



Town of Aurora

Council Meeting Minutes

Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Attendance

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

Members Absent None

Other Attendees Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer, David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services, Techa van Leeuwen, Director of Corporate Services, Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director of Finance, Allan Downey, Director of Operations, Michelle Outar, Acting Manager of Corporate Communications, Patricia De Sario, Town Solicitor, Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, Ishita Soneji, Council/Committee Coordinator

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

Council consented to recess the meeting at 9:34 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, including the following additional item, be approved:

- Delegation (a) Bill Maron, representing Total Tennis Inc., Re: Item S2(R4) – CMS20-006 – Tennis/Pickle Ball Court Permits

Carried

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) Bill Maron, representing Total Tennis Inc.

Re: Item S2(R4) – CMS20-006 – Tennis/Pickle Ball Court Permits

Mr. Maron spoke to the availability of public tennis courts around Town noting that there is adequate availability of courts based on his experience, and provided an overview of community outdoor tennis demands. He noted that the 45 minute rule of playing time is not suitable for patrons and alternate rule of 30 minutes or on the hour should be considered.

Moved by Councillor Humfryes

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to Item S2(R4).

Carried

5. Consent Agenda

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

That the following Consent Agenda items, C1 to C5 inclusive, be approved:

C1. Council Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2020

1. That the Council meeting minutes of January 28, 2020, be adopted as printed and circulated.

C2. Council Public Planning Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2020

1. That the Public Planning Meeting minutes of January 21, 2020, be adopted as printed and circulated.

C3. Council Closed Session Minutes of February 4, 2020

1. That the Council Closed Session minutes of February 4, 2020, be adopted as printed and circulated.

C4. Council Closed Session Public Minutes of February 4, 2020

1. That the Council Closed Session Public minutes of February 4, 2020, be adopted as printed and circulated.

C5. Memorandum from Councillor Gaertner

**Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting
Highlights of December 13, 2019 and Annual General Meeting of
January 24, 2020**

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of December 13, 2019 and Annual General Meeting of January 24, 2020, be received for information.

Carried

6. Standing Committee Reports

Council consented to consider sub-items pulled for separate discussion from S1 and S2 in the following order: S1(R1), S2(R4), S1(R2), S2(R2), and S2(R3).

S1. General Committee Meeting Report of February 4, 2020

**Moved by Councillor Gilliland
Seconded by Councillor Kim**

1. That the General Committee meeting report of February 4, 2020, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items R1 and R2, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below:

**(R1) PDS20-003 – John West Way Traffic Calming Measures Feasibility
Review**

Moved by Councillor Humfryes
Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Report No. PDS20-003 be received; and
2. That an all-way stop be installed at the intersection of John West Way and Amberhill Way; and
3. That staff continue to monitor the traffic operations on John West Way as a result of the speed limit reduction; and
4. That staff investigate the concerns raised by Council regarding parking and sightlines on John West Way near Town Hall.

Carried

(R2) PDS20-004 – Centre Street Existing Traffic Calming Measures Review

Main motion

Moved by Councillor Gaertner
Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Report No. PDS20-004 be received for information.

Amendment

Moved by Councillor Gaertner
Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

The main motion be amended by adding the following clauses:

“That a hazard sign be installed on Centre Street in the area of Spruce Street; and

That parking lines be painted along south side of Centre Street between Spruce Street and Wells Street; and

That a sign noting that one way begins east of Spruce Street be installed on Yonge Street”

Carried

Motion to refer

Moved by Councillor Thompson
Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

1. That Report No. PDS20-004 be referred back to staff for further review.

Carried

**(R3) PDS20-010 – Economic Development Strategic Plan –
Implementation Strategy 2020**

1. That Report No. PDS20-010 be referred back to staff to verify the Economic Development Strategic Plan action items presented in the report.

Carried

**(R4) CMS20-003 – Request for Lease Extension and Amendment –
Central York Fire Station – Regional Municipality of
York – Paramedic Services**

1. That Report No. CMS20-003 be received; and
2. That a further extension and amendment to the lease with the Regional Municipality of York for Paramedic Services located at 220 Edward Street be approved for a five-year term, with an option to extend for two further five-year periods.

Carried

**(R5) PDS20-009 – Budget Request for Capital Project No. 31217 –
Construction of a Median at Ridge Road and Yonge
Street**

1. That Report No. PDS20-009 be received; and
2. That Capital Project No. 31217 – Construction of Median at Yonge Street and Ridge Road be approved; and
3. That a total budget of \$150,000 be approved for Capital Project No. 31217 to fund \$135,000 from the Services Related to a Highway Development Charge Reserve and \$15,000 from the Growth and New Reserve.

Carried

S2. General Committee Meeting Report of February 18, 2020

Moved by Councillor Kim
Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That the General Committee meeting report of February 18, 2020, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items R2, R3, and R4, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below:

(A1) Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2020

1. That the Finance Advisory Committee meeting minutes of January 28, 2020, be received for information.

Carried

(R1) OPS20-001 – Fleet Lifecycle Analysis and 2019/2020 Capital Projects

1. That Report No. OPS20-001 be received; and
2. That this report satisfy Council's conditional budget approval of the 2019 list of Capital Fleet Projects as presented in Tables 2 and 3 in a total amount of \$825,000 to be funded by \$390,000 from the Fleet Repair and Replacement and \$435,000 from the Services Related to a Highway Development Charge reserves; and
3. That the 2020 list of Capital Fleet Projects, as presented in Tables 4 and 5, in a total amount of \$1,214,000 to be funded by \$1,104,800, \$60,000 and \$50,000 from the Fleet Repair and Replacement, Growth & New, and Services Related to a Highway Development Charge reserves respectively, be approved.

Carried

(R2) FIN20-006 – Transition to Prudent Investor Regime

Motion to refer
Moved by Councillor Thompson
Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

1. That Report No. FIN20-006 be referred back to staff to be brought to a future General Committee meeting in March 2020.

Carried

(R3) PDS20-015 – Master Transportation Study Update Final Report

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

1. That Report No. PDS20-015 be received; and
2. That Council endorse the recommendations of the Master Transportation Study Update, in principle, subject to individual project review as part of the Capital Budget process and update the 10-Year Capital Plan accordingly; and
3. That the implementation of a road diet on Yonge Street be excluded from the Master Transportation Study and be referred to the 2021 Capital Budget for consideration; and
4. That staff be directed to circulate the Master Transportation Study Update to York Region and relevant Town's divisions.

Carried

(R4) CMS20-006 – Tennis/Pickle Ball Court Permits

Main motion

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

1. That Report No. CMS20-006 be received; and
2. That the revised Policy No. CORP-10-Sports Field and Park Use Policy be approved as presented; and
3. That the costs for new signage be funded from the Council operating budget contingency fund; and
4. That the revised tennis court public access hours at McMahon Park, as proposed by the Aurora Community Tennis Club (ACTC), be approved as follows:
 - (a) Monday and Tuesday – Court 3 – 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.;
 - (b) Saturday – Court 1 – 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Court 2 – 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Court 3 – ACTC;

(c) Sunday – Court 1 – 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Court 2 – 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.,
Court 3 – ACTC; and

5. That the current 45 minute rule of playing time remain status quo.

Amendment No. 1

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

That the fifth clause of the main motion be amended as follows:

“That the current 45 minute rule of playing time be changed to 30 minutes.”

Defeated

Amendment No. 2

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

That the fifth clause of the main motion be amended as follows:

“That the rule of playing time be changed to on the hour.”

Carried

Main motion as amended

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

1. That Report No. CMS20-006 be received; and
2. That the revised Policy No. CORP-10-Sports Field and Park Use Policy be approved as presented; and
3. That the costs for new signage be funded from the Council operating budget contingency fund; and
4. That the revised tennis court public access hours at McMahon Park, as proposed by the Aurora Community Tennis Club (ACTC), be approved as follows:

(a) Monday and Tuesday – Court 3 – 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.;

- (b) Saturday – Court 1 – 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Court 2 – 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Court 3 – ACTC;
- (c) Sunday – Court 1 – 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Court 2 – 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Court 3 – ACTC; and

5. That the rule of playing time be changed to on the hour.

Carried as amended

(R5) FIN20-003 – Development Charge Deferral for Major Office Space

- 1. That Report No. FIN20-003 be received; and
- 2. That staff proceed with the development of a policy for the deferral of Development Charges for Major Office Space.

Carried

(R6) PDS20-013 – Application for Zoning By-law Amendment, Morgan Planning, 2 Willow Farm Lane, File Number: ZBA-2019-02

- 1. That Report No. PDS20-013 be received; and
- 2. That Zoning By-law Amendment application File Number ZBA-2019-02 to rezone a portion of the subject lands from 'ER - Estate Residential Exception Zone (73)' to 'R2 - Detached Second Density Residential Exception Zone (74)' be approved; and
- 3. That water and sewage capacity for three (3) persons, equivalent to servicing one (1) single detached unit, be allocated to the future severed lot; and
- 4. That the Zoning By-law amendment be presented at a future Council meeting.

Carried

7. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

R1. PDS20-016 – Major Heritage Permit Application, Elmwood Lodge: The Reuben J. Kennedy House, 15032 Yonge Street, File Number: HPA-2019-07

Moved by Councillor Humfryes
Seconded by Councillor Kim

1. That Report No. PDS20-016 be received; and
2. That the review period of Heritage Permit Application File: HPA-2019-07 be extended until August 15, 2020 to allow the applicant to prepare a damage assessment report to assess the condition of the window shutters proposed to be removed.

Carried

8. Motions

(a) Councillor Gilliland

Re: Update to Tree Removal/Pruning and Compensation Policy

Council consented to vote on the first and second operative clauses of the motion separately.

Moved by Councillor Gilliland
Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas the Town of Aurora declared a climate emergency and recognizes a need to reduce carbon and greenhouse gases (GHG); and

Whereas the Town of Aurora acknowledges that every tree in Aurora plays a significant role in sustaining an urban forest; and

Whereas there is a need to retain mature trees or replace with more mature trees to reduce carbon, for example, a tree in Aurora that is 65 cm in diameter at breast height (dbh) stores six times more carbon than a tree that is 11 cm in dbh; and

Whereas the urban forest study identified that, the proportion of large, mature trees in Aurora is low; approximately 74% of all trees are less than 15.3 cm in dbh, which is recommended at no more than 40% based on a primary age diversity model; and

Whereas the urban forest study identified that the greatest proportion of the existing urban forest is located in residential areas of the municipality and that the greatest opportunity to increase canopy cover through tree planting efforts

is also found in the residential areas to reduce energy consumption as a result of shading, windbreak effects, and local micro-climate amelioration; and

Whereas new infill development in established neighbourhoods replace mature trees using the Aggregate Inch Replacement method, which often results with a greater number of young saplings that will take years to mature, give shade, privacy, conform and have little effect on the current needs of carbon intake or energy reduction; and

Whereas new development on meadows and wood lots, where mature trees are removed are replaced with young saplings without considering enough carbon neutral effect; and

Whereas the tree replacement policy does not address carbon intake, size of replacement, or use a primary age diversity model to protect our urban tree canopy;

1st operative clause

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff immediately amend our Tree Removal/Pruning and Compensation Policy to address carbon neutral effects of our urban forest canopy and strengthen our Policy to ensure a modest balance of mature trees are planted by ensuring the largest trees possible can be planted onsite for compensation for equal or greater carbon loading and CO₂ capturing;

Defeated

2nd operative clause

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

2. Be It Further Resolved That Staff conduct a fulsome review the Tree Removal/ Pruning and Compensation Policy and report back to Council with recommendations not limited to:
 - Amend the differences in our Tree By-law and the Tree Removal/Pruning and Compensation Policy to align;
 - Include a carbon loading and CO₂ capturing evaluation as part of the compensation package;

- That consideration be given to tree species that maximize carbon loading and CO₂ capture; and
- That consideration be given to utilizing a primary diversity model to protect the future of our urban forest canopy.

Defeated

(b) Councillor Humfryes

Re: Open Cousins Drive Railway Crossing

Moved by Councillor Humfryes

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

Whereas the Cousins Drive Railway Crossing has been closed and fenced off for several years due to safety concerns by Metrolinx; and

Whereas Aurora prides itself in active transportation as demonstrated, for example, through local active programs such as Activate Aurora; and

Whereas the closed and fenced off Cousins Drive crossing is preventing walkability for the residents of our Town;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff work with our local MPPs for their support and to advocate for Aurora to Metrolinx for re-opening the Cousins Drive Crossing and that staff provide an update report to a future General Committee meeting including an estimate of the costs of all possible options should the Town undertake the project.

Carried

9. Regional Report

York Regional Council Highlights – January 30, 2020

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the Regional Report of January 30, 2020, be received for information.

Carried

10. New Business

New Business Motion No. 1

**Moved by Councillor Gilliland
Seconded by Councillor Gaertner**

That staff be directed to review the Urban Forest Management Plan and bring a report back to a future General Committee meeting.

Carried

Councillor Gilliland inquired about surface conditions of the Town Park skate park and the plans for alternate outdoor rinks around town in the future, and staff provided a response.

Councillor Gaertner inquired about the Metropolitan Square Inc. appeal at the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal and staff agreed to follow up.

11. By-laws

**Moved by Councillor Humfries
Seconded by Councillor Kim**

That the following by-laws be enacted:

- (a) **By-law Number 6241-20** Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 6219-19, to establish a schedule of fees and charges for municipal services, activities, and the use of property within the Town of Aurora (Fees and Charges By-law).
- (b) **By-law Number 6242-20** Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 6000-17, as amended, respecting the lands municipally known as 2 Willow Farm Lane.

Carried

12. Closed Session

Notice was provided as per Section 33 (c) of the Procedure By-law.

1. **Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees (Section 239(2)(b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*); Re: Confidential Notice of Motion (a) Councillor Gallo, Re: Proposed Naming of the Community Nature Reserve**

The Chair noted that the above item will be discussed at the Council Closed Session meeting of March 3, 2020.

13. Confirming By-law

Moved by Councillor Gaertner
Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the following confirming by-law be enacted:

By-law Number 6243-20 Being a By-law to Confirm Actions by Council Resulting from a Council Meeting on February 25, 2020.

Carried

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Kim
Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the meeting be adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Carried

Tom Mrakas, Mayor

Michael de Rond, Town Clerk