



## Minutes

### The Council of The Regional Municipality of York

December 21, 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, A. Ho, L. Jackson, B. Johns, J. Jones, J. Li, I. Lovatt, T. Mrakas, S. Pellegrini, M. Quirk, M. G. Racco, G. Rosati, F. Scarpitti, J. Taylor, D. West

Staff: D. Basso, K. Chislett, P. Freeman, D. Kuzmyk, E. Mahoney, L. Mirabella, Dr. B. Pakes, C. Raynor, D. Szeptycki

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#### A. Call to Order

Regional Chair Emmerson called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

#### B. Land Acknowledgement

Regional Chair Emmerson 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.

**C. Disclosures of Interest**

**C.1 York Regional Police Budget**

Mayor Quirk declared an interest in Items E.1, H.2 (Items F.1, F.2 and I.2.1) and H.4 regarding budget items that refer to York Regional Police Services, as her husband is a retired York Regional Police officer and her stepson is a York Regional Police officer. Mayor Quirk did not participate in any discussion or voting on these matters.

**C.2 Public Health Budget**

Regional Councillor Davison declared an interest in Items E.1, H.1 and H.4 regarding Community and Health Services budget items that refer to Public Health as her sibling is employed by York Region as a Public Health Nurse, and hospitals as she is currently employed by a local hospital. Regional Councillor Davison did not participate in any discussion or voting on these matters.

**D. Minutes of Council**

**D.1 Council Meeting held on November 23, 2023**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor M. Chan  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Ferri

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

**Carried**

**E. Presentations**

**E.1 2024 to 2026 Regional Budget**

**Moved by** Mayor Pellegrini  
**Seconded by** Mayor Del Duca

Council receive the presentation by Laura Mirabella, Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer.

**Carried**

(Mayor Quirk and Regional Councillor Davison declared an interest in relation to this matter and did not participate in any discussion or voting on this item.)

**F. Deputations**

None

**G. Communications**

**G.1 Review of the Blended Hybrid Meeting Structure**

**Moved by** Mayor Lovatt  
**Seconded by** Mayor West

Council enact a Bylaw to hold in-person Council and Committee of the Whole meetings with an option for Members to participate virtually up to three times annually per meeting type and exceptions provided for medical reasons or inclement weather.

A recorded vote on this item was as follows:

For: Davison, Emmerson, Jones, Lovatt, Mrakas, Pellegrini, Quirk, Racco, Taylor, West (10)

Against: G. Chan, M. Chan, Del Duca, DiPaola, Ferri, Ho, Jackson, Johns, Li, Rosati, Scarpitti (11)

Absent: Vegh (1)

**Defeated**

**Moved by** Mayor Lovatt  
**Seconded by** Mayor West

Council receive the memorandum from Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk dated December 8, 2021.

**Carried**

**H. Consideration and Adoption of Reports**

**H.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting - November 30, 2023**

**Moved by** Mayor West  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Rosati

Council adopt the recommendations in the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on November 30, 2023.

**Carried**

(Regional Councillor Davison declared an interest in relation to this matter and did not participate in any discussion or voting on this item.)

## **H.2 Committee of the Whole Meeting - December 7, 2023**

**Moved by** Mayor Pellegrini  
**Seconded by** Mayor Del Duca

Council adopt the recommendations in the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 7, 2023, except for items relating to York Regional Police in Items F.1, F.2 and I.2.1.

**Carried**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Jackson  
**Seconded by** Mayor Del Duca

Council adopt the recommendations in the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 7, 2023 relating to York Regional Police.

**Carried**

(Mayor Quirk declared an interest in relation to this matter and did not participate in any discussion or voting on this item.)

## **H.3 Debenture Committee Meeting - December 5, 2023**

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

Council adopt the recommendations in the Minutes of the Debenture Committee meeting held on December 5, 2023.

**Carried**

## **H.4 2024 to 2026 Regional Budget**

**Moved by** Mayor Pellegrini  
**Seconded by** Mayor Del Duca

Council adopt the following recommendations in the report of the Commissioner of Finance dated December 12, 2023, except for items relating to York Regional Police and Public Health:

1. Council approve operating and capital budgets as follows:
  - a. The 2024 operating budget, reflecting a tax levy increase of 2.75% as tabled on November 23, 2023, detailed in the 2024 to 2026 Budget Book, and subsequently updated in Appendix A.
  - b. A Rapid Transit / Infrastructure Levy equivalent to a 1% tax levy increase as summarized in Appendix A.

- c. The 2024 capital expenditures and Capital Spending Authority by project and by program group and associated funding sources detailed in the 2024 to 2026 Budget Book, as summarized in Appendix B, and the authority to reallocate expenditures between projects within a program group, subject to conditions outlined in this report.
2. Council endorse the 2025 to 2026 operating outlook tabled on November 23, 2023, including the Rapid Transit / Infrastructure Levy, as detailed in the 2024 to 2026 Budget book and subsequently updated in Appendix A.
3. Council approve debt authority and reserve items as follows:
  - a. Incremental debt authority of \$571 million required for 2024 Capital Spending Authority by project as specified in Column B of Appendix C.
  - b. Total debt authority for capital projects up to the amounts specified in Column C of Appendix C in accordance with the Capital Financing and Debt Policy.
  - c. Approve a contribution of \$199 million to Sinking Fund Reserve to meet the Region's 2024 sinking fund obligations.
  - d. Authorize the funding of capital projects previously approved for debt financing from reserves where there are sufficient funds available and at the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer.
4. Council endorse reconciliation of the 2024 Budget to the full accrual basis of accounting, as required under Ontario Regulation 284/09, as detailed in the "Accrual Budget Presentation" chapter of the 2024 to 2026 Budget Book and subsequently updated in Appendix D.
5. Council authorize the Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer to:
  - a. Make any necessary adjustments within the total approved net Budget to reflect organizational changes and any other reallocation of costs.
  - b. Apply for, accept and adjust the Budget and Capital Spending Authority for any additional Provincial, Federal, and/or other external funding provided there is no tax levy impact.

**Carried**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Jackson  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Jones

Council adopt the recommendations in the report of the Commissioner of Finance dated December 12, 2023 relating to York Regional Police.

**Carried**

(Mayor Quirk declared an interest in relation to this matter and did not participate in any discussion or voting on this item.)

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Rosati  
**Seconded by** Mayor Quirk

Council adopt the recommendations in the report of the Commissioner of Finance dated December 12, 2023 relating to Public Health and hospitals.

**Carried**

(Regional Councillor Davison declared an interest in relation to this matter and did not participate in any discussion or voting on this item.)

## **I. Introduction and Consideration of Bylaws**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor Li  
**Seconded by** Regional Councillor DiPaola

Council approve and enact the following bylaws:

### **I.1 2023-56 - Temporary Borrowing Bylaw for Expenses**

A bylaw to authorize the temporary borrowing of monies to meet the current expenditures of The Regional Municipality of York for the year 2024

### **I.2 2023-57 - Temporary Borrowing Bylaw for Works**

A bylaw to authorize the temporary borrowing of monies to meet expenditures made in connection with a work to be financed in whole or in part by the issuance of debentures

### **I.3 2023-58 - Bylaw to Repeal the Cannabis Contingency Reserve Fund Bylaw**

A bylaw to repeal Bylaw No. 2019-08, a bylaw to establish the Cannabis Contingency Reserve Fund

**Carried**

**J. Motions**

**J.1 Ontario Land Tribunal Hearings Regarding Case No. OLT-23-000758 in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the site located at 17-23 Morgan Avenue just east of Yonge Street in the City of Markham**

**Moved by** Mayor Lovatt

**Seconded by** Mayor Scarpitti

1. Council direct staff to appear at the Ontario Land Tribunal hearing in support of OPA 155 - 12749 and 12875 Tenth Line, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, Case No. OLT-23-000758.
2. Council direct staff to appear at the Ontario Land Tribunal hearing to support the City of Markham in opposition to the Ontario Land Tribunal appeal associated with the site located at 17-23 Morgan Avenue just east of Yonge Street.

**Carried**

(See Items M.3 and M.4)

**K. Notices of Motion to Reconsider**

None

**L. Other Business**

**L.1 Paramedic Service Awards**

On behalf of Council, Regional Chair Emmerson extended congratulations to two York Region paramedics recently awarded the Governor General Exemplary Service First Bar medal. Primary Care Paramedic Cheryl Balsdon and Advance Care Paramedic Richard McTeer have been recognized for providing the highest standard of care and conduct for more than 30 years.

**L.2 Warriors Football**

On behalf of Council, Regional Chair Emmerson extended congratulations to the Town of Newmarket's Huron Heights Secondary School Warriors Football program for a tremendous season. Both the junior and senior Warriors won their respective championship games to become the top football teams in Ontario for the 2023 season.

**L.3 2023 Council Achievements**

Regional Chair Emmerson extended thanks and appreciation to Members of Council, and highlighted some of Council's achievements over the last year:

- Approved York Region annual budgets for 2023 and 2024
- Updated York Region's Fiscal Strategy
- Made historic investments in road and transit infrastructure
- Added new paramedic response stations
- Seen transit ridership recover faster than expected
- Opened new affordable housing units across our communities

#### **L.4 Happy Holidays**

Regional Chair Emmerson extended best wishes to Members of Council, Regional staff, and all York Region residents for a warm and safe holiday season.

#### **M. Private Session**

Council did not resolve into private session.

##### **M.1 Private Minutes - Council Meeting - November 23, 2023**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor G. Chan

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Li

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

**Carried**

##### **M.2 Private Minutes - Committee of the Whole Meeting - December 7, 2023**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor G. Chan

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Li

Council adopt the confidential recommendations in the private minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 7, 2023.

**Carried**

##### **M.3 City of Markham Ontario Land Tribunal Participation Request – 17-23 Morgan Avenue - Potential Litigation**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor G. Chan

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Li

Council receive the confidential memorandum from the Chief Planner dated December 12, 2023.

**Carried**



(See Item J.1)

**M.4 Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Ontario Land Tribunal Participation Request – OPA 155 - Potential Litigation**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor G. Chan

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Li

Council receive the confidential memorandum from the Chief Planner dated December 12, 2023.

**Carried**

(See Item J.1)

**N. Confirmatory Bylaw**

**Moved by** Mayor Scarpitti

**Seconded by** Mayor Pellegrini

Council enact Bylaw No. 2023-59 to confirm the proceedings of this meeting of Council held on December 21, 2023.

**Carried**

**O. Adjournment**

**Moved by** Regional Councillor DiPaola

**Seconded by** Regional Councillor Racco

Council adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

**Carried**

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Regional Clerk

Minutes confirmed and adopted at the meeting of Council held on January 25, 2023.

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Regional Chair