



## **The Corporation of the City of Stratford Community Services Committee MINUTES**

Date: Monday, June 26, 2023  
Time: 8:47 P.M.  
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Committee Present: Councillor Beatty - Chair Presiding, Councillor Henderson - Vice Chair, Mayor Ritsma, Councillor Biehn, Councillor Briscoe, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Hunter, Councillor Sebben, Councillor McCabe, Councillor Nijjar, Councillor Wordofa

Staff Present: Joan Thomson - Chief Administrative Officer, Tim Wolfe - Director of Community Services, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Kim McElroy - Director of Social Services, Karmen Krueger - Director of Corporate Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Anne Kircos - Director of Human Resources, Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk, Mike Mousley – Manager of Transit

Also Present: Members of the public and media

### **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 June 26, 2023, Community Services Committee meeting.

**3. Sub-committee Minutes**

Sub-committee minutes were attached for background regarding the discussion held at the June 15, 2023 Sub-committee meeting.

**4. Delegations**

None scheduled.

**5. Report of the Director of Community Services**

**5.1 Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association Agreement 2023 - 2028 (COM23-007)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford and the Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association be entered into for a five (5) year term to January 31, 2028;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Corporation.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford and the Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association be entered into for a five (5) year term to January 31, 2028;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Corporation.

**Motion by** Mayor Ritsma

**Seconded by** Councillor Sebben

**Committee Recommendation: THAT the agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford and the Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association be entered into for a five (5) year term to January 31, 2028;**

**AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Corporation.**

**Carried**

## **5.2 Stratford Urban Gym Proposal (COM23-008)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Stratford Urban Gym" (COU23-008), be received;

THAT a public notification be given to the surrounding residents advising of the Urban Gym proposal and to obtain comments on the proposal;

AND THAT following the public notification process, and confirmation of success of the fundraising, staff be directed to issue a Request for Proposal for the design and installation of a Stratford Urban Gym for Shakespeare Park.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Stratford Urban Gym" (COU23-008), be received;

THAT a public notification be given to the surrounding residents advising of the Urban Gym proposal and to obtain comments on the proposal;

AND THAT following the public notification process, and confirmation of success of the fundraising, staff be directed to issue a Request for Proposal for the design and installation of a Stratford Urban Gym for Shakespeare Park.

**Motion by** Councillor Henderson

**Seconded by** Councillor Hunter

**Committee Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Stratford Urban Gym" (COU23-008), be received;

**THAT a public notification be given to the surrounding residents advising of the Urban Gym proposal and to obtain comments on the proposal;**

**AND THAT following the public notification process, and confirmation of success of the fundraising, staff be directed to issue a Request for Proposal for the design and installation of a Stratford Urban Gym for Shakespeare Park.**

**Carried**

## **6. Report of the Manager of Transit**

### **6.1 2023 Transit Bench Advertising Locations (COM23-004)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the Management Report titled, "2023 Transit Bench Advertising Locations" (COM23-004), be received for information.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the Management Report titled, "2023 Transit Bench Advertising Locations" (COM23-004), be received for information.

**Motion by** Councillor Hunter

**Seconded by** Councillor Nijjar

**Committee Recommendation:** THAT the Management Report titled, "2023 Transit Bench Advertising Locations" (COM23-004), be received for information.

**Carried**

**Committee Discussion:** A member advised of having received comments and concerns about the benches and the benches not looking appealing with the advertising.

Councillor Sebben brought forward a motion to have the City Solicitor review removing the City from the contract for transit bench advertising. As no seconder was received, this motion was not considered.

Discussion ensued with respect to:

- the new benches being accessible, beautiful, and well used; and
- the BIA paying to display public art on benches in the downtown.

## **6.2 Community Transportation – PC Connect Fare Increase Feasibility (COM23-005)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Community Transportation - PC Connect Fare Increase Feasibility" (COM23-005), be received for information.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Community Transportation - PC Connect Fare Increase Feasibility" (COM23-005), be received for information.

**Committee Discussion:** The Manager of Transit provided an overview of the report regarding the PC Connect fare increase feasibility.

**Motion by** Councillor Hunter

**Seconded by** Councillor Burbach

**Committee Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Community Transportation - PC Connect Fare Increase Feasibility" (COM23-005), be received for information.

A question and answer period was held with respect to:

- PC Connect being an important service with the potential to grow; and
- reporting back to Council before budget deliberations to provide a fulsome view of the service going into 2024.

The Chair called the question on the motion.

**Carried**

### **6.3 Transit Bus Electrification Feasibility Study Results (COM23-006)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Transit Bus Electrification Feasibility Study Results"(COM23-006), be received for information.

**Sub-committee Recommendation:** THAT the report titled, "Transit Bus Electrification Feasibility Study Results"(COM23-006), be received for information.

**Committee Discussion:** The Manager of Transit provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Transit Bus Electrification Feasibility Study Results. Highlights of the presentation included:

- HDR currently undertaking the study and identifying that it is feasible for Stratford to switch to battery electric buses (BEB's);
- the scope involving three tasks including feasibility and energy modelling, facility assessment and infrastructure requirements, and fleet transition planning;
- an overview of the number of electric buses required to sustain existing services and the cost required to purchase each;
- diesel or electric heat bus options and two different kilowatt electric versions being available to consider;
- consideration of a depot charging pathway for charging on route;
- the fleet transition plan being a 20 year plan to implement a fully electric bus fleet and costing approximately \$40 Million;

- potential transit savings being realized as the fleet transition plan is executed; and
- current diesel buses emitting approximately 1,343 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

**Motion by** Councillor Nijjar

**Seconded by** Councillor Burbach

**Committee Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Transit Bus Electrification Feasibility Study Results"(COM23-006), be received for information.**

**Carried**

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

### **7.1 Department Update**

At the June 15, 2023, Sub-committee meeting, the Director of Community Services provided an overview of the department update. The Department Update presented is attached to this agenda.

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

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

- Board of Park Management minutes of April 3, 2023
- Communities in Bloom Advisory Committees minutes of April 6 and May 4, 2023

## **8. Adjournment**

**Motion by** Councillor Hunter

**Seconded by** Councillor Burbach

**Committee Decision: THAT the Community Services Committee meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 8:47 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 9:13 P.M.