avenue from north of Galt Road to Line 36 (Quinlan Road)
 - Tender awarded to Steve Smith Construction
 - Final restoration ongoing
9. Asphalt Resurfacing 2021

- Romeo Street North from Arden Park to the Court Drain, and Romeo Street South from Norfolk Street to Lorne Avenue
 - Tender awarded to Steed and Evans -
 - Work has commenced, scheduled to be complete end of August / early September
10. Huron Street Reconstruction, Phase 1
 - Connecting Link funded project
 - Design and Contract Admin awarded to IBI Group
 - New watermain, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, roadway
 - Traffic study complete, design ongoing, open house scheduled for August, construction in 2022
 11. Sidewalk projects 2021
 - West Gore from St. Vincent to John, Mornington from McCarthy to Graff
 - Tender awarded to Nicholson Concrete, work scheduled for August
 12. Argyle Street and McKenzie Street Reconstruction 2021
 - Full reconstruction with new watermain, sanitary and storm sewers
 - Project being deferred until 2022
 13. T J Dolan Multi-use Trail
 - Design finalized, tender closes August 10
 14. Concrete and Asphalt Restoration
 - Steve Smith Construction contract extended for 2021
 - Monthly work lists being assigned, work is ongoing
 15. Pedestrian Crossing Improvements
 - Downtown Traffic Study presented at Council in January
 - Design work and plans for Ontario/Church/St. Andrew, Downie/George, and other intersections ongoing

Other Engineering Department Works

- Review of development engineering plans and reports for various proposed subdivisions
- Review of formal Consultations, Site plan applications, zone change applications, and various other planning matters
- Installation of Wightman infrastructure continuing, neighbourhood running lines being evaluated and approved
- Inspection services for subdivision construction ongoing
- Compiling data for asset management project

Operations Update

Water:

- Manager of Environmental Services, Johnny Bowes, was selected as a committee member to represent the Stratford/St. Marys/Huron/Perth regions on the UTRCA Source Water Protection Committee
- IBEW Water collective agreement bargaining completed last week. The group voted to ratify so the contract just has to go to council this week
- Working with the UTRCA to upgrade their PLC at the T. Orr Dam to align with our city SCADA upgrades
- Our 2021 Valve Preventative Maintenance Program is ongoing

Wastewater:

- Ongoing sanitary main flushing and scheduled maintenance

WPCP

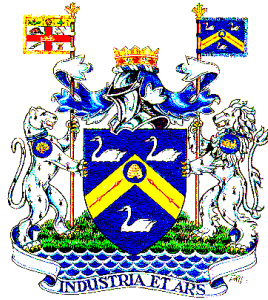
- The City is working with the province and public health on a COVID Wastewater Surveillance Initiative which involves composite sampling at the WPCP - Staff are currently working to set up the sampling procedures
- The system is operating normally. No heavy wet weather events as of late.
- Ongoing annual maintenance

Public Works

July has been a busy month at PW with many projects happening and vacation season limiting staff numbers.

- Pothole and asphalt edger work continues to go well. Kent Lane is receiving a "top coat" with the edger this week.
- Storm flushing operations continue
- Dunn Rd. ditching behind the Packham baseball fields leading to the Hislop Drain has been completed.
- Grass cutting throughout the City continues.
- Stop bar and crosswalk painting continue to go well as the majority of the City has been completed this month.
- Landfill Gas Expansion project was approved to move ahead by council. It is currently posted on bids and tenders.
- Planning for the Cell 3B expansion at the Landfill is underway. Construction to begin in 2022.
- Winter contract equipment tender closes this week.

- July 17 Household Hazardous Waste event was a success, with almost 800 vehicles passing through the line at the rec complex.



A meeting of the Stratford Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) was held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 11:30 a.m., electronically.

Committee Present: Peter Zein – Chair Presiding, Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Judy Hopf, Geoff Krauter, Laurie Maloney-Devlin, Diane Sims

Staff Present: Tatiana Dafoe – Clerk (City of Stratford), *Dan Sykes – Development Coordinator (City of Stratford), Tyler Sager – Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk (County of Perth), Sean McCoy – Legislative Coordinator (County of Perth), Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary (City of Stratford)

Also Present: *Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach – ATAC, *David Daglish - ATAC

Absent: Peg Huettlin, Susan Lavender

Minutes

1.0 Call to Order

Peter Zein, Chair called the AAC meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None declared.

3.0 Adoption of the Previous Minutes

Motion by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Geoff Krauter

THAT the minutes from the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting dated April 6, 2021 be adopted as printed. Carried

4.0 Infrastructure & Development Services Update – Dan Sykes

Dan Sykes provided the following update:

- One curb replacement scheduled for May on Lakeside Drive. Mr. Sykes will contact Peter Zein to arrange a site visit prior to the work beginning.

- Redford Crescent final restoration is ongoing. Peter Zein inquired if the path to the park is still being completed as part of this project. Mr. Sykes will contact the inspector to confirm.
- The O'Loane Avenue restoration project started in 2020 is ongoing.
- The Huron Street reconstruction project has been deferred to 2022.
- The Queen Street project will be tendering late summer, with work to be completed over the winter.
- The conversion of TJ Dolan Drive from St. Vincent to St. David Street to a multi-use trail is in the design phase and funding is pending.
- Design for St. David to Centre Street (at T.J. Dolan intersection) to close to traffic, pending funding and final approval from Council.
- Argyle and McKenzie Street project has been deferred to the 2022 budget.
- West Gore Street (north side) and Mornington Street will be tendered together as one project for one contractor to complete both in 2021.
- Mr. Sykes will make arrangements to do a survey of the foot bridges on the north side of the river with Diane Sims.
- The Memorial Garden project falls under the Community Services Department budget as it is a city park. This request should be sent to the Director of Community Services. Staff will research when the last motion regarding this project was made. Staff will also inquire if staff are able to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss this project, as well as the Martin Street sidewalk project. Councillor Burbach stated she will also raise the discussion at the upcoming Community Services Sub-committee meeting.
- Laurie Maloney-Devlin stated that there is no automatic door opener in the washrooms in Upper Queen's Park. Members were advised this would also be a project for the Community Services Department.

5.0 Delegates: Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach and David Daglish – Annual ATAC and AAC Discussion on Projects

David Daglish, Chair and Councillor Burbach discussed some of the sidewalk improvement projects that have been discussed by the Active Transportation Advisory Committee:

- Pine, Cedar and Walnut Streets – no sidewalks in some areas
- East Gore to Borden area – gaps in some areas
- Foreman Avenue – complete sidewalks on both sides at various locations
- Connect Martin Street to Delamere (approx. 100 ft. missing)
- Worsley Street (near Stratford Intermediate School) – missing section
- Devon Street – one sidewalk on a collector street
- Willow Street – no sidewalks

Councillor Burbach reported that this year, engineering staff will be completing a master transportation plan for all roads. They will integrate pedestrian, cycling and bus routes as part of it.

Members of AAC discussed their preference of multi-use asphalt paths, as opposed to concrete sidewalks, as they are smoother to travel on.

Some additional areas discussed at the AAC were:

- Continuing Erie Street sidewalk - from Lorne Avenue to Packham Road (east side)
- Continuation of Lorne Avenue from Erie Street to Downie
- Douro Street – connect sidewalk from medical centre to Burritt Street
- Douro Street – bike lanes or multi-use paths to be shared by bicycles, wheelchairs
- Douro Street – complete the north side sidewalks and/or add a multi-use path from Romeo Street to CH Meier on the south side (up to the mall)
- St. Vincent St. and Cambria St. – complete sidewalk loop around Stratford Hospital

Councillor Burbach will request if a draft of the master transportation plan can be provided to ATAC and AAC to review and provide feedback.

Judy Hopf requested if staff could recheck the timing at crossing signals again, specifically at O'Loane/Huron and Ontario Street (at Zehrs). Dan Sykes will ask the City's traffic technician to review the timing. Councillor Henderson noted that staff previously reported that the timing had all been set to the required standards. She inquired if work is done on the traffic lights, if this may affect the settings and timing of other crossing signals. Mr. Sykes will also inquire with traffic staff.

*Dan Sykes, Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach and David Daglish departed the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

6.0 Parking

No items for discussion.

7.0 Transit

No items for discussion.

8.0 Site Plan Review Sub-Committee Feedback Reports – Sean McCoy

Sean McCoy provided committee members with a first quarter summary of the five feedback reports the review sub-committee completed.

Councillor Henderson inquired about recent feedback the review sub-committee provided regarding a playground and the choice to move ahead with a different design. Mr. McCoy explained that a point system based on numerous factors is used to determine the best choice, which normally aligns with the AAC review sub-committee's feedback. However, this time it did not necessarily reflect that. Staff will inquire if a

representative from Community Services would attend the next AAC meeting to give an overview of the decision process.

Motion by Judy Hopf, seconded by Diane Sims

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee requests the Manager of Cemetery, Parks & Forestry for the City of Stratford attend an upcoming AAC meeting to discuss the Site Plan Review Sub-committee process and feedback opportunities. Carried

Diane Sims inquired about the status of the project at 16 Blake Street. Councillor Henderson reported that there is an upcoming public meeting to be held electronically on June 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. She will forward the meeting notice to the AAC members once issued.

9.0 Report from Council on Accessibility Issues – Councillor Henderson

Peter Zein inquired about the Green Developments report that was recently presented at an Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting. It was questioned whether an accessible housing by-law could be considered since this initiative is also being considered.

Councillor Henderson noted that it is currently being researched by staff, as it was requested by the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee. Tatiana Dafoe advised she would forward the report to the AAC members for their review. She noted that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requested it be reviewed and that staff identified it is unlikely it could be enforceable as the provisions would go beyond the Building Code Act. The recommendation was to refer the project to the 2022 budget as a consultant is required to undertake the review. Ms. Dafoe advised the Committee could pass a motion requesting Council adopt an accessible housing by-law. She advised the staff recommendation would likely be to refer it to the 2022 budget as additional resources would be required to complete the review.

10.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) Facility Accessibility Design Manual (FADM) Update

The AAC previously requested staff create a summary report of the updates to the FADM. Once complete, it will be provided to committee members for review, along with the manual.

(b) 2021 Project Action Plan –Peter Zein, Judy Hopf, Laurie Maloney-Devlin

Peter Zein reviewed the priority projects to be completed by the AAC by the end of 2021:

- Complete the review of recreational facilities for report submission to Community Services

- Have the Facility Accessibility Design Manual update approved by Council
- Develop a plan for moving forward with an accessible housing by-law

Diane Sims noted that she has contacted the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and CMHC and received a large amount of information regarding accessible housing to assist with drafting the bylaw.

11.0 New Business

(a) **Accessibility Awareness Week (May 30-June 5) – Tatiana Dafoe**

Tatiana Dafoe suggested the AAC work with the City's Communications Lead this year to highlight accessibility projects the committee has worked on. Daily posts could be made on social media to bring awareness to the week. Some examples might be the accessible parking permit policy, accessible picnic tables, railings on downtown boardwalks. Tyler Sager suggested using the new AAC banner to highlight different locations and accessibility initiatives. Laurie Maloney-Devlin suggested releasing the new info-graphic for the AAC on the last day of the week.

Tatiana Dafoe will assist with getting this completed in time to be posted for Accessibility Awareness Week.

(b) **Federal Budget – Including Seniors 60+ and People with Disabilities**

Peter Zein raised the issue of the lack of inclusion of seniors between the ages of 60-75 and people with disabilities in the most recent budget. On behalf of Judy Hopf, Peter Zein suggested that a letter be sent to the Government regarding this issue. Tatiana Dafoe inquired if the Committee would like to write the letter or will they request Council submit a letter supporting inclusion and additional funding opportunities for people with disabilities. Ms. Dafoe recommended that the AAC requests Council send the correspondence.

Staff, with assistance from members of the AAC, to draft the correspondence / resolution for consideration at an upcoming Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

Motion by Councillor Bonnie Henderson, seconded by Diane Sims

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee requests Stratford City Council endorse a resolution recognizing the importance of persons with disabilities, in particular seniors 60+ and the need for additional funding programs;

AND THAT the resolution be sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, Randy Pettapiece – MPP, John Nater – MP, AMO and ONAP. Carried

(c) Movie Recommendation – Judy Hopf

Judy Hopf recommended that the AAC watch the movie Crip Camp.

(d) Closed Captioning for Electronic Meetings – Geoff Krauter

Geoff Krauter inquired about having captioning available for electronic meetings. Tatiana Dafoe reported that there is closed captioning is currently not available for zoom meetings, however for Council, Committee and Sub-committee meetings livestreamed to the City's Facebook page, closed captioning is available. The Clerk's Office is working on a webcasting initiative for Council and Committee meetings. With this initiative, closed captioning would be available for all meetings.

12.0 Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 11:30 a.m., electronically

13.0 Adjournment

Motion by Laurie Maloney-Devlin, seconded by Geoff Krauter

**THAT the May 4, 2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting adjourn.
Carried**

Start Time: 11:32 A.M.

End Time: 1:34 P.M.



A meeting of the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee was held on May 6, 2021 at 4:00 p.m., electronically.

Members Present: Anna Stratton – Vice-Chair Presiding, Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, Mike Jorna, Sammie Orr, Geoff Krauter, Anita Jacobsen, Vanni Azzano, Emily Skelding, Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Mike Sullivan, *Craig Merkley

Staff Present: Tatiana Dafoe – City Clerk, *Chris Bantock – Deputy Clerk, Kate Simpson – Waste Reduction Coordinator, *Johnny Bowes – Manager of Environmental Service, Casey Riehl– Recording Secretary

Also Present: *Scott Knapman, CEO – Festival Hydro

Regrets: Emily Chandler

MINUTES

1.0 Call to Order

Anna Stratton - Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof.

None declared.

3.0 Adoption of the Previous Minutes

Motion by Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, seconded by Mike Jorna

THAT the minutes from the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee meeting dated April 1, 2020 be adopted as printed. Carried

4.0 Delegate: Johnny Bowes – Manager of Environmental Services, City of Stratford Geothermal Well Alternatives in Stratford

Johnny Bowes, Manager of Environmental Services, discussed with the Committee various

geothermal options that cities can use. He suggested that a representative from the Ontario Geothermal Association attend a future E&E meeting to discuss topics such as the history of geothermal technology, current/future trends and the future state of geothermal initiatives.

Mike Jorna had previously raised the questions about the possibility of ground source heating options being installed during construction projects. Mr. Jorna explained that with ground heat being an excellent option to move away from carbon and also the space required to use geothermal, heat exchange systems located below the road allowance would be a solution. This could be put in when roads were created for new subdivisions, as well as during road construction projects. He inquired if geothermal could be installed, in similar fashion to the drilling being completed by Wightmans, at a level that would serve as a source of heat for homes.

Mr. Bowes explained that there is currently a pilot project being undertaken by a developer in the City of Markham. Essentially, they have constructed a 331 home subdivision with their entire heating and cooling systems fed from a communal geothermal system.

Mr. Bowes noted that there are significant costs to installing geothermal infrastructure as a new utility in existing subdivisions during road reconstruction. It would require a utility provider to be onboard to install the new infrastructure during the road construction process and take on the financial responsibility with the hope that over time residents would connect to the system. This is not an issue for a developer with construction in a new subdivision, all the homes are built at the same time and it is profitable from the start for the developer and the utility provider.

Another issue Stratford would need to take into account is that they are a ground water sourced community, with six well head protection areas surrounding the water sources. Mr. Bowes stated that in 2022 staff hope to include funds in the budget for the purpose of retaining a consultant to complete a study on the potential impact of vertical geothermal wells and their relation to the vulnerability of the ground water aquifers. This would fall under their ground water study that they complete. There are also horizontal geothermal systems available, which only require a depth of approximately 10 ft. Space is required for this, so rural properties are ideal and, in a city setting, large parking lots can utilize this type of well and do not compromise the aquifer.

*Craig Merkley now present at the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Mike Jorna stated that in order for Stratford to meet a net zero commitment in the next 30 years, the older part of the city will need to be addressed. He stated the horizontal systems may be a good solution for this. Stratford could be on the forefront by investigating this option and possibly make use of a government grant to help with funding for such a pilot project. He also inquired about closed loops with the vertical systems. Mr. Bowes stated that the main concern with a closed loop vertical system is causing a transport pathway. By drilling down to a certain level, you can possibly interrupt the underground flow.

Councillor Burbach inquired if the Rotary Complex parking lot would be an ideal location for a horizontal geothermal system, as it will be undergoing a reconstruction review. Mr. Bowes concurred that this could potentially be a good location and will reach out to Community Services to discuss this option.

Sammie Orr inquired if there are any emission or environmental factors involved with geothermal. Mr. Bowes stated that geothermal systems for a home require electricity for the heat pump and it is a 5:1 improvement versus fossil fuel. He advised he would provide additional statistics for the committee.

5.0 Delegate: Scott Knapman – CEO, Festival Hydro – Green Initiatives

Scott Knapman, referring to a PowerPoint presentation, provided an overview and background on green initiatives undertaken by Festival Hydro and their affiliate Rhyzome. Festival Hydro participates in the Green Button program, which allows customers to view their meter data and see their consumption and decide where they can make reductions to help conserve energy. Festival Hydro also hosts one of the largest lithium battery storage facilities which currently helps balance the system, with a maximum of 8.8 megawatts capacity. In the future it could be used for load shifting.

Festival Hydro was active in delivering the Conservation and Demand Management Program from 2015-19 and helped reduce consumption by 40.6 GW hours. Some additional green initiatives that Festival Hydro is working towards is encouraging residents to use paperless billing, providing tips on how to conserve energy and reduce consumption, offering a net-metering system for renewable energy. They are currently undergoing an extensive study of their grid to make sure it can accommodate the growth in electrical vehicle charging stations and withstand the load on the system at certain peak times. Festival Hydro also sponsored the successful 2021 Tree Power event.

Mike Sullivan inquired if Festival Hydro has begun planning for the massive change in demand for electricity as homeowners switch from using fossil fuel. Mr. Knapman explained that they are continuously assessing their grid and the load demands and what they will need to upgrade and maintain it. They continuously follow studies so they can be fully prepared for upgrades and changes.

Emily Skelding inquired if many businesses are taking advantage of programs available. Mr. Knapman noted that when they were managing the programs in the past, there was a very good uptake. Now that they do not manage the programs, they have less insight into what programs customers are utilizing. Festival Hydro is always receptive to supporting business customers that want to work towards reducing their energy costs and consumption.

Councillor Henderson inquired if hydro lines are buried in areas where work is being completed. Mr. Knapman stated that all new developments have wires located underground and in the downtown area where it is more densely populated. Otherwise, in most cases above-ground lines are replaced again with above-ground lines, as it is a costly undertaking to bury them and keep rates down.

Councillor Burbach inquired if a geothermal system was installed in a new subdivision, would it interfere at all with other underground utilities. Mr. Knapman stated that the geothermal would be located lower in the ground than the hydro, cable and gas. Councillor Burbach also inquired if Mr. Knapman knew of any Federal funding programs for greening opportunities that may be offered in the future. Mr. Knapman stated that there are some upcoming announcements that will be encouraging for commercial uses, as well as residential.

Sammie Orr inquired if Festival Hydro has a plan for the future on how they are going to increase their renewables or if they have any plans to ask the Provincial Government for change. Mr. Knapman stated that they work very closely with the Ontario Energy Board and Ministry of Energy to continually look at initiatives and policy changes that can help the Province and Festival Hydro. They also continue to work closely with customers to try and conserve. The transportation sector is an area that they are monitoring closely with electric vehicles and transit options.

*Johnny Bowes, Manager of Environmental Services, departed the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Mike Jorna inquired if a hydrogen energy initiative is an option that Festival Hydro has investigated. Mr. Knapman stated that hydrogen energy takes a lot of power to produce

and is not very attractive from an energy perspective. It makes more sense to have a renewable energy source available for this to work, such as hooking up to a wind farm. There is a small system currently being used in the City of Markham.

Anna Stratton inquired if solar energy is a viable option right now for residents, without any incentives currently available. Mr. Knapman stated that it certainly is viable and the technology, performance and efficiency of solar panels is always improving. You do need to have a backup for night time, such as Festival Hydro or a battery storage. Economically, it is a challenge, with a long pay back period. He also suggested thermal solar for heating as another option. A good option is to use both.

*Scott Knapman departed the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

6.0 Updates from Carbon Reduction & Ecological Working Groups

Ecological Update

Craig Merkley reported that the shoreline work is complete, with a coat of wood chips on the new area. They will plant vegetation, including service berry trees, wildflowers and native grasses along the shore starting next week. He has received a lot of positive and appreciative feedback from landowners whose properties are along the shoreline in that area. He also reported that they have been successful in receiving grant funding from TD Friends of the Environment. This funding will assist with additional planting and upgrading the steps and decking on the south side of the lake.

Vanni Azzano reported that 200 native trees and shrubs have been planted at the dog park where the ash trees had been taken down.

Carbon Reduction Update

Anna Stratton reported that the Youth Speaks Out Webinar held in April was a success. Information on the webinar was posted on the City's website. The next webinar is being held on May 26, 2021 with Eric Miller from York University, Environment & Urban Change Department. A panel of E&E members will consolidate the questions for the webinar. Councillor Burbach, Geoff Krauter and Emily Skelding have volunteered to sit on the panel. Mike Sullivan will be the host/moderator for this event.

7.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) 2021 Budget Allocation Discussion

The Committee discussed upcoming expenses related to the webinars.

Motion by Geoff Krauter, seconded by Mike Sullivan

THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 on expenses related to the 2021 E&E webinars.
Carried

(b) Update on Anti-Idling By-law – Councillor Burbach/Chris Bantock

Chris Bantock, Deputy Clerk, prepared and circulated a report recommending changes to the City's Anti-Idling By-law. The report is intended to be considered at the May 26, 2021 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting. The two revisions to the by-law that are outlined in the report are:

1. Reduce consecutive minutes of idling time from five minutes to one minute, and
2. removal of the temperature exception.

New signs will be ordered for no-idling designated zones in the downtown core and school zones, should the by-law be amended, as well as updating all existing signage. Moving forward, education will be key to get this message out. Mr. Bantock will work with the City's Communications Lead to inform members of the public of the environmental impact of idling. There are anti-idling stickers available and once the lockdown is over, they will be made available throughout City buildings at various counters for people to pick up.

Sammie Orr inquired if provisions will be included to reduce idling of two-stroke engines. Councillor Burbach reported that she completed research to determine if other municipalities had these provisions in their by-law. An example could not be found. She suggested that she could raise the issue when the anti-idling by-law comes to Council for discussion. Chris Bantock explained that staff's decision to not include two-stroke engines in the by-law was that this by-law is specifically a vehicular idling by-law. The revisions addressed were both related to vehicles. He stated that enforcement of two-stroke engine idling would be complicated and the City does not have the resources to enforce it. Councillor Burbach suggested looking at a separate two-stroke anti-idling by-law, separate from the vehicular one, in the future.

Mike Jorna suggested bumper stickers would also be a good option. They could be placed on City vehicles. Members agreed that this would be a good educational piece that the Committee could produce and distribute.

Sammie Orr inquired if residents could be made aware that enforcement of the two-stroke engines could happen, if that would be enough of a deterrent. Anna Stratton stated that the Communications Lead would be working on getting information out regarding idling. Chris Bantock stated that E&E could prepare some draft wording for posts to send to Mike Beitz. Craig Merkley suggested a fact sheet regarding idling could be included with residents' tax bills.

*Chris Bantock departed the meeting at 5:26 p.m.

(c) Update on Energy Efficient Building Requirements – Mike Sullivan

Mike Sullivan noted that the staff report has gone to Sub-committee and it outlined the legalities of what can and cannot be asked of developers. The suggestion was made to offer a subsidy to developers/builders. Mr. Sullivan stated that Stratford will need to appeal to the Provincial and Federal Government for changes to the guidelines that allow Stratford to ask developers to follow certain rules. This review has been deferred to the 2022 budget.

Geoff Krauter inquired about the City of Whitby standards that were discussed at the Sub-committee meeting. Councillor Burbach explained that it is a 4-tiered voluntary system, that over time each tier builds on the one before and gradually becomes a required green development standard. She noted that Stratford is quite small and does not have the in-house staff required to write a report regarding green development standards. Deferring the report to 2022 would allow a consultant to be hired and research what system could work in Stratford.

Mike Sullivan stated that there is Federal funding coming available in the next few years. He suggested that staff should write to ministries to request possible funding.

(d) Re-Usable Container Program for Stratford – Sammie Orr

Sammie Orr reported that three restaurants so far have signed on to use the re-usable containers. They are continuing to try and encourage more restaurants to sign on, as well as other options with companies who offer cups or non-plastic containers. The working group is also looking into options for the al fresco dining initiative and adding receptacles to collect the containers. They are planning on doing some presentations to Council, Rotary, etc., to get the word out about this program. They plan to do a media release in the next few weeks.

(e) Campaign to Reduce Food Waste – Kate Simpson

Kate Simpson updated the Committee that the Canadian Federation of University Women has produced an educational document regarding food waste. Drawing attention to the issue of possibly purchasing too much food or different ways to use up leftovers.

8.0 New Business**(a) Blue Communities Project – Mike Sullivan**

Mike Sullivan provided information on the Blue Communities Project, a program for municipalities to adopt three points. Water and sanitation are human rights, the phase-out of bottled water in municipal facilities and events and ensure that municipalities are promoting publicly financed owned and operated water and waste-water services. Councillor Henderson reported that on December 14, 2015 the City of Stratford became a Blue Dot Community, which was an initiative of the David Suzuki Foundation. It is very similar to the Blue Communities Project. Anna Stratton suggested adding the Blue Dot information to the City's climate change page. Councillor Henderson will forward the Blue Dot information to Committee members.

(b) Climate Change Coordinator – Emily Skelding

Emily Skelding inquired what the status is of fulfilling the Climate Change Coordinator position. Members were advised the Municipality of North Perth is overseeing the recruitment process.

9.0 Upcoming Events

- May 26, 2021 – Webinar (Shifting to Neutral)
- June 8, 2021 – Webinar (Invasive Species Control)

10.0 Date of Next Meeting – June 3, 2021 – 4:00 p.m., electronically.**11.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Sammie Orr

THAT the May 6, 2021 Energy & Environment Advisory Committee meeting adjourn. Carried

Meeting Start Time 4:00 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 5:50 P.M.