



Minutes
Committee of the Whole

April 16, 2020
Electronic Meeting

Members: W. Emmerson, D. Barrow, M. Bevilacqua, J. DiPaola, M. Ferri,
R. Grossi, V. Hackson, D. Hamilton, J. Heath, L. Jackson,
J. Jones, J. Li, I. Lovatt, T. Mrakas, S. Pellegrini, C. Perrelli,
M. Quirk, G. Rosati, F. Scarpitti, J. Taylor, T. Vegh

Staff: D. Basso, K. Chislett, P. Freeman, P. Jankowski, Dr. K. Kurji,
B. Macgregor, E. Mahoney, L. Mirabella, C. Raynor, M.F. Turner,
L. Wilson

A. Call to Order

Regional Chair Emmerson called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. and made the following remarks:

“We acknowledge the land we are meeting on today is the traditional territory of many First Nations, including the Chippewas of Georgina Island and the Mississaugas of the Credit.

These lands are now home to many diverse Indigenous peoples.

We also acknowledge that York Region falls under Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Williams Treaties with several Mississauga and Chippewas First Nations.”

B. Disclosures of Interest

None

C. Presentations

None

D. Deputations in Writing

D.1 Niagara University

Committee of the Whole received and referred to staff the deputation from Vince Rinaldo, Vice President Ontario Administration, Niagara University dated April 16, 2020.

D.2 Adoption of International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Definition of Antisemitism

Committee of the Whole received the deputation from Jason Grossman, Senior Manager Public Affairs, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs dated April 8, 2020.

(See Item J.1)

E. Transportation Services

E.1 Communications

E.1.1 National Public Works Week 2020

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the memorandum from Paul Jankowski, Commissioner of Transportation Services and Erin Mahoney, Commissioner of Environmental Services dated March 31, 2020.

E.1.2 Parks Canada - Signalized Pedestrian Crossings for Rouge National Urban Park

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the correspondence from Omar McDadi, Acting Field Unit Superintendent, Rouge National Urban, Parks Canada dated April 15, 2020 and the matter be referred to staff.

E.2 Reports

E.2.1 Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 19, 2020 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

E.2.2 2020 Speed Limit Revisions

Committee of the Whole referred consideration of the report dated March 19, 2020 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services to the April 30, 2020 Regional Council meeting.

E.2.3 Amendment to Agreement for Consultant Services - Major Mackenzie Drive Road Improvements - Highway 400 to Keele Street, City of Vaughan

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 19, 2020 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Council approve an amendment to the agreement between the Region and Parsons for improvements to Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25) from Highway 400 to Keele Street (Y.R. 6), to increase the contract price, within the Capital Spending Authority, from \$1,748,800 to \$3,645,576, excluding HST, as a result of additional services required during construction of the road improvements.

E.2.4 Proposed Temporary Delegation of Authority for Amendments to Traffic Bylaws

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated April 14, 2020 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Council delegate authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to temporarily amend traffic bylaws, where required, in response to traffic operations and safety concerns arising during the COVID-19 pandemic and until such time as this authority is repealed by Council.
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaw.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to local municipalities and the Chief of York Regional Police.

F. Environmental Services

F.1 Communications

None

F.2 Reports

F.2.1 Five Year Review of the SM4RT Living Waste Management Master Plan

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated April 2, 2020 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. Council approve the updated SM4RT Living Waste Management Master Plan objectives and action areas for the next five years, including establishment of the Circular Economy Initiatives Fund under the existing SM4RT Living Plan budget.
2. The Regional Clerk circulates this report to all local municipal councils, Director of Resource Recovery Policy Branch from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

F.2.2 2019 Greening Strategy Achievements

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 27, 2020 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the local municipalities, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

G. Community and Health Services

G.1 Communications

None

G.2 Reports

G.2.1 Donation of Decommissioned Paramedic Services Ambulances for 2020

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 19, 2020 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. Council approve donation of a decommissioned ambulance to the following organizations:
 - a. St. John Ambulance
 - b. Wounded Warriors Canada

G.2.2 Vector-Borne Disease Program 2019/2020 Annual Update

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 19, 2020 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services and Medical Officer of Health:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of all 9 local municipalities.

G.2.3 York Region's 2020 to 2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated March 19, 2020 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. Council approve the York Region 2020 to 2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (Attachment 1).
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee, York Regional Police Services Board and local municipalities for their information.

G.2.4 Social Service Response to COVID-19 Global Pandemic

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated April 15, 2020 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. Council authorize the Commissioner, Community and Health Services and the Regional Chairman to adjust, re-allocate, cancel or provide new Community Investment Fund funding for projects and initiatives in 2020 to maximize funding for priority social service initiatives that respond to COVID-19 needs.

2. Council authorize the Commissioner, Community and Health Services and the Regional Chairman to direct any new federal, provincial or other external funding York Region receives for social services towards eligible priority projects and initiatives that respond to COVID-19 needs.
3. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services report back on the progress of social service initiatives the Region undertakes and funds in support of the COVID-19 global pandemic.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities, the United Way Greater Toronto and local Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament.

H. Planning and Economic Development

H.1 Communications

H.1.1 Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) 2020

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the memorandum from Paul Freeman, Chief Planner dated March 25, 2020.

H.1.2 Provincially Stranded Assets

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the correspondence from Kristina Soolepp, Council Coordinator, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville dated March 24, 2020 and referred further consideration of this matter to the April 30, 2020 Regional Council meeting.

H.1.3 Major Transit Station Areas

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the correspondence from Todd Coles, City Clerk, City of Vaughan dated April 8, 2020.

H.1.4 Planning Act Matter Changes During Declared Emergency

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the memorandum from Paul Freeman, Chief Planner dated April 14, 2020.

H.1.5 York Region Business Recovery Support Partnership

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the memorandum from Paul Freeman, Chief Planner dated April 14, 2020.

H.2 Reports

H.2.1 2019 Development Activity Summary

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated April 3, 2020 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and the Chief Planner:

1. Council receive this report for information.

I. Finance and Administration

I.1 Communications

I.1.1 Financial Impacts of COVID-19

Committee of the Whole recommends receipt of the memorandum from Laura Mirabella, Commissioner of Finance dated April 14, 2020.

I.2 Reports

I.2.1 2019 Annual Investment Report

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 6, 2020 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. Council receive this report for information.

I.2.2 2019 Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 6, 2020 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities and the Building Industry and Land Development Association, York Region Chapter.

I.2.3 Disposal of Surplus Assets - 2019

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation in the report dated March 26, 2020 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. Council receive this report for information.

I.2.4 Consolidated Contract Extensions and Award

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated March 24, 2020 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. Council authorize the extensions of the agreements between the Region and each of the vendors listed in Private Attachment 1 for the terms described in the attachment.
2. The Commissioner of the department requiring the product or service be authorized to exercise options to extend the agreements for up to the maximum term described in Private Attachment 1 on the same terms, provided that the vendors have performed the services to the satisfaction of the Commissioner and the total cost is within the approved annual budget for these services.
3. The Commissioner of the department requiring the product or service be authorized to enter into an agreement with the vendor listed in Private Attachment 2 for a staff scheduling solution under the direct purchase provisions of the Purchasing Bylaw.

I.2.5 Waiving Interest on Property Tax Instalments in Response to COVID-19

Committee of the Whole referred further consideration of the recommendations contained in the report dated April 6, 2020 from the Commissioner of Finance to the April 30, 2020 Regional Council meeting to allow time for additional information to be provided on the following scenarios:

1. Postponement of the remaining 2020 due dates for property tax instalments by 90 days;
2. Waiving interest until January 1, 2021 on any portion of property tax instalments, for the 2020 taxation year, not remitted to the Region as a direct result of a local municipality's Coronavirus (COVID-19) tax relief program, except that the interest related to the final 2020 instalment shall be waived until March 31, 2021.

I.2.6 Transfer of Part III Prosecutions to the Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated April 3, 2020 from the Regional Solicitor:

1. That Council authorize the execution of amending agreements between the Province, The Regional Municipality of York (York Region) and the nine local municipalities which amend the Memorandum of Understanding and the Local Side Agreement involving the prosecution of offences commenced under Part III of the *Provincial Offences Act* (POA).
2. That Council seek resolutions from the nine local municipalities in the suggested form to delegate authority to York Region to enter into amending agreements with the Province to amend the Memorandum of Understanding and the Local Side Agreement on behalf of the local municipalities (Attachment 1).

I.2.7 Consulting Services for Construction of the Southeast District Road Maintenance Yard and Snow Management Facility at 10988 and 10990 Warden Avenue in the City of Markham

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations in the report dated March 27, 2020 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services:

1. Council approve the award of consulting services for construction of the Southeast District Road Maintenance Yard and Snow Management Facility at 10988 and 10990 Warden Avenue, in the City of Markham, to IBI Group Professional Services (Canada) Inc., pursuant to Request for Proposal P-19-150, at a total cost of \$3,070,000, excluding HST.
2. Council approve an increase of \$2,221,000 to the 2020 Capital Spending Authority and associated funding sources, including an increase of \$2,066,000 in Development Charges debt, and \$155,000 in Roads Capital Reserve for Transportation Business Initiatives, as included in the Property Services capital plan.
3. The Commissioner of Corporate Services be authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Region.

J. Motions

J.1 Adoption of International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Definition of Antisemitism

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following motion:

Whereas, the Regional Municipality of York is rooted in the values of democracy, equity and inclusivity; and

Whereas, in June 2018, the Inclusion Charter for York Region was endorsed as a community initiative, bringing together businesses, community organizations, municipalities, police services, hospitals, school boards, conservation authorities and agencies who share a vision to foster a welcoming and inclusive community; and

Whereas, we have a shared responsibility to stop antisemitism in all its forms through education and public consciousness as antisemitic demonstrations continue to threaten communities and undermine democracy; and

Whereas, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is an intergovernmental organization founded in 1998 that consists of 34 countries, including Canada, each of whom recognizes that international coordination is needed to combat antisemitism; and

Whereas, six per cent of York Region residents identify themselves as Jewish, which is a higher representation than Canada and Ontario, and Vaughan is home to one of the largest Jewish populations outside of Israel, which includes many Holocaust survivors; and

Whereas, on February 27, 2020, Bill 168, the Combating Antisemitism Act which directly mentions IHRA, unanimously passed a second reading in the Ontario legislature with all-party support; and

Whereas, on January 28, 2020, Vaughan council unanimously endorsed Mayor Bevilacqua's motion to declare January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which included the adoption of the IHRA definition of antisemitism; and

Whereas, York Regional Police dedicated a community room at District #4 headquarters to Holocaust Survivor Max Eisen, in recognition and appreciation of his remarkable efforts to eliminate racism and bigotry; and

Whereas, York Region is enriched by its thriving, active and engaged Jewish and Israeli communities,

It is therefore recommended:

That the Regional Municipality of York adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism as adopted at the IHRA plenary on May 26, 2016 as follows:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities"; and

That this decision be forwarded to the local municipalities as well as the Chair of the province of Ontario's Standing Committee on Justice Policy.

K. Notice of Motion

None

L. Other Business

L.1 COVID-19 Update

Dr. Karim Kurji, Medical Officer of Health provided a verbal update to Members of Committee regarding latest statistics and information about York Region Public Health's response to the global pandemic.

L.2 Water Usage

Regional Councillor Grossi requested further information regarding water usage for April 2020 compared to previous years.

L.3 Audit Committee - April 23, 2020

Regional Chair Emmerson announced there will be a Regional Audit Committee meeting held on April 23, 2020.

L.4 York Regional Forest

Regional Chair Emmerson announced York Region would make the decision to re-open the York Regional Forests to the public with tighter restrictions in the coming days.

M. Private Session

Committee of the Whole resolved into private session at 12:41 p.m. At 12:48 p.m. Committee of the Whole resumed in public session and reported the following:

M.1 55 East Valhalla Drive – Development Charge Complaint - Potential Litigation and Solicitor-Client Privilege

Committee of the Whole forwarded the private report from the Regional Solicitor dated April 3, 2020 to Council's Private Session on April 30, 2020.

M.2 Private Attachments 1 and 2 to Item I.2.4 - Consolidated Contract Extensions and Award - Security of Property

Committee of the Whole received the private attachments.

M.3 COVID-19 Update - Labour Relations

Committee of the Whole received the circulated private materials.

N. Adjournment

Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12:54 p.m.