

City Council Minutes

Council Chambers, City Hall

September 23, 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 Development and Urban Design
Jocelyn Blazey, Manager, Homelessness Program
Joe Crooks, Manager, Innovation and Quality Assurance
Richard Freymond, Commissioner, Finance & Corporate Support Services
Natalie Garnett, Deputy City Clerk
Greg Giles, Director, Engineering and Capital Works
John Kennedy, City Clerk
Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner, Community Services
Jennifer McFarlane, Commissioner, Municipal Operations (Acting)
Blair Nelson, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning & Growth
Management
Jessica Penner, Project Manager, Wolfe Street Community Services
David Potts, Commissioner, Legislative Services, City Solicitor
Jasbir Raina, Chief Administrative Officer
Brendan Wedley, Director, Strategic Communications & Service
Peterborough

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Ceremonial Presentation

Poet Laureate - Ziysah von Bieberstein

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Crowley
Seconded by Councillor Vassiliadis

That the Council minutes from the meeting of September 3, 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 Crowley declared a conflict with Easements – Report LSRS24-015 and Settlement – Report LSOCS24-009, and 11 a, and 11b as he did not attend the Closed Session meeting.

Registered Delegations

Modular Bridge Housing Community Next Steps, Report CSSS24-018

Leslie Woolcott, Dalhousie Street
Alix Kempf, Aylmer Street
Alan Wilson, Brock Mission
George Roy Mitchell, Peterborough

Designation of 1400 Monaghan Road – The Martin House, Report IPGPL24-027

John Cooper, 1400 Monaghan Road
Ann Farquharson, Peterborough
Peter Harris, Homewood Avenue

Public Meeting

Matt Stimpson, Weller Street

Consent Items

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

That Presentation by Otonabee Region Conservation Authority - Report LSCLK24-011, June 30, 2024, Financial Report (Unaudited) - Report FCSFS24-021, Designation of 469 Weller Street - Report IPGPL24-028, Peterborough Housing Corporation Capital Financing and Community Revitalization Plan Update - Report CSSS24-019 and VIA High Frequency Railway, be approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

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)

Presentation by Otonabee Region Conservation Authority, Report LSCLK24-011

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSCLK24-011, dated September 16, 2024, of the City Clerk as follows:

That the presentation from Otonabee Region Conservation Authority be received for information.

Designation of 469 Weller Street, Report IPGPL24-028

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report IPGPL24-028, dated September 16, 2024, of the Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth Management as follows:

a) That the recommendation of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) that Council designate the property at 469 Weller Street as a heritage property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 being of “cultural heritage value or interest” be received; and,

b) That Council take the following actions should it concur with the recommendation of the PACAC to designate the property at 469 Weller Street as a heritage property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 being of cultural heritage value or interest:

i. Serve Notice of Intention to Designate 469 Weller Street and provide public notice of that intention in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality as per the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, s.31 (3);

ii. Serve the owner of the property to be designated and the Ontario Heritage Trust with a Notice of Intention to Designate as per the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, s.29 (3).

June 30, 2024 Financial Report (Unaudited), Report FCSFS24-021

Amended Recommendation:

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report FCSFS24-021, dated September 16, 2024, as amended, as follows:

a) That the June 30, 2024 Quarterly Financial Update Report (Unaudited) attached as Appendix A to Report FCSFS24-021, dated September 16, 2024, be received;

b) That prior to closing the Byersville Creek project (Q#07420 – IFR/0002), the budget be increased by \$55,738.73 by transferring surplus budget from the Kawartha Heights Detention Pond project (Q#12421 – IFR/0004); and,

c) That staff in collaboration with the DBIA, come up with a strategy to address the revenue shortfall at the King and Simcoe parking garages and report back to Council with options.

Amended Recommendation:

- a) That up to \$1,600,000 from the Social Services Reserve be allocated to the affordable housing redevelopment plans for 1190 Hilliard Street to achieve a 'shovel ready' status.
- b) That staff be directed to report on the feasibility to use lands owned by the City of Peterborough for social housing and,
- c) That the report investigate the use of the parkway corridor between Hilliard and Chemong and the possibility of selling existing housing to offset the development cost of new housing in this corridor.

VIA High Frequency Railway

Whereas the VIA HFR has highlighted the pressing challenges facing our nation, including decreased productivity, urban congestion, and climate change;

Whereas VIA HFR's mission is to lead the development of a fast, frequent, and reliable passenger rail network connecting Toronto to Quebec City, which will serve as a catalyst for economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social equity;

Whereas the proposed rail network will provide intercity transit choice and equity, help fast track Ontario's prosperity, increase productivity, support more sustainable economic growth, encourage housing construction in areas served by more public transit, and improve the overall quality of life for millions of people who live, work and study along Canada's largest economic corridor;

Whereas the new rail network will provide fast, frequent, and reliable service, allowing passengers to reach their destination quickly, comfortably, and hassle-free, with stops in Toronto, Peterborough, Ottawa, Montreal, Laval, Trois-Rivières, and Quebec City;

Whereas the development of this rail network will generate immediate economic benefits, such as job creation, and support Ontario's prosperity, reduce distances and congestion, increase productivity, encourage housing construction in areas served by more public transit, and improve the quality of life for millions of people who live, work and study along Canada's largest economic corridor;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the City of Peterborough supports the development of VIA HFR's rapid, reliable, and frequent train network, recognizing its potential to transform intercity transportation, promote economic growth, and enhance the quality of life for residents and businesses in the region.

Be it further resolved that the City of Peterborough encourages the provincial and federal levels of government to collaborate and provide the necessary resources and support to ensure the successful implementation of this project, recognizing its significant benefits for the region and the nation as a whole.

Be it further resolved that the City of Peterborough will actively engage with VIA HFR and other stakeholders to ensure that the needs and interests of the local community are taken into account in the planning and development of this project.

Be it further resolved that the City of Peterborough will monitor the progress of this project and report back to the community on a regular basis, providing updates on its status, benefits, and any potential impacts on the local community.

Due to his previously declared conflict, Councillor Crowley did not vote on Report LSRS24-015 – Easements, and Report LSOCS24-009 – Settlement.

Moved by Councillor Parnell
Seconded by Councillor Duguay

That items Report LSRS24-015 – Easements, and Report LSOCS24-009 – Settlement be approved.

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

Conflict (1): Councillor Crowley

Carried (10 to 0)

Report LSRS24-015 - Easements

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSRS24-015, dated September 16, 2024, of the Commissioner of Legislative Services as follows:

That, respecting the Curtis Creek Project, staff be authorized to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSRS24-015 dated September 16, 2024, of the Commissioner of Legislative Services.

Report LSOCS24-009 - Settlement

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS24-009, dated September 16, 2024, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSOCS24-009 dated September 16, 2024 of the City Solicitor respecting the settlement of an arbitration.

PKED 2024 Q1 & Q2 Strategic Plan Activities Report, Report PKED24-001

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Vassiliadis

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report PKED24-001, dated September 16, 2024 of the Board Chair and President & CEO of Peterborough & the Kawarthas Economic Development, as follows:

That Report PKED24-001 and accompanying presentation, providing the Peterborough & the Kawarthas Economic Development 2024 Q1 and Q2 Strategic Plan Activities Report be received for information.

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)

Modular Bridge Housing Community Next Steps, Report CSSS24-018

The motion was separated for the vote.

Moved by Councillor Riel
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSSS24-018, dated September 16, 2024 as amended, as follows:

a) That the Modular Bridge Housing Community project remain on Wolfe St. beyond November 2025 provided the site location is not needed for other city activities or services and that the Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program funding remains at its present level;

For (7): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Riel

Against (4): Councillor Beamer, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (7 to 4)

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Riel

b) That the Commissioner of Community Services have delegated authority to make decisions regarding physical and operational modifications to the former Rehill lot and 210 Wolfe Street in alignment with the best interests of the Modular Bridge Housing Community program, within existing budgets; and in consultation with the Social Services Council portfolio co-chairs;

For (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Riel

Against (3): Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (8 to 3)

Moved by Councillor Haacke
Seconded by Councillor Crowley

i. That up to \$75,000 be made available from the Social Service Reserve to enhance the security infrastructure on Wolfe Street to strengthen impacts experienced by the MBHC program. The Commissioner of Community Services shall be granted the authority to expend these funds;

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 Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Crowley

c) That the Commissioner of Community Services be authorized to do such things and to execute such documents for the Modular Bridge Housing Community program for the duration of the program, on terms satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Haacke, and Councillor Lachica

Carried (9 to 2)

Items not Recommended from General Committee Meeting of September 16, 2024

Designation of 1400 Monaghan Road - The Martin House, Report IPGPL24-027

Moved by Councillor Lachica
Seconded by Councillor Bierk

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report IPGPL24-027, dated September 16, 2024, of the Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth Management as follows:

a) That the recommendation of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) that Council designate the property at 1400 Monaghan Road – The Martin House as a heritage property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 being of “cultural heritage value or interest” be received; and,

b) That Council take the following actions should it concur with the recommendation of the PACAC to designate the property at 1400 Monaghan Road – The Martin House as a heritage property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 being of “cultural heritage value or interest”:

i. Serve Notice of Intention to Designate 1400 Monaghan Road and provide public notice of that intention in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality as per the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, s.31 (3);

ii. Serve the owner of the property to be designated and the Ontario Heritage Trust with a Notice of Intention to Designate as per the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, s.29 (3).

For (6): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (5): Councillor Beamer, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Parnell

Carried (6 to 5)

Public Meeting

Moved by Councillor Bierk

Seconded by Councillor Lachica

Whereas the downtown community has repeatedly raised urgent concerns about safety, well-being, and the City’s response to homelessness and housing, and

Whereas the community has expressed frustration over the lack of a comprehensive plan to address these issues, and

Whereas current engagement methods have not adequately addressed these concerns, and there is a need for a more direct and inclusive approach,

Be it resolved that:

a) City Council recognizes the urgency of these issues and directs staff to organize a moderated public meeting focused on addressing homelessness, housing, and community safety in the downtown core.

b) The public meeting shall be held before the start of the upcoming budget deliberations to ensure community feedback is considered in the budget planning process.

c) The meeting will include a dedicated question and answer (Q&A) session to ensure open dialogue between the public, elected officials, and City staff.

d) Invitations will be extended to the following representatives to participate in a panel to respond to community concerns:

- The Mayor
- The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
- The Commissioner of Community Services
- A representative from the Police Department
- Town Ward Councilor
- The Chairs of Housing and Homelessness

e) Following the public meeting, staff will prepare a report for Council summarizing the key issues raised, community feedback received, and proposed strategies or recommendations. This report will be submitted before the budget deliberations commence.

For (4): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Riel

Against (7): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (4 to 7)

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

That the Rules of Procedure (By-law 21-104, s.14.2) be suspended to permit the completion of the agenda past the hour of 10:00 p.m.

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

Against (1): Councillor Haacke

Carried (10 to 1)

Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

Other Business

Designation Process

Moved by Councillor Bierk
Seconded by Councillor Lachica

That the motion be deferred.

For (3): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Riel

Against (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis
Lost (3 to 8)

Moved by Councillor Duguay
Seconded by Councillor Parnell

That staff report on a policy to permit a property owner to speak at the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee respecting the potential designation of their subject property.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Bierk, and Councillor Lachica

Carried (9 to 2)

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Councillor Parnell
Seconded by Councillor Baldwin

That By-law 24-073 Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council at its meeting held on September 23, 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 Vassiliadis

That this meeting be adjourned at 10:14 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