



Town of Aurora
General Committee Meeting Report

Video Conference
Tuesday, May 19, 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, 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, David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, Michelle Outar, Acting Manager of Corporate Communications, Patricia De Sario, Town Solicitor, Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

This meeting was held electronically as per Section 20.1 of the Town's Procedure By-law No. 6228-19, as amended, due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

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

General Committee consented to recess the meeting at 7:49 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

General Committee consented to recess the meeting at 9:08 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

On a point of order by Councillor Thompson and acceptance by the Chair, Notice of Motion (b) was removed from the agenda.

General Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, excluding Notice of Motion (b).

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) **Michael Testaguzza, Tony Biglieri, The Biglieri Group Ltd.**
Re: Item R1 – PDS20-033 – Applications for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision, 2523059 Ontario Inc., 132-198 Old Bloomington Road, Lots 12 and 14 and Part of Lots 10, 11 and 13, Registered Plan 166, File Nos.: OPA-2017-05, ZBA-2017-07 and SUB-2017-03

Mr. Testaguzza presented context and a review of the draft plan including the changes to the proposal since the statutory public meeting of January 24, 2018, and further potential revisions in response to community concerns.

General Committee received the comments of the delegation for information.

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

None

7. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

R1. PDS20-033 – Applications for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision, 2523059 Ontario Inc., 132-198 Old Bloomington Road, Lots 12 and 14 and Part of Lots 10, 11 and 13, Registered Plan 166, File Nos.: OPA-2017-05, ZBA-2017-07 and SUB-2017-03

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS20-033 be received; and
2. That Official Plan Amendment application OPA-2017-05 (2523059 Ontario Inc.) be approved to:
 - (a) Amend section 3.6.2 of OPA 34 which permits a maximum building coverage of 12% for lands within a Cluster Residential designation by adding a site-specific policy to permit a maximum building coverage of 20% for the subject lands; and
 - (b) Amend section 3.6.3 (c) of OPA 34 requiring a minimum separation distance of 35 metres between the Estate Residential designation and the lot line of any Cluster Residential unit by adding a site-specific policy that reduces the setback to 35 metres between a dwelling in the Estate Residential Designation and a dwelling in the Cluster Residential Designation which includes a 10-metre landscaped buffer; and
 - (c) Delete section 3.2.7 of OPA 34 that requires a Block Plan be approved prior to the approval of an application to permit new development within the areas identified on Schedule CC; and
3. That Zoning By-law Amendment application ZBA-2017-07 (2523059 Ontario Inc.) be approved to rezone the subject lands from “Estate Residential (ER) Zone” to “Detached Third Density Residential R3(XX1) Exception Zone”, “Detached Third Density Residential R3(XX2) Exception Zone”, “Detached Third Density Residential R3(XX3) Exception Zone”, “Detached Third Density Residential R3(XX4) Exception Zone” “Environmental Protection – Oak Ridges Moraine (EP-ORM) Zone”, “Public Open Space (O1) Zone”, and “Private Open Space O2(XX) Zone”; and

4. That Draft Plan of Subdivision application SUB-2017-03 (2523059 Ontario Inc.) be approved, subject to the conditions listed in Schedule 'A' to this report; and
5. That Council grant an allocation of 161 persons from the reserve to service the development of 50 single detached dwellings on the approved Draft Plan of Subdivision; and
6. That the implementing Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments be brought forward to a future Council meeting.

Carried

R2. FIN20-012 – Property Tax Due Dates and Penalties

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. FIN20-012 be received; and
2. That the installment dates for the final tax bill of September 15 and December 1, 2020, be approved; and
3. That Council approve **that the Town continue to charge the normal monthly rate of 1.25%** for penalties on taxes for the period of July 1 to December 31, 2020; and
4. **That, at the discretion of the Director of Finance, accounts that were in arrears in 2019 not be provided with relief; and**
5. That Council approve waiving the five percent, one-time penalty on past due water bills for the remainder of 2020; and
6. That a by-law be enacted to reflect these changes at a future Council meeting.

Carried as amended

R3. OPS20-008 – Blue Box Transition to Full Producer Responsibility

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. OPS20-008 be received; and

2. That the timing for transition of the Blue Box Program to full producer responsibility for collection on December 31, 2025, coinciding with the end of the current waste collection contract, be approved; and
3. **That Council support the consideration of an earlier transition date provided that service levels would not be negatively impacted; and**
4. That staff be authorized to continue working in cooperation with the Northern Six (N6) municipalities in providing Blue Box collection services on behalf of producers, through future long-term collection contracts, subject to mutually agreeable financial and operational terms; and
5. That staff be authorized to communicate this resolution to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Regional Municipality of York.

Carried as amended

R4. CS20-010 – Electronic Meetings for Committees of Council

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. CS20-010 be received; and
2. That an amendment to the Procedure By-law to allow committees of Council to meet electronically during the state of emergency be enacted at the May 26, 2020 Council meeting; and
3. That the provisions related to in-person attendance and in-person quorum of the Policy for Ad Hoc/Advisory Committees and Local Boards be waived to allow electronic participation by members of the committees; and
4. That staff report back to Council regarding the success of electronic committee meetings.

Carried

R5. PDS20-036 – Town-Initiated Official Plan Amendment to Consider Outdoor Swim Schools as a Permitted Home Occupation Use

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS20-036 be received; and
2. That Town-initiated Official Plan Amendment Number 2020-19 to permit outdoor swim schools as a Permitted Home Occupation in the Official Plan be approved by adding the following new clause to Section 6.13:
 - (v) “Notwithstanding Section 6.13 (a)(i) and (iv) respecting Home Occupations, outdoor swim schools may be permitted as a home occupation use in addition to related minor outdoor storage, where appropriate and subject to the other policies in Section 6.13.”
3. That a new fee be added to the Town's 2020 Fees and Charges By-law for a "Minor Variance for Outdoor Swim Schools" at a cost of \$250; and
4. That the implementing Official Plan Amendment and revised Fees and Charges By-Law be presented to a future Council meeting.

Carried

R6. PDS20-039 – Aurora Economic Development Corporation Board Composition

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS20-039 be received; and
2. That the terms of reference of the Aurora Economic Development Corporation (the “AEDC”) be amended to increase the number of local residents or business owners to nine and to decrease the number of Council representatives to two members of Council; and
3. That staff be directed to present to Council a special resolution to be passed by the AEDC Board of Directors to increase the number of local residents or business owners to nine and to decrease the number of

Council representatives to two, which will be confirmed at a future meeting of Council.

Carried

8. Notices of Motion

(a) Mayor Mrakas

Re: Downtown Street Wall Mural Program

Whereas experience shows that a mural in a well-considered location often brings a community together and improves spaces for people passing through neighbourhoods; and

Whereas a mural can create belonging and a sense of pride, reduce graffiti and tagging, and allow neighbourhoods to shape their community through beautification and shared project goals; and

Whereas a street wall mural program would allow local artists to beautify the downtown core in a unique way;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff be directed to report back to Council regarding a Downtown Street Wall Mural program where local artists would create wall murals on Town-owned retaining walls along Yonge Street in the Downtown Core (Aurora Heights Drive to Kennedy Street); and
2. Be It Further Resolved That at least one Town-owned retaining wall shall be dedicated to our frontline workers; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That the report include guidelines for program objectives and eligibility requirements and timelines for selecting local artists.

(b) Councillor Gaertner

Re: COVID-19 Crisis – Support for Institutional Changes

Removed from agenda.

(c) Councillor Thompson
Re: Municipal Service Level and Delivery Review

Whereas the Town of Aurora is committed to making informed, affordable, strategic choices about how municipal services are delivered; and

Whereas Council wishes to examine how to improve services, identify any new or rising service demands, and evaluate service levels in the face of competing priorities and/or decreasing revenues and increasing costs to operate the municipality; and

Whereas Council wishes to set priorities and, where possible, identify potential revenue opportunities, reduce the cost of delivery while maintaining and/or improving services and service levels; and

Whereas a municipal service level and delivery review is a rigorous evaluation process that looks at the needs and expectations of the community, the performance and costs of the services provided, and may provide insight on best practices and/or alternative/ better ways to deliver a service; and

Whereas the last municipal service level review was conducted in 2013;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora consider a Municipal Services Review to identify actions and directions that could result in a more efficient and cost-effective service delivery, enhanced organizational and operation procedures, new revenue streams, and potential savings; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That this item be referred to the 2021 budget with an estimate on the cost of conducting a service review; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That pending Council's approval of the cost to conduct a review, the CAO be directed to finalize and issue a Request for Proposal for a Service Level and Delivery Review no later than February 2021.

9. New Business

Councillor Thompson inquired about communications to the public regarding the opening of Town facilities, and staff provided a response.

Councillor Gilliland extended appreciation to all those involved in the successful arts discussion table held on May 15, 2020, including Councillors Gallo and Humfryes, Hon. Lisa MacLeod, MPP Michael Parsa, and Town staff.

Councillor Gallo inquired about the possibility of providing opportunities for youth to be active and volunteer with the Town, and staff provided a response.

10. Public Service Announcements

Councillor Gallo announced that, due to the increasing activity as businesses begin to reopen, the Town's enforcement of parking restrictions has now been reinstated, and he extended a reminder about the Town-wide 24-hour limit for vehicles parked on the street.

Councillor Gilliland extended a reminder about the Town's online Skylight Gallery currently featuring the photographic work of artist Stephen Sloan during the month of May 2020 and the exhibit can be viewed at aurora.ca/skylightgallery.

Councillor Gaertner encouraged residents to visit the Town's Recreation at Home webpage, to find ways to keep active and engaged while staying at home and physical distancing, at aurora.ca/recathome.

Councillor Thompson announced that the Aurora Museum and Archives is inviting residents to capture this moment in history by taking a front yard photo and posting it on social media with **#Auroraathome** or uploading it to auroramuseum.ca.

Councillor Kim extended a reminder that Aurora business owners who need assistance during these times can use the online business assessment tool to request information on available resources or arrange to speak with an Economic Development Officer, by visiting aurora.ca/businesssupport.

Councillor Humfryes announced that the Town, recognizing the significant impact of COVID-19 on the community, has brought together community leaders to form

the Aurora Cares Community Action Team, and more information, including an application for one-time financial support, is available at aurora.ca/auroracares.

Councillor Humfryes advised that the Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair may be opening on Saturday, May 23, 2020, and confirmation will follow shortly.

Mayor Mrakas announced that, to encourage contactless transactions and support local retail, curbside pickup would be allowed at all times on Yonge Street, from Church Street to Wellington Street, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

11. Closed Session

None

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.