



Town of Aurora
General Committee Meeting Report

Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall
Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Attendance

Council Members Councillor Kim in the Chair; Councillors Gaertner, Gallo, Gilliland, Humfries, Thompson, 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, Clayton Pereira, Acting Director of Finance, Sara Tienkamp, Acting Director of Operations, David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, Stephanie Mackenzie-Smith, Manager of Corporate Communications, Patricia De Sario, Town Solicitor, Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, and Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

General Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services with the following additional items, including the addition of Delegations (e), (f), and (g), on a two-thirds majority vote:

- Delegation (a) Ariana Dalie, Resident representing Straw Free Aurora
Re: Item R3 – PDS19-070 – Strategies to Reduce Single-Use Plastic Straws
- Delegation (b) Lynn Pearson, Resident
Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

- Delegation (c) Cathy Henry, Resident
Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road
- Delegation (d) Carol and Paul Ellis, Residents
Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road
- Delegation (e) Rebecca Beaton, Resident
Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road
- Delegation (f) Judy Saabas, Resident
Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road
- Delegation (g) Sarah Carcone, Resident
Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

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

None

4. Delegations

(a) Ariana Dalie, Resident representing Straw Free Aurora

Re: Item R3 – PDS19-070 – Strategies to Reduce Single-Use Plastic Straws

Ms. Dalie spoke in support of the staff report recommendation to implement an Offer-First policy at Town facilities. She inquired about whether the policy would offer any alternatives to plastic straws and whether the Town would consider a second phase by completing a study showing the results of the first initiative to encourage the participation of local eateries in Aurora.

General Committee received and referred the comments of the delegation to Item R3.

(b) Lynn Pearson, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

Ms. Pearson, representing the residents of Browning Court, spoke in opposition to the planned sidewalk construction and expressed concerns regarding the lack of space, snow removal, safety, and accessibility. She noted that every resident of Browning Court has signed a petition requesting Council to reconsider the Town's plan to add sidewalks to their street.

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

(c) Cathy Henry, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

Ms. Henry, representing her neighbourhood, spoke in opposition to the planned sidewalk construction, noting that more than 92 per cent of the residents are not in favour of sidewalks. She requested that Council consider the feedback from residents when making its decision.

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

(d) Carol and Paul Ellis, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

Mr. and Ms. Ellis spoke in opposition to the planned sidewalk construction, expressed concern regarding the potential loss of mature trees, and indicated support for curbs.

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

(e) Rebecca Beaton, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

Ms. Beaton, representing residents of Holman Crescent, Johnson Road, Browning Court, and Baldwin Road, provided background and spoke in opposition to the planned sidewalk construction. She expressed concerns regarding the resident input process and potential loss of mature trees, and indicated support for curbs.

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

(f) Judy Saabas, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

Ms. Saabas spoke in opposition to the planned sidewalk construction on Johnson Road and expressed concerns regarding snow removal, the elderly and clearing of sidewalks, and the potential loss of parking space.

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

(g) Sarah Carcone, Resident

Re: Item R1 – PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

Ms. Carcone spoke in opposition to the planned sidewalk construction on Bailey Crescent and expressed concerns regarding snow removal and the potential loss of parking space.

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

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

None

7. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

R1. PDS19-085 – Sidewalk Construction on Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-085 be received; and
2. That the Town's Sidewalk Installation Policy be waived to permit the reconstructions of Adair Drive, Bailey Crescent, Davidson Road, Browning Court, Johnson Road, Holman Crescent and Baldwin Road without sidewalks; and
3. That sidewalks be removed from the scope of Capital Project Nos. 31118 and 31119; and

4. **That the curb and gutter design of the reconstructions remain.**

Carried as amended

R2. CS19-034 – Noise Exemption Request – 25 Butternut Ridge Trail

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. CS19-034 be received; and
2. That an exemption to the Town's Noise By-law No. 4787-06.P to allow for the construction of a five-storey apartment building between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, which requires cast-in-place concrete slabs at 25 Butternut Ridge Trail, be approved; and
3. That a by-law to amend Noise By-law No. 4787-06.P be brought forward to a future Council meeting providing delegated authority to staff for the approval of noise exemptions for continuous pouring of concrete that cannot be interrupted once the operations have commenced.

Carried

R3. PDS19-070 – Strategies to Reduce Single-Use Plastic Straws

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-070 be received; and
2. That an Offer-First policy be implemented at all Town facilities and Town-run special events, offering plastic straws to customers rather than serving them automatically; and
3. That Council support the Federal and Provincial Governments' waste initiatives **regarding single-use plastics and packaging** and that this report be forwarded to them for information; **and**
4. **That staff be directed to report back to Council with an update on the results of the Offer-First policy initiative after one year.**

Carried as amended

R4. PDS19-073 – Approval for Capital Project No. 31133 – Photometric Analysis and Lighting Gap Study

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-073 be received; and
2. That this report satisfy Council's conditional budget approval for Capital Project No. 31133 – Photometric Analysis and Lighting Gap Study in the amount of \$100,000.

Carried

R5. PDS19-075 – Approval for Capital Project No. 31175 – Municipal Parking Lot Rehabilitation Study

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-075 be received; and
2. That this report satisfy Council's conditional budget approval for Capital Project No. 31175 – Municipal Parking Lot Rehabilitation Study in the amount of \$200,000.

Carried

R6. PDS19-077 – Additional Information Regarding the Feasibility of Implementing a Train Whistle Cessation Program for Aurora GO Train Crossings

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-077 be received; and
2. That the Town not proceed with the implementation of a Train Whistle Cessation Program.

Carried

**R7. PDS19-080 – Application for Removal of (H) Holding Provision
Highland Gate Developments Inc. (HGDI)
167, 171 and 175 Timberline Trail, Lots 42, 43 and 44, Plan
65M-4644, File Number: ZBA(H)-2019-01, Related File
Numbers: OPA-2015-01, ZBA-2015-02, and SUB-2015-01**

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS19-080 be received; and
2. That the Application to Remove the (H) Holding Provision (File ZBA(H)-2019-01 from Lots 42 to 44 on the Draft Plan of Subdivision (SUB-2015-01) be approved; and
3. That the amending By-law to remove the (H) Holding Provision be presented for enactment at a future Council meeting; and
4. That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any and all agreements, documents and ancillary agreements required to give effect to the development.

Carried

8. Notices of Motion

(a) Mayor Mrakas

Re: Canopy of Lights

Whereas Goal 3 of the Town's "Economic Strategic Plan" identifies establishing downtown Aurora as a destination and focal point for the community; and

Whereas creating a unique atmosphere, that would at the same time promote the Town's built heritage, would advance this goal; and

Whereas economically vibrant downtowns are the heart and soul of the community, provide an identity for the Town, and are a point of pride for the community;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff be directed to work with the Aurora BIA (Business Improvement Area) to install a “canopy of lights” on Yonge Street from Wellington Street to Mosley Street in time for the Santa Under the Stars Parade on November 23, 2019.

9. New Business

Mayor Mrakas advised that the street lights installed in the Highland Gate development have been turned on and are too bright for the surrounding residents. He requested that staff contact Geranium Homes regarding adding blockers, and staff agreed to follow up.

Mayor Mrakas advised of the plan to proceed with establishing a committee comprised of ratepayer associations, Town staff, and the developer Geranium Homes, to facilitate communication, resolution, and monitoring of any issues related to the Highland Gate development.

Councillor Gaertner announced that the Aurora Legion would be holding its Raise the Roof fundraiser event on Saturday, September 21, 2019, toward repair of the roof, noting that tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Councillor Gaertner inquired about the timing of three upcoming stormwater management reports regarding the Stream Management Master Plan, Tannery Creek Flood Relief Study, and State of Maturity Report. Staff provided a response noting that the report on the Stream Management Master Plan and Tannery Creek Flood Relief Study would be submitted to Council in November 2019.

Councillor Kim referred to a request from a public school teacher and students who wish to grow milkweed to attract butterflies and inquired about any potential locations on Town property. Staff provided a response and agreed to discuss this matter further with the Councillor. Councillor Gaertner indicated that she would be submitting a motion on this topic in the next meeting cycle. Mayor Mrakas advised that he has extended an invitation to the grade five class to visit Town Hall.

10. Closed Session

None

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.