



Minutes

The Council of The Regional Municipality of York

March 23, 2023
Electronic and In-Person Meeting
Council Chambers
17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket

Members: W. Emmerson, G. Chan, M. Chan, N. Davison, S. Del Duca, J. DiPaola, M. Ferri, V. Hackson, A. Ho, L. Jackson, J. Jones, J. Li, I. Lovatt, T. Mrakas, S. Pellegrini, M. Quirk, M. G. Racco, G. Rosati, F. Scarpitti, J. Taylor, T. Vegh, D. West

Staff: D. Basso, K. Chislett, P. Freeman, D. Kuzmyk, J. Li, E. Mahoney, B. Macgregor, C. Raynor

A. Call to Order

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

"We acknowledge that York Region is located on the traditional territory of many Indigenous peoples including the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat and Métis peoples and the treaty territories of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Williams Treaties First Nations.

Today this area is home to many diverse Indigenous Peoples, and we recognize their history, spirituality, culture and stewardship of this land.

We also acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our closest First Nation community."

B. Disclosures of Interest

None

C. Minutes of Council

C.1 Council Meeting held on February 23, 2023

Moved by Mayor Quirk

Seconded by Regional Councillor DiPaola

That Council confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on February 23, 2023.

Carried

C.2 Special Meeting of Council held on February 23, 2023

Moved by Mayor Quirk

Seconded by Regional Councillor DiPaola

That Council confirm the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on February 23, 2023.

Carried

D. Presentations

None

E. Deputations

None

F. Communications

F.1 Association of Municipalities Ontario's Resolution on Homelessness

Moved by Mayor Taylor

Seconded by Mayor Hackson

That Council receive the memorandum dated March 15, 2023 from Katherine Chislett, Commissioner of Community and Health Services and adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS in York Region's 2021 Point-in-Time Count, 329 people were counted as experiencing homelessness of which approximately 102 people were experiencing homelessness for six months or more;

WHEREAS York Region's emergency and transitional housing and seasonal shelters are consistently operating at, or near, full capacity;

WHEREAS York Region’s homelessness prevention programs continue to see increasing demand from people, including families at-risk of homelessness;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of historic underinvestment by the Provincial and Federal governments;

WHEREAS the Province’s Social Services Relief Fund which provided funding for significant homelessness supports ended December 31, 2022;

WHEREAS – the planning allocation for Homelessness Prevention Program funding from the Province shows no increase for the 2023/2024 fiscal year;

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of York has been the primary funder of new community housing supply;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, and integrated social service and health solutions;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of York continues to invest in its homelessness prevention response and construction of new community housing, and requires additional ongoing investments in social assistance, the provincial Homelessness Prevention Program, and capital funding to address this complex challenge; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Regional Municipality of York calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:
 - a) Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
 - b) Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
 - c) Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an integrated action plan to achieve this goal.
2. A copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; Minister of

Health; Minister of Long-Term Care; Minister of Education and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

G. Consideration and Adoption of Reports

G.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting - March 9, 2023

Moved by Mayor Lovatt

Seconded by Mayor Mrakas

That Council adopt the recommendations in the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 9, 2023.

Carried

G.2 Request for Traffic Signals on McCowan Road at Street B and Father Michael McGivney Catholic Academy High School - City of Markham

Moved by Mayor Scarpitti

Seconded by Regional Councillor Jones

That Council adopt the following recommendations in the report dated March 13, 2023 from the Commissioner of Public Works:

1. Traffic signals be installed on McCowan Road at Street B and Father Michael McGivney Catholic Academy High School in the City of Markham, subject to the capital and 10-year maintenance costs being fully funded by the owner.
2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the City of Markham and the Chief of York Regional Police.

Carried

G.3 2022 Statement of Remuneration and Expenses for Members of Council and Local Board Appointees

Moved by Mayor Pellegrini

Seconded by Mayor West

That Council adopt the following recommendation in the report dated March 15, 2023 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. Council receive this report for information.

Carried

H. Introduction and Consideration of Bylaws

Moved by Mayor Del Duca

Seconded by Regional Councillor Jackson

That Council approve and enact the following bylaws:

H.1 2023-11 - Amendment to Lane Designation Bylaw

A bylaw to amend Bylaw No. 2020-53 being a bylaw to designate lanes on Regional roads for the exclusive use of certain classes of vehicles

H.2 2023-12 - Repeal of Bylaw - Temporary Delegation to Amend Traffic Bylaws

A bylaw to repeal Bylaw No. 2020-19, being a bylaw to delegate to the Commissioner of Transportation Services the power to temporarily amend traffic bylaws

H.3 2023-13 - Amendment to Parking Bylaw

A bylaw to amend Bylaw No. 2017-37 being a bylaw to prohibit or regulate parking and stopping on Regional roads

H.4 2023-14 - Emergency Management Program Bylaw

A bylaw to adopt an Emergency Management Program

H.5 2023-15 - Uniform Water Service Rate

A bylaw to establish charges for the uniform water service rate

H.6 2023-16 - Uniform Wastewater Service Rate

A bylaw to establish charges for the uniform wastewater service rate

H.7 2023-18 Establishment of Credit Facility and Credit Agreement - Purchase of Zero Emission Buses

A by-law to authorize the establishment of a Credit Facility and the entering into of a Credit Agreement with the Canada Infrastructure Bank that provides for a loan in the maximum principal amount of \$136,000,000.00 to pay a portion of the purchase price for zero emission buses and to authorize the delegation of authority to pass amending by-laws in respect of this by-law

Carried

I. Motions

None

J. Notices of Motion to Reconsider

None

K. Other Business

K.1 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Regional Chair Emmerson noted that March 21, 2023 was International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This United Nations observance calls on governments and citizens around the world to mobilize for equality and dignity, and to find ways to fight racism and discrimination.

Regional Chair Emmerson remarked that through the Inclusion Charter, York Region remains committed to building welcoming and inclusive communities.

K.2 International Day of Forests

Regional Chair Emmerson noted that March 21, 2023 was International Day of Forests, which aims to raise awareness of sustainable forest management and stewardship. The York Regional Forest has more than 150 kilometers of forest trails that are open to the public 365 days a year and offer an opportunity for all to access our natural spaces.

K.3 World Water Day

Regional Chair Emmerson noted that March 22, 2023 was World Water Day, which seeks to accelerate access to clean water for all. By working together the community can ensure safe drinking water for generations to come.

K.4 Ramadan

Regional Chair Emmerson noted that today marks the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan. Ramadan is a significant month for many Muslim people that involves prayer, fasting and spending time with family and friends.

On behalf of Council, Regional Chair Emmerson extended best wishes to York Region's Muslim community for a peaceful month of reflection, generosity, gratitude and prayer.

K.5 Earth Hour

Regional Chair Emmerson announced that on March 25, 2023, York Region will join residents and businesses around the world and turn off all non-essential

lights for Earth Hour. Through small actions residents can drive environmental change and continue to build resiliency across our communities.

K.6 United Nations Event

Regional Chair Emmerson announced that yesterday a delegation from York Region, York Regional Police and York University were at the United Nations headquarters in New York City to officially renew a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

Driven by the Inclusion Charter for York Region, this unique collaboration brings together a variety of community and public organizations to advance the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals to end poverty, promote health and well-being, support economic and social inclusion, and build peaceful and inclusive communities.

On behalf of Council, Regional Chair Emmerson thanked Lina Bigioni, Chief of Staff for her leadership on this work, and thanked the United Nations for hosting these important events.

K.7 Avian Flu

Regional Chair Emmerson noted that over the last several weeks there has been significant attention on the Avian Flu. A dedicated web page at york.ca/avianflu has been created to promote consistent information on the issue and will be regularly updated with additional resources.

At this time, York Region Public Health has stated the risk to humans remains low. Residents who come across ill or dead animals are reminded not to touch them, to keep their pets leashed, and to contact their local Animal Control or the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative to report concerns.

K.8 Rescheduling York Telecom Network Board Meeting

Regional Chair Emmerson advised Council that the York Telecom Network Board meeting scheduled on April 20, 2023 will be rescheduled to April 27, 2023 at 1 p.m.

L. Private Session

Council did not resolve into private session.

L.1 Private Minutes - Council Meeting - February 23, 2023

Moved by Regional Councillor Ferri
Seconded by Regional Councillor Vegh

That Council confirm the private minutes of the Council meeting held on February 23, 2023.

Carried

M. Confirmatory Bylaw

Moved by Regional Councillor Racco
Seconded by Regional Councillor Ho

That Council enact Bylaw No. 2023-17 to confirm the proceedings of this meeting of Council held on March 23, 2023.

Carried

N. Adjournment

Moved by Regional Councillor G. Chan
Seconded by Regional Councillor M. Chan

That Council adjourn the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

Carried

Regional Clerk

Minutes confirmed and adopted at the meeting of Council held on April 27, 2023.

Regional Chair