



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

Date: March 27, 2024
Time: 4:30 P.M.
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

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

Regrets: Councillor Beatty

Staff Present: Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure Services, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Johnny Bowes - Manager of Environmental Services, Nick Sheldon – Project Manager, Miranda Franken - Council Clerk Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Councillor Beatty provided regrets for this meeting.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

The Chair read the City of Stratford Respectful Workplace Policy statement.

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 27, 2024, Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Report of the Project Manager

4.1 Moderwell Street Local Improvement Project – Open House and Recommendations (ITS24-006)

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council receive the description of the proposed design for the Moderwell Street Reconstruction for information;

THAT staff be authorized to proceed under the provisions of Section 6 of the Municipal Act, 2001, O. Reg. 586/06 to initiate the local improvement process, for installation of curb and gutter and road work as part of the Moderwell Street Reconstruction Project, including giving notice of intention to the public and owners of the lots liable to be specially charged;

THAT property owners of Local Improvement Charges be offered a repayment option at a rate of Bank of Canada Prime Rate plus 1.5% for up to a 5-year period, due at the time of finalized construction costs;

THAT should a sufficient number of petitions against the proposed local improvement be received in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, O. Reg. 586/06, City staff be authorized to apply to the Ontario Land Tribunal under Section 8 for approval to undertake the proposed work as a local improvement;

AND THAT a by-law for the reconstruction of Moderwell Street under O. Reg. 586/06, as amended, be prepared for Council's consideration, subject to Ontario Land Tribunal approval.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Project Manager provided the following highlights from the Report:

- the 2024 budget including the reconstruction of Moderwell Street from St. Vincent Street South to Monteith Avenue;

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- 1.2 million dollars having been allotted for this project;
- staff having prepared a detailed design proposing conversion of the road from an urban to rural cross section;
- the proposal being to construct a road 8.5 m wide complete with granular sub-base, curb and gutter and hot mix asphalt;
- the project including minor storm and sanitary modifications and installation of 160m of watermain;
- other minor details including improving intersection turning movements at Monteith Avenue and Moderwell Street, and layby parking at St. Joseph's School to allow drop offs at the school while being offset from the road to avoid truck traffic;
- following Council's Policies L.3.1 and L.3.2 and past practices, staff recommending the initiation of a local improvement for the omitted road infrastructure on Moderwell Street as outlined in the report;
- on February 9, 2024 the Notice of Public Open House package, including invitation to February 20, 2024 Public Open House, being circulated to all property owners affected by the project;
- on February 20 a Public Open House having been held in the City Hall Auditorium with 3 engineering staff members present to answer questions;
- representatives of 5 of the 22 property owners having been present;
- general feedback received being positive and reflecting the need for the roadwork;
- one negative comment having been received regarding the cost for the specific resident;
- staff having explained the history of local improvements and justification for the project and the process to become a delegation at Council meetings for residents wishing to speak to the report; and

- staff seeking direction to move this project forward.

It was noted there was an error in the staff recommendation and that the 5-year period should read 10-year period.

Motion by Councillor McCabe

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Council receive the description of the proposed design for the Moderwell Street Reconstruction for information;

THAT staff be authorized to proceed under the provisions of Section 6 of the Municipal Act, 2001, O. Reg. 586/06 to initiate the local improvement process, for installation of curb and gutter and road work as part of the Moderwell Street Reconstruction Project, including giving notice of intention to the public and owners of the lots liable to be specially charged;

THAT property owners of Local Improvement Charges be offered a repayment option at a rate of Bank of Canada Prime Rate plus 1.5% for up to a 10-year period, due at the time of finalized construction costs;

THAT should a sufficient number of petitions against the proposed local improvement be received in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, O. Reg. 586/06, City staff be authorized to apply to the Ontario Land Tribunal under Section 8 for approval to undertake the proposed work as a local improvement;

AND THAT a by-law for the reconstruction of Moderwell Street under O. Reg. 586/06, as amended, be prepared for Council's consideration, subject to Ontario Land Tribunal approval.

Carried

5. Report of the Manager of Environmental Services

5.1 2023 Annual Water Summary Report to Council (ITS24-005)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the 2023 Water Summary Report (COU24-030) be received for information to adhere to the compliance standards set out in Ontario Regulation 170/03.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Manager of Environmental Services provided an overview of the report. Highlights included:

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- the report being presented as per Ontario Regulation 170/03, to maintain transparency between the owner and the operating authority for understanding of the systems performance compared to the previous year;
- several items in the report having been covered in the March 2024 Infrastructure and Top Management Report;
- being that the report outlines nine (9) adverse drinking water quality incidents in 2023 and this number being high, the Manager provided clarification as follows:
 - municipalities having ground water aquifers as source water are naturally higher in sodium and fluoride;
 - the Ministry requires a formal report of high levels every 57 months and this reporting fell in 2023; and
- discussions being held with the Director of Infrastructure Services on consolidating the various reports into one.

A question and answer period took place between Sub-committee members and staff. Highlights of the discussions included:

- a Total Coliform being an indicator in sampling prior to significant issues;
- indicators could be a result of mishandling of sample bottles or lab process itself;
- if indicators are present, a resample is taken at the same point, as well as one sample from the upstream hydrant and one sample from downstream hydrant; and
- samples are taken from the drinking water distribution system, between the point of water treatment and distribution when the water is flowing through the City.

Motion by Councillor Hunter

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the 2023 Water Summary Report (COU24-030) be received for information to adhere to the compliance standards set out in Ontario Regulation 170/03.

Carried

6. Department Update

Sub-committee Discussion: The Manager of Environmental Services provided the following highlights on water:

- World Water Day 2024 held on March 22 saw the highest attendance rate since tours began in 2015;
- staff considering holding tours on a Saturday during Public Works Week at the end of May;
- staff are working with a video production company to create a 2 minute animated accessible informational video that will explain discolouration in water to address the most common question received; and
- the video being a pilot project.

The Director of Infrastructure Services provided the following information:

- staff being in the planning stages to get construction projects underway;
- the budget package having included 161 East Gore Street which is a vacant lot as a potential location for an affordable housing project through joint partnerships;
- the Albert Street Reconstruction project having resumed with some watermain going out soon;
- phase 2 of the Albert Street Reconstruction project extending to King Street being in the design phase with an open house being anticipated in late April;
- remaining 2023 sidewalk projects proceeding once the ground thaws;
- storm flushing activity ongoing;
- warm weather allowing for more fulsome pothole repair with operations day and night;
- first 2024 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) date scheduled for April 27, 2024 at the Stratford landfill;
- 6 additional HHW dates at the landfill, will be presented once confirmed;

- there being no impact on the budget for these changes;
- Green Recognition Program having received several applications and being under review; and
- key projects being brought to Council for support in conjunction with Earth Day.

7. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

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

- Energy and Environment Committee Minutes of January 18, 2024
- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of February 6, 2024

8. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting is April 24, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Hunter

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

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 4:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:50 P.M.