



## Minutes

### The Council of The Regional Municipality of York

December 17, 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, K. Kurji, D. Kuzmyk, B. Macgregor, E. Mahoney, L. Mirabella, C. Raynor, M.F. Turner, E. Wilson

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#### A. Call to Order

Regional Chair Emmerson called the meeting to order at 9:01 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. Minutes of Council**

**C.1 Council Meeting held on November 19, 2020**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Hamilton

**Seconded by** Mayor Lovatt

That Council confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on November 19, 2020.

**Carried**

**C.2 Special Council Meeting held on November 26, 2020**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Hamilton

**Seconded by** Mayor Lovatt

That Council confirm the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on November 26, 2020.

**Carried**

**C.3 Special Council Meeting held on December 10, 2020**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Hamilton

**Seconded by** Mayor Lovatt

That Council confirm the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on December 10, 2020.

**Carried**

**D. Presentations**

**D.1 COVID-19 Update**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Heath

**Seconded by** Mayor Scarpitti

That Council receive the presentation from Dr. Karim Kurji and Dr. Jeya Nadarajah.

**Carried**

**E. Deputations**

None

**F. Communications**

**F.1 Public Health's Role in Ontario's Integrated Health System**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Jackson

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Vegh

That Council receive the memorandum from Katherine Chislett, Commissioner of Community and Health Services and Dr. Karim Kurji, Medical Officer of Health dated December 15, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.2 COVID-19 Outbreak at Newmarket Health Centre**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Heath

**Seconded by** Mayor Quirk

That Council received the memorandum from Katherine Chislett, Commissioner of Community and Health Services dated December 15, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.3 Additional Provincial Social Services Relief Funding**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Jackson

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Vegh

That Council receive the memorandum from Katherine Chislett, Commissioner of Community and Health Services dated December 15, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.4 Rapid Housing Initiative**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Jackson  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Vegh

That Council receive the communication from Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, City of Markham dated December 11, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.5 Financial Impacts of COVID-19**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Jackson  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Vegh

That Council receive the memorandum from Laura Mirabella, Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer dated December 15, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.6 Summary of the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario Report on the Financial Impact of COVID-19 and Municipal Budgets**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Heath  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Grossi

That Council receive the memorandum from Laura Mirabella, Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer dated December 17, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.7 Recommendation for the End of Community Housing Mortgages**

**Moved by** Mayor Taylor  
**Seconded by** Mayor Lovatt

That Council receive the communication from Tim Ross, Executive Director, Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada dated December 16, 2020.

**Carried**

**F.8 Update on Funding for Phase 2 of the Safe Restart Agreement Program**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Grossi

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Jones

That Council receive the communication from Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation dated December 15, 2020.

**Carried**

**G. Consideration and Adoption of Reports**

**G.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting - December 3, 2020**

**Moved by** Mayor Barrow

**Seconded by** Mayor Pellegrini

That Council adopt the recommendations in the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 3, 2020, except for Items F.1.5 and G.2.2 as noted below.

**Carried**

**Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Resolution - Update on Municipal Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level Agreements**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor DiPaola

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Jackson

1. That the communication from Alisa Mahrova, Clerk and Manager, Policy, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority dated October 20, 2020 be received, and staff be requested to report back regarding the status of the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) in early 2021.

**Moved by** Mayor Bevilacqua

**Seconded by** Mayor Mrakas

That Council end debate and vote on the pending motion.

**Carried**

A recorded vote on the pending motion was as follows:

**For:** Barrow, Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Ferri, Grossi, Jackson, Li, Lovatt, Pellegrini, Perrelli, Rosati, Scarpitti (12)

**Against:** Emmerson, Hackson, Hamilton, Heath, Jones, Mrakas, Quirk, Taylor, Vegh (9)

**Carried**

### **Social Services Relief Fund - Phase Two - Authority for Capital Agreements**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Rosati

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Heath

That Council adopt the following recommendations in the report, *as amended*, dated November 20, 2020 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to award direct purchase contracts to expedite the rapid construction of Social Services Relief Fund Phase Two funded projects, at a total cost not to exceed funding amounts.
2. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to execute all necessary documents required under the program.
3. Council approve *moving forward with* developments on Housing York Inc. *properties as required for Social Services Relief Fund Phase Two projects.*
4. *The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to adjust funding, and direct any additional funding, as required to maximize use of funds.*
5. *Council approve 2021 interim Capital Spending Authority of up to \$7,415,000 for Social Services Relief Fund Capital Projects, fully funded from Provincial Funding.*

**Carried**

**G.2 COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream - Local Government Intake Funding Application**

**Moved by** Mayor Hackson

**Seconded by** Mayor Mrakas

The Council adopt the following recommendation in the report dated December 11, 2020 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. Council endorse the projects shown in Attachment 1 for funding under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream – Local Government Intake.

**Carried**

**G.3 Creation of Set Fines for Mask and Face-Covering Offences under the Transit Bylaw**

**Moved by** Mayor Pellegrini

**Seconded by** Mayor Scarpitti

That Council adopt the following recommendation in the report dated December 16, 2020 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Council authorize staff to submit a request to the Ontario Court of Justice for a set fine order for mask and face-covering infractions on transit.

**Carried**

**H. Introduction and Consideration of Bylaws**

None

**I. Motions**

**I.1 COVID-19 Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy**

**Moved by** Mayor Lovatt

**Seconded by** Mayor Mrakas

Whereas the impact of COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on our local economies and small business owners; and

Whereas many businesses have already closed permanently with many more facing the same fate throwing owners into financial ruin and their employees into poverty; and

Whereas the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program launched in May 2020 was dependent on Landlords signing up and taking a 25% reduction in rent and closed in September 2020 with many small businesses unable to participate; and

Whereas the FedDev Ontario Regional Relief and Recovery Fund was created to support operating costs incurred during the first year of the pandemic up to \$1 Million if you are unable to access other federal relief measures and if you were in business before March 15, 2020; and

Whereas on August 11, the Federal Government announced the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, where businesses must have been in operation prior to March 15 2020 with proof of 1 year of sales; and

Whereas on September 27, the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy launched which is a subsidy to cover part of a businesses commercial rent or property expenses, starting on September 27, 2020, until June 2021, you have to have been in business with payroll prior to March 15 2020; and

Whereas the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy is a lagging subsidy of up to 65% of eligible expenses meaning businesses are out of pocket 100% rent costs and receive a 65% recovery, possibly 90% if in Lockdown; and

Whereas these COVID-19 Business relief programs offered by the Federal Government exclude businesses that opened after March 15, 2020 leaving these business owners with no financial lifeline; and

Whereas York Region being placed into Grey Lockdown will all but seal the complete financial ruin of many small business owners in our communities;

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That, in the eventuality of York Region being moved into Grey-Lockdown, York Region Council call on the Federal Government to amend the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy to include any restaurant or business that opened at any time in 2020; and
2. That the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy become a leading subsidy where the business owner gets the benefit before rent is due; and
3. That a copy be sent to Prime Minister Trudeau, Deputy PM Freeland, All Premiers, Deputy Premiers, York Region MPs, All Regional Chairs in Ontario, AMO, FCM.



## I.2 Return York Region to the Red Control Zone

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Perrelli

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor DiPaola

Whereas many restaurants have a seating capacity that numbers into the hundreds; and

Whereas the accepted COVID-19 safety standard for physical distancing is 2 meters; and

Whereas many restaurants have to maintain large staff complements to open their doors which is cost prohibitive with a seating limit as a result of the Orange - Restrict and Red - Control zone measures; and

Whereas the pictures attached to this motion make it clear that limiting the seating capacity using these parameters are woefully inadequate; and

Whereas restaurants are already subject to all other safety measures and have an excellent record of compliance; and

Whereas a number of restaurants have already closed permanently with many more facing the same fate through no fault of their own;

Therefore be it resolved:

- i) That York Region Council request that, in York Region, the Provincial Government immediately remove the following clause "Maximum number of patrons permitted to be seated indoors is 50" from the Orange - Restrict zone and "Maximum number of patrons permitted to be seated indoors is 10" from the Red - Control zone; and
- ii) That York Region Council request that, in York Region, the Provincial Government immediately remove the following clauses "Establishments must be closed from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m." "Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 11 p.m." and "No consumption of liquor permitted between 12 a.m. to 9 a.m." from the Yellow- Protect zone; and "Establishments must be closed from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.," "Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 9 p.m." and "No consumption of liquor permitted between 10 p.m. to 9 a.m." from the Orange- Restrict zone and the Red -Control zone.

- iii) That York Region Council request that the Provincial Government return York Region to the Red-Control zone as modified in i) and ii) as of December 18th at 12:01AM.

A recorded vote was as follows:

**For:** Barrow, DiPaola, Grossi, Hamilton, Jackson, Jones, Li, Mrakas, Pellegrini, Perrelli (10)

**Against:** Bevilacqua, Emmerson, Ferri, Hackson, Heath, Lovatt, Quirk, Rosati, Scarpitti, Taylor, Vegh (11)

**Defeated**

**J. Notices of Motion to Reconsider**

None

**K. Other Business**

**K.1 COVID-19 Update**

Regional Chair Emmerson provided an update on the current status of COVID-19 and led a moment of silence to honour the 329 York Region residents who have lost their lives to the virus.

**K.2 2020 Milestones**

Marking the half-way point of this Council term, Regional Chair Emmerson provided an overview of the milestones achieved by York Region Council. These include investments in roads and transit, expansion of YorkNet's high-speed dark-fibre network, regional governance review, advancements at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Plant, a declared state of emergency for the first time in York Region's 50 year history, breaking ground on the Markham Centre Campus of York University and the opening of the Yonge Street Rapidway in the City of Richmond Hill.

**K.3 Transit Services on New Year's Eve**

Regional Chair Emmerson announced that York Region Transit will not be offering free rides on New Year's Eve this year, in an effort to discourage residents from celebrating outside of their own homes.

**K.4 Tentative Special Council Meeting - December 22, 2020**

Regional Chair Emmerson announced that a Special Council meeting will be tentatively scheduled on December 22, 2020 beginning at 9 a.m. related to COVID-19.

**K.5 Cancellation of York Region Rapid Transit Corporation Meeting**

Regional Chair Emmerson announced the cancellation of the York Region Rapid Transit Corporation meeting on January 20, 2021.

**K.6 Happy Holidays**

On behalf of Regional Council, Regional Chair Emmerson wished York Region residents a happy and safe holiday season and a happy New Year.

**L. Private Session**

Council resolved into private session at 12:53 p.m. At 12:54 p.m. Council resumed in public session and reported the following:

**L.1 Private Attachments 1 and 2 to Item F.3 - Additional Provincial Social Services Relief Funding - Acquisition or Disposition of Land**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Rosati  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Ferri

That Council receive the private attachments.

**Carried**

**M. Confirmatory Bylaw**

**Moved by** Mayor Bevilacqua  
**Seconded by** Mayor Scarpitti

That Council enact Bylaw No. 2020-61 to confirm the proceedings of this meeting of Council held on December 17, 2020.

**Carried**

**N. Adjournment**

The Council meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

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Regional Clerk

Minutes confirmed and adopted at the meeting of Council held on January 28, 2021.

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Regional Chair