



CITY OF STRATFORD PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

A **Public Meeting** was held on Monday, December 16, 2024, at 7:07 p.m., to give the public and Council an opportunity to hear all interested persons on the proposed amendments to the Building By-law 112-2005, including Fee Schedule A.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Martin Ritsma – Chair presiding, Councillor Lesley Biehn, Councillor Taylor Briscoe, Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Councillor Mark Hunter, Councillor Larry McCabe, Councillor Harjinder Nijjar, Councillor Cody Sebben, and Councillor Geza Wordofa.

COUNCIL REGRETS: Councillor Brad Beatty

STAFF PRESENT: Joan Thomson – Chief Administrative Officer, Neil Anderson – Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief, Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure Services, Adam Betteridge – Director of Building and Planning Services, Tim Wolfe – Director of Community Services, Kim McElroy – Director of Social Services, Dave Bush - Director of Human Resources, Connor Occleston – Deputy Chief Building Official, Tatiana Dafoe – City Clerk, Audrey Pascual – Deputy Clerk, and Lisa Francis – Recording Secretary, Marc Bancroft - Manager of Planning, Alex Burnett - Planner.

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public and media.

Mayor Ritsma called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and stated the purpose of the meeting was to give Council and the public an opportunity to hear all interested persons on the proposed amendments to the Building By-law 112-2005, including Fee Schedule A. The Mayor explained the order of procedure for the public meeting.

STAFF PRESENTATION

The Deputy Chief Building Official provided an overview of the management report as follows:

- the purpose of the public meeting being to hear comments regarding an increase to the fees under the Building By-law 112-2005;
- there being a 5% increase to the fees across the board; and
- there being fees added due to how building construction has changed and the descriptions in the fee schedule being revised to better apply to the building permits being applied for.

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Councillor Henderson questioned if staff had taken into consideration the streamlining of the permitting process to speed up the issuance of permits to applicants. The Deputy Chief Building Official noted that the proposed changes are only to increase the fee revenue to better facilitate the cost recovery method as required by the Act to run the department.

Councillor Henderson questioned whether notice had been provided to the Stratford and Area Builders Association of the proposed amendments. The Deputy Chief Building Official confirmed that the Association had been notified of the proposed changes in their November and December newsletter and the City did not receive any comments from the association.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Mayor asked if there were any members of the public present wishing to provide questions or comments. There were no members of the public who came forward to speak to this matter.

The Mayor noted that the matter will be considered at a future Regular Council meeting where members of Council will be provided with an opportunity to have full discussion of the proposed amendments. It was noted by the Mayor that should members of the public wish to receive further notice regarding this matter, they were instructed to email the Clerk's Office at clerks@stratford.ca. The Mayor advised that a video recording of this meeting will be posted to the City of Stratford's website.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

No requests for further notice were received from a member of the public.