



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES/REPORT

The members of the Committee of the Whole met on Monday July 19, 2021 in the Council Chambers, at 04:30 PM.

PRESENT:

This meeting was held via Video Conference due to COVID-19 and public health concerns and was able to be viewed via Livestream on the Town's website.

Chair Councillor Erwin Wiens, Lord Mayor Betty Disero, Councillors: Al Bisback, John Wiens, Sandra O'Connor, Norm Arsenault, Wendy Cheropita, Gary Burroughs, Clare Cameron

REGRETS:

Clare
Wendy

STAFF:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Marnie Cluckie | Chief Administrative Officer |
| Craig Larmour | Director, Community & Development Services |
| Kyle Freeborn | Director, Corporate Services |
| Sheldon Randall | Director, Operations |
| Nick Ruller | Fire Chief |
| Tara Druzina | Administrative Assistant |
| Colleen Hutt | Acting Town Clerk |

OTHERS:

MEDIA:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Councillor Erwin Wiens called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The following was added to the agenda under Delegations:

5.3 Robin Ridesic - OPS-21-020 - Ball's Beach Park & River Beach Drive

Moved by Councillor Al Bisback that the agenda be adopted, as amended.

APPROVED, AS AMENDED.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Conflicts of Interest declared at this time.

4. CLOSED SESSION

- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically relating to 412 Four Mile Creek Road;
- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically regarding cannabis appeal;
- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically relating to lease negotiations for 176 Wellington Street.

At 4:33 pm the following motion was read in open session.

Moved by Councillor Norm Arsenault, that Council proceed to go into a closed meeting to consider matters that qualify under the Municipal Act 2001, as amended:

- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically relating to 412 Four Mile Creek Road;
- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically regarding cannabis appeal;
- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically relating to lease negotiations for 176 Wellington Street.

APPROVED.

At 5:59 pm the following motion was read in open session.

Moved by Councillor Norm Arsenault, that Council rise from closed session that considered matters that qualify under the Municipal Act 2001, as amended:

- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically relating to 412 Four Mile Creek Road and that Council rise directing a matter to be

- forwarded to Council for adoption;
- Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically regarding cannabis appeal with no report;
 - Closed meeting under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose specifically relating to lease negotiations for 176 Wellington Street with no report.

APPROVED.

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Julia Murray, 176 Wellington Street Royal Oak School - Update

Julia Murray referred to an electronic presentation and provided background on the school, spoke to where they began, schooling safely in a pandemic, who we are today and growth projections and next steps for the school with additional space requested.

5.2 Marlo Saganski, General Manager Pedal Pub, 319 Mary Street

Ms. Saganski provided the Committee with an update regarding their business. She stated that they would like to be a permanent business in Niagara-on-the-Lake long term. She noted that last year they were permitted to continue during the pandemic and they continue to operate and comply with their Regional license. She also noted previous concerns with noise, safety and training, intoxication issues, covid safety protocols and being eco-friendly. Ms. Saganski played a video of support for the Committee.

5.3 Robin Ridesic OPS-21-020 - Balls Beach Park & River Beach Drive

Robin Ridesic spoke to an electronic presentation that showed the area and existing danger and liability that exists, insufficient space for safe parking and turnaround and a previous discussion regarding a new parking area. She noted the proposed hammerhead being a similar unsafe situation, the consultant report not addressing the requests of Council and proposal for maintaining what is existing and introduce proposed parking.

Moved by Councillor Cheropita to lift OPS-21-020 for discussion.

Report OPS-21-020 was lifted, discussed and the recommendations amended.

6. RESPONSE TO DELEGATIONS

5.1 Royal Oak School - 176 Wellington Street Lease

Moved by Councillor John Wiens that the lease with Royal Oak School be amended to include the addition of two extra classroom space beginning with the 2021/2022 school year and that rent be addressed appropriately.

APPROVED.

5.2 Pedal Pub

The Committee discussed the aspects of the presentation for the pedal pub.

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Kevin Turcotte, Manager, Parks & Recreation
- Queen & Mississagua Project

Kevin Turcotte, Manager, Parks & Recreation spoke to an electronic presentation on this project. Mr. Turcotte referenced the partners in the project, the working group's vision, a timeline for the project, the working group project timeline, and the motion from Council on June 21, 2021. He also provided a diagram of the area, the Queen & Mississagua Street three way stop, and provided pictures of the current site, dimensions of elements, the Icon - preferred concept, phases of a design project, feedback and engagement. He also outline the next steps.

The Committee asked questions regarding the presentation. Chair Councillor Erwin Wiens thanked Mr. Turcotte for the presentation.

Operation Services Report OPS-21-021 was lifted for discussion.

Moved by Lord Mayor Betty Disero that Operation Services Report OPS-21-021 be lifted for discussion.

APPROVED.

8. COVID-19 UPDATE

Marnie Cluckie, Chief Administrative Officer updated the following updates:

- Friday, July 16th, Niagara on the lake along with the rest of the province, moved into step three of its roadmap to reopen.
- Today the Government of Canada announced easing in border measures for fully vaccinated travellers; as the first stepped on August 9th, Canada plans to begin allowing entry to American citizens and permanent residents who are currently residing in the USA and have been fully vaccinated for at least 14 days prior to entering Canada.
- The provincial government government announced the i Investment of 10.5 million to provide up to 60,000 small businesses across the province with free health and safety training over the next three years, Health and Safety Association information

- will also be posted on our website so that small businesses can easily find that.
- and they will be simplifying the application process and providing increased financial supports for individuals applying to a second career program as a province is, economy begins to reopen.
 - In Niagara-on-the-Lake specifically, as it rate relates to COVID-19, the track and fitness area at the Community Center has reopened with the transition to step three day, doors opened on Friday, July 16th at 8:00 am, room rentals at the community centre will commence on September 7th, so interested groups can now reach out.
 - The Town will once again offer temporary indoor cooling centres when there's a heat advisory in effect. For July, the cooling centre is going to be located in the market room of the courthouse, signage will be posted in the surrounding area and staff will share that information on our website and through our social media channels. And then in August the cooling centre will move to the Community Center so that will be available.
 - We are happy to welcome back many sports teams since the move to Step 3 so we have now got baseball and soccer having returned.
 - Aquatics is going well and still available for swimming lessons. And of course our water features such as the memorial Pool, St Davids pool, wading pool and splash pad are also open.
 - On Tuesday, July 27th, the Queenston Library will be open on Tuesdays for library services.
 - The ambassador program has started again this weekend and reaction has been very positive. The Ambassador Volunteer Group is continuing your outreach to attract new volunteers for the season.
 - Vaccinations clinics will be on July 21st and 22nd at the Community Center and we will be having another clinic added for July the 30th For vaccine statistics, as of yesterday, there have been almost 578 thousand doses administered. 68% of Niagara residents had their first dose and 52.6% have completed the series, so having had both the 1st and 2nd dose.
 - Increase in traffic on the weekend with up to 11,875 incoming cars. By-law, staff are now focused on ensuring that capacity limits don't exceed what is permitted, and ensuring the provincial guidance is followed, such as physical distancing, mask wearing, and making sure there are safety plans in place at businesses.
 - In the downtown area, enforcement staff visited many patios and assisted them to reposition their tables to ensure adequate physical distancing and adherence to the regulation so still helping out with the businesses to make sure everything is properly in place.
 - Our parking officers issued 141 parking tickets this weekend.
 - In addition, the officers were focused on ensuring public health guidance in provincial regulations were here too, and addressing any STR complaints that came forward.
 - Park Hop, is set to launch this week. So this is a great, family friendly initiative that encourages families and kids to explore, are many great parks and play structures throughout the town and doing so with an animal themed scavenger hunt so the

media release will go out tomorrow and you'll see more news posted on our website and social media challenge channels.

- The Garden of the Week program will be wrapping up soon to just two weeks left. We've seen lots and lots of beautiful gardens submitted under the contest.
- In other good news we have ParaSport Ontario coming to Town on Thursday, July 22nd, and they be promoting their million minutes campaign, The million minutes is a one of a kind challenge to Niagara's disability community, along with friends and families to help record a million minutes of physical activity. Please visitmillionminutes.ca and it will give you more information and also indicate how to join the challenge.

The Committee answered questions regarding the update.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

At this time the Chair asked for members to identify any items to be lifted for separate discussion.

The following reports were lifted for separate discussion: OPS-21-020 and OPS-21-021.

Moved by Councillor Norm Arsenault that the Consent Agenda be approved, with the exception of item listed for separate discussion above, and that the reports and recommendations contained therein be forwarded to Council for adoption.

APPROVED.

- (1) Reports not requiring separate discussion.

CS-21-022 Fire SCBA Debenture

- 1.1. Council approve the draft by-law, attached as Appendix I, being a by-law to request that the Regional Municipality of Niagara issue a debenture on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, in the amount of \$415,615 over a 10-year term, to fund the purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus; and
- 1.2 The Treasurer is authorized to execute all related documents as required by the debt issuance.

CS-21-023 Phragmites Tractor Debenture

- 1.1. Council approve the draft by-law, attached as Appendix I, being a by-law to request the Regional Municipality of Niagara to issue a debenture on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, in the amount of \$416,046 over a 10-year term, to fund the purchase of a tractor and specialized equipment; and

1.2 the Treasurer is authorized to execute all related documents as required by the debt issuance.

(2) Reports requiring separate discussion.

OPS-21-021 Queen & Mississagua Project - Status Update and Next Steps

Moved by Councillor Norm Arsenault that the recommendation contained in Operation Services Report be amended as follows:

1.1 Council approve the work plan for the completion of the Queen and Mississagua Bed Project *increasing the time for Join The Conversation component of the plan to four weeks and that the history of the project (included in the May 27th Communities in Bloom presentation) be included on the Join the Conversation page and that updates to the project plan be made to Council accordingly.*

APPROVED, AS AMENDED.

Report OPS-21-022 was dealt with under Response to Delegations.

OPS-21-022 Ball's Beach Park and River Beach Drive Proposed Traffic Improvements & Parking and Traffic Bylaw Amendments

Moved by Councillor Sandra O'Connor that,
Whereas the Ball's Beach Park and River Beach Drive Proposed Traffic Improvements & Parking and Traffic Bylaw Amendments did not consider the environmental impacts in their review;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT report OPS-21-020 be referred back to staff for further consideration to address environmental aspects of the review, since the section of the October Council motion stated "while maximizing the green space and natural assets of the park" was not considered;

AND FURTHER THAT that the recommended short term design proposal of the "hammerhead" be also reconsidered, since it would likely significantly impact the root system of the very large mature willow tree, and over time lead to its demise;

AND FURTHER THAT the following points be considered in the review:

- No reduction of parkland or destruction of natural assets
- Drop off space for kayakers, flat boarders, etc. near the park from Turntable Way.
- A disability parking spot near the park
- Consultation with the public

AND FURTHER THAT the following be established immediately:

- Parking be allowed on one side of Turntable Way

- Directional signage be installed at the end of River Beach Road to allow for loading and unloading of Kayaks.

APPROVED, AS AMENDED.

10. COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MINUTES

10.1 Communities in Bloom Minutes - May 27, 2021 & June 9, 2021

Items 8.2 and 8.3 of the Staff memo were lifted for separate discussion.

Moved by Councillor Wendy Cheropita that the recommendations of the May 27, 2021 and June 9, 2021 Communities in Bloom minutes be amended:

- 1.2 that CIB approve the request for financial support in the amount of \$500.00 and *that it be funded from Communities in Bloom Account 650-3675-34900.*
- 1.3 that CIB approve the cost of \$72.00 plus HST for three (3) signs *and that it be funded from Communities in Bloom Account 650-3675-34900.*

APPROVED.

Moved by Councillor Al Bisback that the meeting be extended for the completion of the agenda.

APPROVED.

Item 8.1 of the Staff memo was lifted for separate discussion.

Moved by Councillor Clare Cameron that the following recommendation be amended as follows:

- 1.1 that Council *receive* the Communities in Bloom Committee endorsement from the Queen and Mississagua's Working Group recommendation of "The Icon" design concept for installation at Queen and Mississagua bed.

DEFEATED.

Moved by Councillor John Wiens that the balance of the minutes of the Communities in Bloom Minutes of May 27, 2021 be approved.

APPROVED, AS AMENDED.

Moved by Councillor John Wiens that the balance of the minutes of Communities in Bloom Minutes of June 9, 2021 be approved.

APPROVED, AS AMENDED.

10.2 Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes - July 7, 2021

Moved by Councillor Norm Arsenault that the minutes of Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes of July 7, 2021 be approved.

APPROVED.

10.3 Inclusivity Committee Minutes - July 12, 2021

Moved by Councillor John Wiens that the minutes of Inclusivity Committee Minutes of July 12, 2021

11. INFORMATION PACKAGES

July 15, 2021

Item No. 1 - Feasibility Report - St. Davids Fire Station

Item No. 4 - Renaming of Glendale Avenue East Update

Item No. 5 - Traffic Data Collection and Speed Minders Program Results - April, May and June 2021

Moved by Councillor Norm Arsenault that the Information Package of July 15, 2021 be received.

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

13. ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT: 10:45 PM

Lord Mayor, this concludes the Minutes/Report of the Committee of the Whole General Meeting. I Councillor _____ move, seconded by Councillor _____ that the Minutes/Report of the July 19, 2021 Committee of the Whole General Meeting be adopted.