Town of Aurora
General Committee Meeting Report
Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall
Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Attendance

Council Members  Councillor Thompson in the Chair; Councillors Gaertner, Gallo, Gilliland, Humfries, Kim, and Mayor Mrakas

Members Absent  None

Other Attendees  Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer, Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services, Techa van Leeuwen, Director of Corporate Services, Jason Gaertner, Acting Director of Financial Services, Sara Tienkamp, Acting Director of Operations, David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, Patricia De Sario, Town Solicitor, Stephanie Mackenzie-Smith, Manager of Corporate Communications, Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, and Ishita Soneji, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

General Committee consented to recess the meeting at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

General Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services with the following additions:

- Delegation (a) Bruce Gorman, CEO, Aurora Public Library; Re: Item R1 – CMS19-015 – Library Square – Linkage and Café Options
- Delegation (b) Sina Daniell, Resident; Re: Stable Neighbourhood Study
• Item C1 – Memorandum from Mayor Mrakas, Re: Aurora Sports Hall of Fame – Appointment to the Board

• Presentation added to Item R1 – CMS19-015 – Library Square – Linkage and Café Options – Presentation to be provided by Thomas Nemeskeri, Roland Rom Colthoff, Aaron Hendershott, Architects, RAW Design

• Notice of Motion (a) Councillor Gaertner, Re: Stable Neighbourhoods Study Methodology

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50.

3. Community Presentations

(a) Franco De Marco, Recreation Supervisor, Community Programs 
Re: Recreation and Parks Month – June 2019

Mr. De Marco presented an overview of the June is Recreation & Parks Month program and highlighted the Town’s contribution in increasing awareness of the value and benefits of recreation and parks in individuals, families, and communities. He noted that residents could participate in various events and programs throughout the month of June, including the ParticipAction Community Better Challenge, which will take place from May 31 to June 16. It was mentioned that the schedule of events and programs is available at aurora.ca/recreationparksmonth.

General Committee received the presentation for information.

4. Delegations

(a) Bruce Gorman, Chief Executive Officer, Aurora Public Library 
Re: Item R1 – CMS19-015 – Library Square – Linkage and Café Options

General Committee consented to allow additional time for the delegation.
Mr. Gorman spoke in support of the staff recommendation and highlighted the benefits of the addition of the linkage bridge between the Library and the Church Street school addition.

General Committee received and referred the comments of the delegation to Item R1.

(b) Sina Daniell, Resident
Re: Stable Neighbourhood Study

Ms. Daniell expressed concerns regarding the proposed zoning amendments to the Stable Neighbourhood study area and requested that the portion of Royal Road, east of Cameron Ave be exempt from the proposed amendments.

General Committee received the comments of the delegation for information.

5. Consent Agenda

General Committee recommends:

That the following Consent Agenda item, C1, be approved:

C1. Memorandum from Mayor Mrakas
Re: Aurora Sports Hall of Fame – Appointment to the Board

1. That the memorandum regarding Aurora Sports Hall of Fame – Appointment to the Board and attached correspondence be received; and

2. That Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services, for the Town of Aurora and Mayor Tom Mrakas be appointed to the Board of the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame.

Carried

6. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

General Committee recommends:
That the following Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes items, A1 to A2 inclusive, be received:

A1. Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2019

1. That the Finance Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 30, 2019, be received for information.

A2. Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2019

1. That the Community Advisory Committee meeting minutes of May 2, 2019, be received for information.

Carried

7. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

General Committee consented to consider Item R2 prior to Item R1.

R1. CMS19-015 – Library Square – Linkage and Café Options

Ms. Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services provided a brief introduction of Mr. Thomas Nemeskeri, Mr. Roland Rom Colthoff and Mr. Aaron Hendershott, Architects from RAW Design.

Mr. Nemeskeri and Mr. Hendershott presented details of the various design options for the café and the Library Square linkage bridge connecting the library and the Church Street school addition including details of accessible features and materials.

General Committee received the presentation for information.

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. CMS19-015 be received; and

2. That Linkage Option B – Link with Stairs be approved and the total Library Square project budget be increased by $3,544,400 to be funded as per the recommended funding strategy; and
3. That staff report back to Council on final cost estimate for the Library Extension Corridor; and

4. That the Library Entrance Vestibule be approved and the total Library Square project budget increased by $398,900 to be funded as per the recommended funding strategy; and

5. That the Café Snack bar/Concession style be approved and the total Library Square project budget increased by $157,700 to be funded as per the recommended funding strategy.

Carried

R2. PDS19-042 – Regional MCR Update: Intensification Area & Employment Land Conversion Requests

General Committee consented to allow additional time for the presentation.

Mr. Paul Freeman, Chief Planner from the Regional Municipality of York presented an overview of the Region’s Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) including details on areas of focus such as identifying priority intensification areas, protecting agricultural and natural heritage, aligning infrastructure with growth, conducting fiscal impact analysis and reviewing and updating Regional Official Plan policies. He further provided details on the Region’s criteria for employment land conversion requests, and highlighted the Region’s means of consultation and communication with the residents.

General Committee received the presentation for information.

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-042 be received for information.

Carried

R3. CS19-020 – Ratepayers Association Policy Update

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. CS19-020 be received; and
2. That the Ratepayers Association Policy be approved.  

Carried


General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. CMS19-013 be received; and

2. That this report satisfy Council’s conditional budget approval for Capital Project No. 74007 – AFLC Fitness Equipment Replacement in the amount of $50,000.  

Carried

R5. CMS19-014 – 2019 Capital Project – User Fee Pricing Policy and Ability to Pay Review

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. CMS19-014 be received; and

2. That this report satisfy Council’s conditional budget approval for Capital Project No. 73318 – User Fee Pricing Strategy, in the amount of $60,000.  

Carried

R6. OPS19-012 – Tamarac Green Park – Walkway/Basketball Repaving

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. OPS19-012 be received; and

2. That this report satisfy Council’s conditional approval of Capital Project No. 73240 – Tamarac Green Park Walkway/Basketball Repaving in the amount of $30,000.  

Carried
R7. **OPS19-013 – Wildlife Park Phases 1/2/3**

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. OPS19-013 be received; and

2. That this report satisfy Council's conditional approval of Capital Project No. 73169 – Wildlife Park Phases 1/2/3 in the amount of $1,000,000.

   **Carried**

R8. **PDS19-040 – BIA Business Plan and Budget**

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-040 be received; and

2. That the budget presented by the Aurora BIA Board of Management for the Aurora Business Improvement Area be approved; and

3. That a by-law be enacted to levy a Special Charge upon Rateable Property in the Aurora Business Improvement Area at the May 28, 2019 Council meeting.

   **Carried**

R9. **PDS19-045 – Capital Project No. 42072 – Vandorf Sideroad Culvert and Ditch Repair Budget Increase**

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-045 be received; and

2. That the total approved budget for Capital Project No. 42072 be increased from $130,000 to $219,000, representing an increase of $89,000 to be funded from the Storm Sewer R&R Reserve.

   **Carried**
R10. PDS19-047 – Amending Zoning By-law Enactment and Technical Revisions, 15370 Leslie (Skale) Inc., 15370 Leslie Street
File Number: ZBA-2017-02, Related File Number: SP-2017-02

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-047 be received; and

2. That the amending Zoning By-law be enacted with the following:

   (a) Private Open Space (O2) Zones at the eastern portion of the subject lands; and

   (b) The maximum permitted building height be 12.6 metres and that in calculating the height of a building, any construction used as an ornament, railing, stair enclosure/access, storage enclosure, and/or rooftop amenity shall be allowed to project above the maximum building height by a maximum of 2.2 metres.

Defeated

8. Notices of Motion

(a) Councillor Gaertner
   Re: Stable Neighbourhoods Study Methodology

   Whereas Council has conducted a review of the Zoning By-laws for our mature Stable Neighbourhoods including a consultant’s review; and

   Whereas the consultant’s report was presented at the March 27, 2019 Public Planning meeting which suggested new zoning provisions regarding square footage and percent lot coverage; and

   Whereas it did not include the data that was used to come to the conclusion that would enable Council to address resident’s questions and concerns;

   1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That The Planning Partnership prepare a report to Council on the methodology of the Stable
Neighbourhoods study, including the data and calculations for Gross Floor Area and percentage lot coverage for each of the study areas; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That this report be prepared for the June 4, 2019 General Committee Meeting.

9. New Business

Mayor Mrakas expressed concern regarding the maintenance of vacant lots at the Highland Gate development site, and staff agreed to investigate the matter.

Councillor Gaertner referred to Notice of Motion (a) regarding Stable Neighbourhood Study Methodology and inquired if a Freedom of Information (FOI) request would be required to obtain the proposed information, and staff provided clarification.

Councillor Gaertner inquired about the status of the train whistle cessation project, and staff agreed to provide an update.

Councillor Humfryes inquired about construction at Leslie Street and Wellington Street, close to the bridge, and staff provided an update noting that the Region is commencing construction in the area.

Councillor Gilliland referred to the removal of steel tariffs between Canada and United States and inquired if a new quote could be obtained for the recently approved budget for Capital Project No. 71103 and 34420 (Wide Area Mower).

10. Closed Session

None

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.