



## **The Corporation of the City of Stratford Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee MINUTES**

Date: May 24, 2023

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Burbach - Chair Presiding, Councillor Nijjar - Vice Chair, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Hunter, Councillor McCabe

Staff Present: Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Jodi Akins - Council Clerk Secretary, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk

Also present: Melanie Hepburn and Jason Azevado

### **1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

### **2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made by a Member at the May 24, 2023, Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

### **3. Delegations**

#### **3.1 Request for Delegation by Jason Azevedo and Melanie Hepburn**

Jason Azevedo and Melanie Hepburn requested to address Sub-committee to ask for a by-law to be prepared which would allow them to operate their business in Stratford. This request relates to Ontario Regulation O. Reg 411/22 under the Highway Traffic Act. Under this Ontario Regulation, municipalities can participate in Pilot Programs which permit the operation of large quadricycles on roads.

Motion by Councillor Hunter

**Sub-committee Decision: THAT the delegation by Jason Azevedo and Melanie Hepburn be heard.**

**Carried**

**Sub-committee Discussion:** Jason Azevedo and Melanie Hepburn, referring to a PowerPoint presentation, provided the following information to Sub-committee:

- an explanation of their business idea consisting of pedal bike tours using a large quadricycle (party bike);
- how each tour would work, including the length of time, how the bikes work and noting that the host will provide local knowledge along the way;
- stops will have local experiences or products to share;
- they are looking to purchase a party bike that has a motor for battery powered assistance;
- examples of a pub crawl and coffee crawl were provided;
- they will try to stay away from main routes to avoid traffic and congestion but are wanting to make them scenic and are dependent on stops chosen;
- the bike will be stored at their home when not in use; and

- they understand there are by-laws in place that currently prohibit this type of operation but that there is a provincial pilot project in place that municipalities can opt into.

In response to questions from Sub-committee, Mr. Azevado advised:

- participants are not in control of stopping or starting the bike, the driver (host) controls those functions;
- there will be no drinking of alcohol on the bike;
- they will partner with local businesses on where they can stop the bike out of the way of traffic while participants are at stops on a tour by tour basis;
- they would have to look into what speed the bike can get up to; and
- London and Niagara on the Lake have these types of businesses operating.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised of the following:

- there being a fair amount of background work for staff to complete to make sure the operation remains in compliance with all relevant by-laws and legislation, including the Noise Control By-law, Traffic and Parking By-law, Highway Traffic Act, as well as procedures on how it would operate within the City;
- this item not being included in the 2023 work plan and trying to meet an expectation for operation this summer may not be feasible;
- it being the Director's expectation that this would be a licensed business;
- many stakeholders being involved as it is a bit of a complicated request; and
- not being aware of any previous discussion about multi-rider bikes such as those used for charity rides.

Motion by Councillor Hunter

**Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT staff prepare a report regarding the use of large quadricycles on City streets for consideration by Sub-committee.**

**Carried**

#### **4. Department Update**

**Sub-committee Discussion:** The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised that the detailed update will be listed on the June 12, 2023, Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Committee agenda. The following highlights were provided:

- 2022 sidewalk projects are nearly complete, including John Street;
- asphalt resurfacing tender pricing, including Ontario Street and John Street, was good;
- staff are preparing a report for the June 12, 2023, Council meeting to expand how much surfacing work can be done this year;
- a new Supervisor of Environmental Services started this week and staff have already seen improvements in addressing storm water operations;
- the new Supervisor hired was from the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) leaving a vacancy at the Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP);
- an extra OCWA staff member has been requested to ensure legislative requirements are met at the WPCP;
- the first Household Hazardous Waste event was very successful with over 650 vehicles participating;
- staff will be looking at how service levels at the Household Hazardous Waste event can be improved in future as there were long waits;
- recycling services for residents will be transitioning to extended producer responsibility, beginning in 2024;
- staff received contract terms and are reviewing to best meet Stratford's needs;
- staff will be bringing forward a report to discuss operational needs during the transition period to extended producer responsibility;

- staff are looking to maintain the existing collection provider, so there should not be too many disruptions to residents, however, consideration is currently being given to meeting the needs of industrial and commercial operations;
- the asphalt plant is open, and staff can stop using cold mix for potholes and switch to using asphalt;
- catch basin cleaning has started and the machine creates a high-pitched whining which cannot be prevented;
- for catch basin cleaning operations, staff are operating within the Noise Control By-law provisions;
- a full circuit of street sweeping has been completed and will continue through the season; and
- Environmental Services will have a few facilities open to the public, and who are welcome to attend, on Friday, May 26, 2023, in celebration of Public Works week.

In response to questions from Sub-committee, the Director advised of the following:

- paving for Huron Street is expected to be completed in June, including the relocation of a temporary wooden pole; and
- with respect to the Pride crosswalk, Stratford Pride had arranged for a contractor to remove the current product and have it temporarily painted; and
- Stratford Pride will be a delegate at the June 12, 2023, Regular Council meeting to discuss a more permanent solution for the Pride crosswalk.

## **5. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes**

The following Advisory Committee/Outside Board minutes were provided for the information of Sub-committee:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of April 4, 2023
- Active Transportation Advisory Committee minutes of March 22, 2023
- Energy and Environment Advisory Committee minutes of April 6, 2023

**6. Next Sub-committee Meeting**

The next Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting is June 28, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

**7. Adjournment**

Motion by Councillor Beatty

**Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 4:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:48 P.M.