

City Council Minutes

Council Chambers, City Hall

February 5, 2024

Present: Councillor Baldwin
Councillor Beamer
Councillor Bierk
Councillor Crowley
Councillor Duguay
Councillor Haacke
Councillor Lachica
Mayor Leal
Councillor Parnell
Councillor Riel
Councillor Vassiliadis

Staff: Brad Appleby, Director, Planning
Richard Freymond, Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Support
Services
Jodi DeNoble, Manager, Emergency and Risk Management
Natalie Garnett, Deputy City Clerk
John Kennedy, City Clerk
Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner of Community Services
Sarah McDougall Perrin, Advisory of Government Relations
Michael Papadacos, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth
Management (Acting)
David Potts, Commissioner, Legislative Services, City Solicitor
Jasbir Raina, Chief Administrative Officer
Brendan Wedley, Strategic Communications & Service Peterborough

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:59 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Riel

Seconded by Councillor Lachica

That the minutes of January 15, 2024, be approved.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Riel declared a conflict with Other Business – Waste Collection, Multi-Residential Units, as he is the owner of a condominium.

Registered Delegations

Insurance Matters

Tim Burke, 626 Center Street

Moved by Councillor Bierk

Seconded by Councillor Baldwin

That the rules of procedure (section 10.2.1) be suspended to permit unregistered delegations from the DBIA to speak to Report FCSERM24-003, Downtown Patio Program Insurance.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Speakers to Insurance Matters - DBIA

Sacha lai-Svrik, Laura Montague and Hillary Flood, DBIA

Consent Items

Moved by Councillor Parnell

Seconded by Councillor Vassiliadis

That Report LSRS24-001 - Construction Project, Report LSOCS24-002 – Insurance Matters, Report FCSFS24-001 – Tax Adjustments and Appeals Under the Municipal Act, Report LSCLK24-001 – Citizen Appointments to Various Committees, Report CAOGR24-001 – Government Relations Matters (January 29, 2024), Report FCSFS24-002 – 2024 Borrowing By-law, and Sustainability of Municipal Finances be passed on consent.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Report LSRS24-001 - Construction Project

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report LSRS24-001, dated January 29, 2024, of the Commissioner of Legislative Services as follows:

- a) That a \$2,000,000 budget amount for the 2025 Capital budget for Lansdowne Street Rehabilitation – Park Street to Otonabee River be pre-committed; and**
- b) That, respecting the Lansdowne Reconstruction Project, staff be authorized to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSRS24-001 dated January 29, 2024, of the Commissioner of Legislative Services.**

Report LSOCS24-002 - Insurance Matters

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS24-002, dated January 29, 2024 of the Associate City Solicitor as follows:

That Report LSOCS24-002 be received for information.

Tax Adjustments and Appeals Under the Municipal Act, Report FCSFS24-001

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report FCSFS24-001, dated January 29, 2024 of the Commissioner of Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

- a) That tax reductions in the amount of \$54,417.93 calculated in accordance with Sections 357, 358 and 359 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and attached to report FCSFS24-001 as Appendix A, be received.**
- b) That land apportionments under Section 356 of the Municipal Act, 2001, be received.**

Citizen Appointments to Various Committees, Report LSCLK24-001

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report LSCLK24-001, dated January 29, 2024, of the City Clerk, on behalf of the Citizen Appointment Selection Committee, as follows:

- a) That Phil Mechetuk, Barb Munro, Max Moloney and Dyllan Scott be appointed to serve as members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) with terms until December 2026;**
- b) That Lara Hintelmann, Elizabeth King and Simon Terry be appointed to serve as members of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) with terms until December 2026;**
- c) That Marilyn Twiss, Barb Rimmer, Steve Matwey, Victoria Papuga, Dylan Radcliff, and Mija Kavcic-Crowhurst be appointed to serve as members of the Peterborough Environmental Advisory Committee (PEAC) with terms until December 2026; and,**

d) That Shikhar Shrivastava be appointed to sever as a member of the Property Standards Committee with a term until December 2026.

Government Relations Matters - Update for January 29, 2024, Report CAOGR24-001

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CAOGR24-001 dated January 29, 2024, of the Chief Administrative Officer as follows:

That the Government Relations Matters presentation be received for information.

2024 Borrowing By-law, Report FCSFS24-002

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report FCSFS24-002, dated January 29, 2024 of the Commissioner of Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

That a by-law be enacted to establish a \$15,000,000 borrowing limit for the 2024 year to finance current expenditures in the form attached as Appendix A.

Sustainability of Municipal Finances

WHEREAS municipalities including the City of Peterborough and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises

WHEREAS inflation and rising interest rates are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive and collaborative social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

Report LSOC24-004 - Local Board

Moved by Councillor Haacke
Seconded by Councillor Riel

a) That Council proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSOCS24-004 dated January 29, 2024 of the City Solicitor respecting City of Peterborough Holdings Inc. and Peterborough Utilities Commission; and,

b) That Council amend paragraph d) of its Council Directions to delete the words, “establish the common facts and parameters of the report and report back to Council with the common facts and parameters in subsequent updates” and to substitute the words, “to undertake due diligence investigations considered advisable by the City’s CAO in consultation with the working group and the City Solicitor including with the assistance of third party professionals reporting to the City considered advisable by the City’s CAO in consultation with the said Commissioners and the City Solicitor and that staff periodically report to Council”.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Parnell

Carried (10 to 1)

Insurance and Risk Management, Report FCSERM24-001

Moved by Councillor Bierk

Seconded by Councillor Lachica

d) That \$2 million Commercial General Liability be the minimum accepted insurance limit for central area businesses seeking a patio extension licence, and that staff prepare a report on a tiered approach for the patio program for 2025;

For (7): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (4): Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Riel

Carried (7 to 4)

Moved by Councillor Bierk

Seconded by Councillor Lachica

Amended Recommendation:

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report FCSERM24-001, dated January 29, 2024 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

a) That staff, in consultation with the CAO, be provided authority to deny event applications that include high-risk activities received with less than 30 days’ notice, with the exception of timely celebratory events intended to recognize the

significant accomplishment of a person/group/team such as a provincial, national or international championship.

b) That staff, in consultation with the CAO, be directed to deny an event application from an event organizer who has a demonstrated history of incomplete compliance with the City's event rules, guidelines, or regulations or who has debt to the City, other than otherwise due and payable municipal taxes.

c) That Council grant staff the authority to determine which events on City-owned land are high risk events and to impose as a condition of receiving a permit for a high-risk event that the City's minimum insurance requirements be met at least 30-days before the permit's issuance;

d) That \$2 million Commercial General Liability be the minimum accepted insurance limit for central area businesses seeking a patio extension licence, and that staff prepare a report on a tiered approach for the patio program for 2025;

e) That a letter be sent to AMO and all member municipalities requesting an investigation into insurance matters and that AMO be encouraged to investigate the creation of an insurance company for municipal purposes; and,

f) That staff report back by Q3, 2024, with a plan for the 2024/25 winter season and beyond on how the City will accommodate covering the liability insurance premiums for community volunteers as they relate to city activities.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Exclusionary Zoning

Moved by Councillor Beamer

Seconded by Councillor Duguay

Whereas, the City of Peterborough has committed to the Provincial Housing Pledge of supporting the creation of 4,700 new units by 2031;

Whereas, the City of Peterborough takes this responsibility seriously and has already implemented several initiatives to transform the planning and building ecosystem in our community and continues to move key initiatives forward;

Whereas, the City of Peterborough has made application to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Housing Accelerator Fund to secure funding that is critical to facilitating this market transformation;

Whereas the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada is publicly encouraging municipalities to end the practice of exclusionary zoning – zoning that only permits single or semi-detached dwellings to the exclusion of

other housing forms – to provide greater flexibility in addressing the housing supply and affordability crisis;

Therefore, be it resolved, that staff be directed to bring forward, with a sense of urgency, updates to appropriate regulatory mechanisms as required including the Official Plan and the Zoning By-law for Council's approval to put an effective end to "exclusionary zoning" in Peterborough, which could include expanding the City's current Additional Residential Unit policies and regulations to permit up to four units per residential lot as of right.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Downtown Patio Program Insurance, Report FCSERM24-003

Moved by Councillor Bierk

Seconded by Councillor Parnell

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report FCSERM24-003, dated February 5, 2024, of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

a) That the supplemental information pertaining to insurance requirements for the Downtown Patio Licence Program, be received for information.

b) That Council, at its meeting of February 5, 2024, consider staff's original recommendation d) as outlined in Report FCSERM24-003.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Notice of Motion

Moved by Councillor Duguay

Seconded by Councillor Haacke

Whereas the City of Peterborough is required to ensure the adequate provision of employment opportunities, a full range of housing, including affordable housing, and the protection of the financial and economic well-being of the Province and the City pursuant to Section 2 of the Planning Act,

Whereas the City of Peterborough is required to ensure the adequate provision and efficient use of communication, transportation, sewage and water services

and waste management systems (collectively, “municipal services”) pursuant to Section 2 of the Planning Act;

Whereas the City of Peterborough has exhausted its supply of serviced employment land and has completed a Land Needs Assessment that identifies the need for more employment land;

Whereas the City of Peterborough has available water and wastewater infrastructure capacity to accommodate new development and has plans in place to expand capacity to meet future growth needs, but has limited opportunity to develop new employment land by virtue of being land-locked;

Whereas Section 6.1.7 of the Official Plan currently prohibits the extension of the City’s utility, sanitary sewer and water services beyond the existing City boundary except to serve City-owned facilities;

Whereas historically the City of Peterborough has, in special circumstances, amended the Official Plan to support the extension of one or more municipal services beyond the City boundary to support development opportunities of mutual benefit to the City and certain neighbouring municipalities;

And whereas the City of Peterborough will consider opportunities on a case-by-case basis to support mutually beneficial development with a neighbouring municipality to foster regional economic expansion and job growth which could include the extension of one or more municipal services beyond the City boundary;

Therefore, be it resolved, that staff be directed to bring forward for Council’s consideration an update to the Official Plan to introduce greater flexibility for Council to consider the extension of municipal services beyond the existing City boundary in circumstances where doing so would mutually benefit the City and one or more neighbouring municipality.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Lachica

Carried (10 to 1)

Moved by Mayor Leal
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has recently announced policy changes that will negatively affect publicly funded colleges, particularly those in small, northern and rural regions of Ontario, by altering the framework through which international students are admitted and managed;

WHEREAS there is growing concern over the current funding model of postsecondary education, which has placed additional financial pressures on

publicly funded colleges, undermined their sustainability and made it more difficult for colleges to respond to the needs of local employers;

WHEREAS Fleming College has developed an important public-private college partnership with Global University Systems (Fleming College Toronto) that contributes \$26 million annually in net revenue to Fleming College, money that is invested locally for students and our community;

WHEREAS students enrolled in programs offered through the Global University Systems public-private partnership campuses are recognized as students of a publicly funded college and are held to the same high standards of academic rigor, are provided with comparable wrap-around support services to those offered at Fleming College and receive a Fleming College credential;

WHEREAS, the elimination of Post-Graduate Work Permits by the Federal Government for students graduating from programs offered through the Global University Systems public-private partnership campus would result in an immediate suspension of revenue to Fleming College, adversely affecting the sustainability of the college and undermining the ability to support local employers;

WHEREAS, the Federal Government's policy changes have been made without any consultation with postsecondary institutions and without a clear understanding of the severe financial hardship this will result in for smaller public colleges based primarily outside of the GTA;

WHEREAS international students bring many benefits to the community including meeting local workforce needs, bringing diversity of perspectives, economic benefits, and cultural enrichment;

WHEREAS, the Government of Ontario has recently called together a group of experts who have released recommendations in the Blue-Ribbon Panel report that are designed to ensure the long-term sustainability of the postsecondary education sector in Ontario;

WHEREAS, the flow of international students is anticipated to be drastically reduced as a result of these changes, which would have a direct, negative impact on the local Peterborough economy;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Peterborough City Council urge the Federal Government to reconsider its recent policy changes and specifically exempt public-private partner institutions from being excluded in offering students who successfully complete their program of study a Post-Graduate Work Permit; and,

THAT Peterborough City Council request the Government of Ontario to immediately implement the Blue-Ribbon Panel recommendations and actively work with the Federal Government to restore the eligibility of public-private partner colleges, to grant students who successfully complete their program of study, a Post-Graduate Work Permit.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Haacke

Seconded by Mayor Leal

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has recently announced policy changes that will negatively affect publicly funded universities by altering the framework through which international students are admitted and managed;

WHEREAS there is growing concern over the current funding model of postsecondary education, which has placed additional financial pressures on publicly funded universities, undermined their sustainability, and made it more difficult for universities to respond to the needs of local employers;

WHEREAS Trent University is one of the largest employers in the region and contributes approximately 10% of the local GDP;

WHEREAS international students bring many benefits to the community including meeting local workforce needs, bringing diversity of perspectives, economic benefits, and cultural enrichment,

WHEREAS Trent University has taken a measured and sustainable approach to increasing international enrolment providing wrap-around supports both pre- and post-arrival and throughout their time at Trent, including assistance finding housing both on- and off-campus, mental health supports, employment services, and financial aid,

WHEREAS International students are important to the fiscal sustainability of the University,

WHEREAS, the Federal Government's policy changes have been made without consultation with postsecondary institutions and without a clear understanding of the financial hardship this will result in for smaller public universities based primarily outside of the GTA;

WHEREAS, the Government of Ontario has recently convened a group of experts who have released recommendations in the Blue-Ribbon Panel report that are designed to ensure the long-term sustainability of the postsecondary education sector in Ontario:

WHEREAS, the flow of international students is anticipated to be drastically reduced as a result of these changes, which would have a direct, negative impact on the local Peterborough economy;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Peterborough City Council urge the Government of Canada to reconsider its recent policy changes, and request that the Government of Ontario immediately implement the Blue-Ribbon Panel

recommendations and actively work with the Federal Government to ensure a fair and reasonable allocation of study permits that reflect the responsible approach Trent University has taken to recruiting and supporting international students and their importance to the region.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Approval of By-laws

Moved by Councillor Beamer

Seconded by Councillor Haacke

That by-law 24-008 Being a By-law to authorize the borrowing limit of \$15,000,000 for 2024 current expenditures, be approved.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Other Business

Waste Collection - Multi-Residential Units

Moved by Councillor Haacke

Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That Council reconsider a motion previously adopted by Council, regarding multi-residential waste collection.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Councillor Riel declared a conflict with this item as he is the owner of a condominium. He did not discuss or vote on this item.

Moved by Councillor Haacke

Seconded by Councillor Beamer

Whereas Waste Collection By-law 23-106 establishes service limits with respect to garbage (Section 13) and organics (Section 15);

Whereas Council has requested a report on cost and service level implications related to garbage pick up at various multi-residential and condominium

properties were Council to establish service level limits that would exceed the service limits as established by Waste Collection By-law 23-106; and,

Whereas Council considers it appropriate to temporarily authorize service levels that exceed those established by the by-law pending consideration of the report.

Now therefore be it resolved,

That notwithstanding Waste Collection By-law 23-106, Council authorizes unseparated garbage and organics waste collection services to the multi-residential/condominium properties identified in a list provided by the Municipal Operations Department to the City Clerk until Council's determination in response to the pending staff report;

That staff be authorized to access up to \$500,000 from the Waste Management Reserve to cover any expenses required; and,

That the Commissioner, Municipal Operations be authorized to execute any documents and agreements to give effect to the forgoing, on terms acceptable to the said Commissioner in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Conflict (1): Councillor Riel

Carried (10 to 0)

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Councillor Baldwin
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

That by-law 24-009, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council at its meeting of February 5, 2024, be approved.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Beamer
Seconded by Councillor Riel

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

John Kennedy

City Clerk

Jeff Leal

Mayor