



## **The Corporation of the City of Stratford Finance and Labour Relations Committee MINUTES**

Date: Monday, July 11, 2022  
Time: 8:24 P.M.  
Location: Electronic Meeting

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

Committee Present in Council Chambers: Mayor Mathieson

Regrets: Councillor Beatty

Staff Present in Council Chambers: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Karmen Krueger - Director of Corporate Services, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk

Staff Present Electronically: Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, Anne Kircos - Acting Director of Human Resources, Miranda Ivany – Planner, Jonathan DeWeerd - Chief Building Official, Neil Anderson – Deputy Fire Chief, Michael Mousley – Manager of Transit, Jodi Akins – Council Clerk Secretary, Taylor Crinklaw – Director of Infrastructure and Development Services

Also Present: Members of the public and media

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

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Councillor Beatty provided regrets for this meeting.

## **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 11, 2022, Finance and Labour Relations Committee meeting.

## **3. Sub-committee Minutes**

Sub-committee minutes were provided for background regarding the discussion held at the June 21, 2022, Sub-committee meeting.

## **4. Delegations**

None scheduled.

## **5. Report of Destination Stratford**

### **5.1 Destination Stratford Update 2 (FIN22-027)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the Destination Stratford Q2 Update dated June 21, 2022, be received for information.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the Destination Stratford Q2 Update dated June 21, 2022, be received for information.

**Motion by** Councillor Clifford

**Seconded by** Councillor Bunting

**Committee Recommendation: THAT the Destination Stratford Q2 Update dated June 21, 2022, be received for information.**

**Carried**

## **6. Report of the Supervisor of Fleet**

### **6.1 Purchasing Policy Exemption for Crane/Service Body Retrofit (FIN22-028)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT Council approve an exemption from the Purchasing Policy to sole source the Crane/Service Body Retrofit to Eloquip Ltd.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT Council approve an exemption from the Purchasing Policy to sole source the Crane/Service Body Retrofit to Eloquip Ltd.

**Motion by** Councillor Ritsma

**Seconded by** Councillor Ingram

**Committee Recommendation:** THAT Council approve an exemption from the Purchasing Policy to sole source the Crane/Service Body Retrofit to Eloquip Ltd.

**Carried**

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

### **7.1 2022 Community Grant Appeal Request (FIN22-024)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the appeal of Council's decision regarding denial of a 2022 community grant to ONE CARE Home and Community Support Services be denied;

AND THAT the decision of Council on April 25, 2022, denying a grant request from ONE CARE Home and Community Support Services, be upheld.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT a 2022 community grant in the amount of \$5,000 to ONE CARE Home and Community Support Services be granted.

**Motion by** Councillor Henderson

**Seconded by** Councillor Ritsma

**Committee Recommendation:** THAT a 2022 community grant in the amount of \$5,000 to ONE CARE Home and Community Support Services be granted.

**Committee Discussion:** A Committee member spoke against the motion for the following reasons:

- the City has a community grants policy that states that large organizations that receive the bulk of their funding from upper levels of government should be excluded from the City's grant program and this organization receives millions from the Province;

- the grant program is intended to help smaller community organizations to provide services for the community;
- applications for funds to municipalities instead of the Province places a greater burden on municipalities; and
- hoping to see these larger organizations grandfathered out of the Community Grants program in the future.

It was clarified that the motion on the floor was for the Sub-committee recommendation. It was also clarified that there was a delegation at the Sub-committee meeting, and those minutes were listed on the Committee agenda for information only.

The Chair called the question on the motion.

It was questioned and clarified by the Clerk that a tie vote results in a defeated motion. The Chair called the question on the motion a second time.

**Defeated**

## **7.2 Electricity Procurement – City of Stratford (FIN22-025)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Electricity Procurement – City of Stratford" (FIN22-025), be received for information.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Electricity Procurement – City of Stratford" (FIN22-025), be received for information.

**Motion by** Councillor Clifford

**Seconded by** Councillor Sebben

**Committee Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Electricity Procurement – City of Stratford" (FIN22-025), be received for information.**

**Carried**

## **7.3 Treasurer's Statement for Development Charges and Parkland Reserve Funds 2021 (FIN22-026)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the 2021 Treasurer's Statement for City of Stratford Development Charges Reserve Funds be received for information;

AND THAT the 2021 Treasurer's Statement for City of Stratford Cash In Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund be received for information.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the 2021 Treasurer's Statement for City of Stratford Development Charges Reserve Funds be received for information;

AND THAT the 2021 Treasurer's Statement for City of Stratford Cash In Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund be received for information.

**Motion by** Councillor Ingram

**Seconded By** Councillor Vassilakos

**Committee Recommendation:** THAT the 2021 Treasurer's Statement for City of Stratford Development Charges Reserve Funds be received for information;

**AND THAT the 2021 Treasurer's Statement for City of Stratford Cash In Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund be received for information.**

**Committee Discussion:** A question and answer period ensued between Committee and staff with respect to:

- legislation setting out what projects are eligible to use parkland reserve funds;
- available funding sources being considered for proposed projects during budget discussions;
- alternative projects being considered if it is within legislated mandates and there are no proposals in the annual budget; and
- it being more likely that the funds would remain in the reserve fund until a suitable project was identified.

The Chair called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

#### **7.4 Long-Term Debt Update (FIN22-029)**

This item was listed for consideration on the July 11, 2022 reconvene Council agenda.

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Long-Term Debt Update" (FIN22-029), be received;

THAT Council confirms the authorization of the long-term debt to a maximum of \$23,952,899 for the following projects, payments for which are included in the 2022 budget:

- the Aerial Fire Truck: \$1,732,495,
- the Quinlan Pumping Station: \$3,626,333,
- the Queen St Storm Project: \$13,909,071, and
- the Britannia Phase 2 Project: \$4,685,000 payments for which are not included in the 2022 budget;

THAT staff be directed to apply amounts levied in 2022 for the purposes of repayment of these projects to the currently unfunded balances to reduce the amounts required as noted;

THAT a by-law to authorize the borrowing in the form of a bank loan from RBC in the principal amount of \$5,358,828, towards the cost of the Aerial Fire Truck and the Quinlan Pumping Station, be adopted;

THAT a by-law to authorize the borrowing in the form of a bank loan(s) in the principal amount of \$18,594,071, towards the cost of the Queen Street Storm and Britannia Phase 2 Projects be brought forward to a future Council meeting;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer or City Clerk and the Treasurer, two signatures required, be authorized to sign all related documents with the City's financial institution to complete the borrowing of funds.

**Motion by** Councillor Clifford

**Seconded by** Councillor Ritsma

**Committee Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Long-Term Debt Update" (FIN22-029), be received;**

**THAT Council confirms the authorization of the long-term debt to a maximum of \$23,952,899 for the following projects, payments for which are included in the 2022 budget:**

- **the Aerial Fire Truck: \$1,732,495,**
- **the Quinlan Pumping Station: \$3,626,333,**
- **the Queen St Storm Project: \$13,909,071, and**

- **the Britannia Phase 2 Project: \$4,685,000 payments for which are not included in the 2022 budget;**

**THAT staff be directed to apply amounts levied in 2022 for the purposes of repayment of these projects to the currently unfunded balances to reduce the amounts required as noted;**

**THAT a by-law to authorize the borrowing in the form of a bank loan from RBC in the principal amount of \$5,358,828, towards the cost of the Aerial Fire Truck and the Quinlan Pumping Station, be adopted;**

**THAT a by-law to authorize the borrowing in the form of a bank loan(s) in the principal amount of \$18,594,071, towards the cost of the Queen Street Storm and Britannia Phase 2 Projects be brought forward to a future Council meeting;**

**AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer or City Clerk and the Treasurer, two signatures required, be authorized to sign all related documents with the City's financial institution to complete the borrowing of funds.**

**Committee Discussion:** A question and answer period ensued between Committee and staff with respect to:

- the debt load being approximately \$48.5 million and based on proposed repayment of previously existing debt;
- the amount of debt declining at a rate of approximately \$6 million per year;
- the total amount of debt, including the proposed debt, being \$72.4 million;
- staff looking at advancing an additional \$5.3 million;
- the long term debt being approximately \$53.8 million, should the recommendation be approved; and
- Council having been successful at bringing down the City's debt load in recent years.

The Chair called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

## **8. For the Information of Committee**

### **8.1 Delegation Request - One Care Home and Community Support Services**

Kathy Scanlon, on behalf of One Care Home and Community Support Services, addressed Sub-committee with respect to "2022 Community Grant Appeal Request (FIN22-024)."

**Sub-committee Discussion:** Kathy Scanlon, Executive Director of One Care, referring to a PowerPoint presentation, provided information on their reason for appealing the decision on their community grant request. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Stratford having a growing elderly population and services having adapted to changing needs;
- the City having purchased services from One Care in the past;
- their grant being cut in half following development of the parallel transit system by the City;
- One Care continuing to provide services that complement and supplement what the City provides;
- One Care providing rides to people who need more extensive support due to medical or physical needs;
- their provision of rides outside of parallel transit hours or during capacity overload;
- One Care having provided over 2,000 rides in 2021 and on short notice; and
- their organization being the only service in the area providing rides to COVID-positive people.

Kathy Scanlon shared a story about a citizen in Stratford that attends dialysis weekly and uses the One Care service for all of her transportation needs. The One Care drivers have gotten to know her and her needs and have been able to notice changes in her that assisted with her receiving the medical care she needed. A request was made for consideration of a grant to assist with continuing to provide the accessible transportation services.



In response to how much a ride costs, Kathy Scanlon advised it is \$7.75. She noted that the cost is more expensive than parallel transit, but that the grant previously provided by the City allows them to charge this reduced fee. Without the grant, the rides would be approximately \$10.00 each. She noted that they make referrals to the City's parallel transit service when that may be the better fit for the client.

In response to the number of frequent users and calls per year, Kathy advised that 200 individual users accessed the accessible transportation service last year for a total of 2,000 rides.

## **8.2 Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes**

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

- Stratfords of the World Advisory Committee minutes of March 17, 2022

## **9. Adjournment**

**Committee Discussion:** It was questioned whether Item 7.1, on this agenda, would be coming back to Council as a motion to be filed. The Clerk clarified that as no other motion was made, the Procedure By-law provides the Clerk with the authority to list a motion to file on the next available Council agenda, being the August 8, 2022, Regular Council agenda, for consideration.

**Motion by** Councillor Clifford

**Seconded by** Councillor Ingram

**Committee Decision: THAT the Finance and Labour Relations Committee meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 8:24 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 8:36 P.M.