



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Community Services Sub-committee MINUTES

Date: March 7, 2024
 Time: 4:30 P.M.
 Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Beatty - Chair Presiding, Councillor Henderson - Vice Chair, Councillor Briscoe, Councillor Sebben, Councillor Wordofa

Staff Present: Tim Wolfe - Director of Community Services, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Danielle Clayton - Recording Secretary

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 March 7, 2024, Community Services Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

None scheduled

4. **Report of the Director of Community Services**

4.1 **Reciprocal Agreement - Use of Community Facilities (COM24-001)**

Staff Recommendation: THAT the Reciprocal Agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford, YMCA of Three Rivers (Midwestern Ontario), Avon Maitland District School Board and The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board for the sharing of facility usage be renewed for a further two years, for 2024 and 2025;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the municipal corporation.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Community Services reviewed the management report, highlighting the following:

- City staff having met on November 11, 2024 to review the reciprocal agreement with the school boards and YMCA;
- the reciprocal agreement having not been reviewed since 2014;
- changes in agreement being to identify actual hours schools can use facilities, stipulate days/hours that are not available;
- updating housekeeping items;
- updating list of facilities and removing facilities that no longer exist;
- City camps now utilizing school facilities again;
- the next step being to bring the agreement to Council for approval; and
- after 2 years, the agreement being reviewed again with all parties and brought back to Council for review and approval.

A member asked if concerns were received following the change in the insurance amount. The Director advised that both the YMCA and school boards did not have any concerns with the increase in insurance requirements. The Director noted that regular hours of rental were added to the agreement.

Motion by Councillor Henderson

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the Reciprocal Agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford, YMCA of Three Rivers (Midwestern Ontario), Avon Maitland District School Board and The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board for the sharing of facility usage be renewed for a further two years, for 2024 and 2025;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the municipal corporation.

Carried

5. Department Update

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Community Services provided the following highlights from the departmental updates:

- Parks/Forestry/Cemetery:
 - turf and tree pruning awarded;
 - meeting with the turf company to review schedule and expectations;
 - tree pruning has begun with Festival Hydro;
 - all tree removals have been completed and staff are awaiting tree stumps to be removed;
 - the Swan Parade is scheduled for April 7, 2024;
 - the City will be buying 2 swans and may be inheriting 2 swans from the City of Woodstock;
 - there having been an increase in tree pruning due to nice weather;
 - tree plantings being scheduled for April;
 - all annual flowers having been ordered;
 - painting/repairs having been caught up;
 - a list of required monument repairs being created; and
 - all student hiring having been completed.

- Transit:
 - parallel transit ridership numbers having exceeded previous ridership amounts;
 - the Magnus Card project having begun;
 - there being a report to be presented to the Accessibility Advisory Committee on April 2nd for feedback on the Magus Card program;
 - hybrid bus production is predicted to start in April and be delivered by end of the year; and
 - PC Connect ridership having increased and the North Perth routes ridership having almost doubled.
- Recreation:
 - The Santa Clause Parade having been successful with a great turnout;
 - staff working on Canada Day event delivery;
 - registration for day camp and swimming lessons being open and posted to the website;
 - March break camp spaces having been increased and are nearly full; and
 - Canadian Dairy Expo and Ontario Pork Congress contracts having been firmed up.
- Facilities:
 - arenas being full with rentals;
 - Skate Canada, wrestling event and various other rentals having taken place at the Rotary Complex;
 - hoping for completion by end of the month of the National Stadium roof;
 - an event having taken place in January to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the William Allman Memorial Arena;
 - staff working hard on getting tenders ready to get out early and obtain competitive quotes; and

- at the March 25 Council meeting, a report being presented regarding the Agriplex Field House floor covering.

In response to Sub-committee questioning, the Director advised that the swans are always anxious to get to the river when the warmer weather comes. There will be a couple of cygnets coming from a contact in Grand Bend that will be introduced to the group. The Swan Parade will take place on April 7 even if the weather continues to be warmer to keep it consistent for residents and tourists.

6. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

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

- Board of Park Management Advisory Committee Minutes of September 11, 2023, and November 6, 2023
- Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee Minutes of November 2, 2023

7. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Community Services Sub-committee meeting is April 11, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Community Services advised that the Manager of Transit will be bringing a report to Council to provide an update on the bus electrification study and timelines for facility upgrades.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Briscoe

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Community Services Sub-committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 4:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:46 P.M.