



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

Date: April 11, 2024

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

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

Regrets: Councillor Henderson - Vice Chair and Councillor Sebben

Staff Present: Tim Wolfe - Director of Community Services, Michael Mousley - Manager of Transit, Tatiana Dafoe - City Clerk, Danielle Clayton - Recording Secretary, Nate Smith - Supervisor of Transit

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

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Councillor Henderson and Councillor Sebben 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 April 11, 2024, Community Services Sub-committee meeting.

**3. Delegations**

None scheduled.

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

**4.1 Stratford Memorial Boys Softball Association Agreement – Use of Packham (COM24-004)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the entering into of an agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford and Stratford Memorial Boys Softball Association for use of the ball diamonds at the Packham Road Ball Complex for a two-year term to December 31, 2025, be authorized;

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

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

- the original agreement expired on December 31, 2013, and was never renewed;
- in 2013 there were 23 teams using the ball diamonds and now there is one;
- the agreement would be for two years for the use of the ball diamonds at the Packham Road Ball Complex; and
- the cost to use Packham Road Ball Complex and the fee per players are outlined in the Fees and Charges By-law.

Motion by Councillor Briscoe

**Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the entering into of an agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford and Stratford Memorial Boys Softball Association for use of the ball diamonds at the Packham Road Ball Complex for a two-year term to December 31, 2025, be authorized;**

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

**Carried**

## **5. Report of the Manager of Transit**

### **5.1 Transit Bus Electrification Feasibility Study Results (COM24-002)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the Transit Bus Electrification Study Results (COM24-002) be received for information;

AND THAT staff provide updates on the project to Council when available.

**Sub-committee Discussion:** The Manager of Transit, reviewed the management report and the Electrification Feasibility Study, highlighting the following:

- the Electrification Feasibility Study took a year to complete;
- the completed study having been provided in January and the results being attached to the agenda;
- it being determined that the feasibility or transition to electric buses is feasible;
- this being a very large project to undertake with many moving parts and staff being excited to make the transition over the next several years;
- the ability to shoehorn various infrastructure in a facility that is over 50 years old being a challenge;
- there being requirements to update fire suppression systems and fire walls, while also installing rooftop solar panels to offset energy costs over night which will require engineering and design specifications to be met;
- contingency plans being required if charging options are not available;
- multiple software programs being required to move this project forward;
- an Expression of Interest (EOI) having been submitted to the Federal Government for funding in the amount of \$25 million; and

- the EOI having been accepted and City staff being asked to make an application for funding which has been completed.

Sub-committee expressed thanks for a comprehensive report and all the work that has gone into this project. In response to a question, the Manager of Transit stated that staff are excited to be able to move forward with this project.

Motion by Councillor Wordofa

**Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the Transit Bus Electrification Study Results (COM24-002) be received for information;**

**AND THAT staff provide updates on the project to Council when available.**

**Carried**

## **5.2 Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Transit Funding Agreement (COM24-003)**

**Staff Recommendation:** THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to execute the Amending Agreement No. 1 to the Transfer Payment Agreement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) with His Majesty the King in Right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario.

**Sub-committee Discussion:** The Manager of Transit, reviewed the management report, highlighting the following:

- the City having been awarded a total funding envelope of over \$14 million from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) to update infrastructure or fleet in the Transit Division;
- at the time of award, a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) having been executed between the City and the Province;
- a revised TPA having been received to extend the timeframe to complete the projects to 2033;
- the report containing a list of projects that have been completed and the projects that remain to be completed; and

- the Magnus Cards project having recently launched, and positive feedback being received.

In response to Sub-committee questions, the Manager of Transit advised that if the proposed hybrid buses need to be replaced with fossil fuel buses, another application would need to be submitted. The Manager stated that a small hybrid bus can only travel approximately 75km per charge and that existing parallel transit buses travel on average 225km a day.

Motion by Councillor Briscoe

**Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to execute the Amending Agreement No. 1 to the Transfer Payment Agreement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) with His Majesty the King in Right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario.**

**Carried**

## **6. Department Update**

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

- two swans having been obtained from the City of Woodstock;
- the swan parade having been held on Sunday, April 7, 2024;
- staff completing tree pruning;
- working on installing playgrounds and open gym tenders;
- reviewing drainage projects at the Cemetery, along with restoration of stones,
- the garage door replacement project having been completed at the Cemetery;
- ridership numbers having been included in the update and ridership levels for the PC Connect project continue to increase;
- the magnus card program being in use and the accessible bus shelter project being underway;

- parallel transit ridership doing well and continuing to increase;
- day camp and pool staff programs having been full for March break;
- summer camp and swim lessons being open for registration;
- Canada Day preparations being underway for the event in Market Square;
- Dufferin Arena ice having been removed in April;
- Allman Arena ice removal being scheduled for May;
- one rink at the Rotary Complex being open for use;
- the Canadian Dairy XPO having utilized the entire Rotary Complex and was successful; and
- modernization of the elevator at the City Hall Annex is underway and nearing completion.

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

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

- Board of Park Management Minutes of December 4, 2023
- Board of Park Management Minutes of January 8, 2024
- Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee Minutes of January 25, 2024

## **8. Next Sub-committee Meeting**

The next Community Services Sub-committee meeting is May 16, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

## **9. Adjournment**

Motion by Councillor Wordofa

**Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Community Services Sub-committee meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 4:32 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 4:55 P.M.