

Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Tecumseh Town Hall - Council Chambers
917 Lesperance Road
Tecumseh, Ontario N8N 1W9

Present: Mayor, Gary McNamara
Deputy Mayor, Joe Bachetti
Councillor, James Dorner
Councillor, Alicia Higgison
Councillor, Brian Houston
Councillor, Tania Jobin

Absent: Councillor, Rick Tonial

Also Present: Chief Administrative Officer, Margaret Misk-Evans
Director Legislative Services & Clerk, Robert Auger
Director Public Works & Engineering Services, Phil Bartnik
Director People & Culture, Michelle Drouillard
Director Technology & Client Services, Shaun Fuerth
Director Community & Recreation Services, Beth Gignac
Director Development Services, Brian Hillman
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer, Tom Kitsos
Deputy Clerk & Manager Legislative Services, Jennifer Alexander
Deputy Clerk - Clerks Services & Policy Advisor, Christina Hebert

A. Roll Call

B. Call to Order

The Mayor calls the meeting to order at 5:07 pm.

C. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial. This territory is within the lands honoured by the Wampum Treaties; agreements between the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Leni Lenape and allied Nations to peacefully share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the Three Fires

Confederacy Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi and Huron/Wendat Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

D. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There is no pecuniary interest declared by a Member of Council. The Mayor calls for a recess at 5:09 pm and the meeting resumes at 5:17 pm.

E. Delegations

1. Terms of Reference

Re: Director Legislative Services, Rob Auger

The Director, Legislative Services highlights the terms of reference for the Policies and Procedures Committee as appended on the agenda. He highlights the scope and mandate of the committee, emphasizing that it is intended to be a public yet informal setting for both administration and Council to have an extended discussion on policies, upcoming by-laws and other matters of interest which would not normally be possible in a regular Council meeting setting. Any recommendations of this committee will be brought back to formal Council for approval at a Regular Council meeting along with the Committee minutes.

a. LCS-2023-28 Policies & Priorities Committee Terms of Reference

Motion: PPC - 14/23

Moved By Councillor Tania Jobin
Seconded By Councillor Brian Houston

That Report LCS-2023-28 entitled "Policies & Priorities Standing Committee Terms of Reference" **be received;**

And that the Policies & Priorities Standing Committee Terms of Reference in Attachment 1 to Report LCS-2023-28 be recommended for **approval and adoption** at the December 12, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

2. Indigenous Relations

Re: Beth Gignac, Director Community and Recreation Services

- Can-Am Indian Friendship Centre of Windsor and The Town of Tecumseh
- Objway - Anishinabe Learning Program: Pilot 2024

The Director presents the presentation entitled “Can Am Indian Friendship Centres” as appended on the agenda. She provides a background on Friendship Centres, guiding principles of the proposed agreement along with the roles of the Town and CIAFC. The agreement is drafted with the intention to build a relationship of mutual support. This is a two-year agreement with renewal options.

The Mayor opens the floor for questions from the Members. There are no questions from the Members.

A second presentation by the Director is presented entitled "Ojibway-Anishinabe Learning Program" as appended to the agenda. The Director outlines the opportunities for a Learning Program for Council and Administration that entails a research project and three workshops in 2024. The funding for this initiative will be deferred to the 2024 Budget deliberations.

The Mayor opens the floor to questions from the Members. There are no questions raised from the Members.

Motion: PPC - 15/23

Moved By Councillor Brian Houston

Seconded By Councillor Alicia Higgison

That a by-law be recommended for the Town to enter into the Friendship Agreement with the CAIFC, as outlined in this presentation entitled "Can Am Indian Friendship Centres" and for consideration by Council at the next Regular Council Meeting on December 12, 2023;

And that it is further recommended, pending Council approval, that a culturally appropriate Signing Ceremony **be organized** at Town Hall between Council and the Board of CAIFC in early 2024.

Carried

Motion: PPC - 16/23

Moved By Councillor Alicia Higgison

Seconded By Councillor Brian Houston

That Council consideration of the Ojibway-Anishinabe Learning Program as a pilot program for 2024 **be deferred** to budget deliberations in January, 2024.

Carried

F. Communications

There are no Communication items presented to the Committee.

G. Reports

1. CAO-PC-2023-07 Policy No. 7 Health & Safety

The Director highlights the report as appended to the agenda and notes that there are no revisions required to the Policy No. 7 during this annual review.

Motion: PPC - 17/23

Moved By Councillor Brian Houston
Seconded By Councillor Tania Jobin

That Health and Safety Policy No. 7, as reviewed for the year 2023, in accordance with Section 25(2)(j) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, **be recommended for approval and adoption by Council at the December 12 , 2023 Regular Council Meeting.**

And that Health and Safety Policy No. 7 be posted in all Municipal Buildings.

Carried

2. LCS-2023-33 Tecumseh Noise By-Law Review

The Director outlines the proposed revisions to the Noise By-law as presented in the way of a new by-law. He highlights some of the comments received by the Town in the public consultation remarks as appended on the agenda. He explains that temporary noise exemptions are still favored with an application fee as long as there are conditions in place (if applicable) to mitigate the noise emissions that are imposed and enforced. He notes in particular that enforcement concerns and issues were noted from the public consultation and that accordingly the new proposed by-law would provide for set fines and/or administrative penalties should Council approve the implementation of a Administrative Monetary Policy System in the future.

The proposed by-law as appended in Attachment 2, is outlined with the stated general intent that the sounds or “noise” that needs to be regulated are only those that are a nuisance as determined on a reasonable person basis. The proposed by-law has been drafted with greater application and flexibility with the appropriate discretion given to the by-law enforcement officer.

Other aspects of the by-law including the restrictions noted in Schedule A are reviewed. Residential areas are discussed along with motor vehicles on private property, excessive idling, animal noise that is persistent (being of ten minutes or more and/or over a period of one hour).

The delegation of authority to the Clerk to grant Temporary Noise Exemptions is raised. The Director highlights matters that should be taken

into consideration in granting exemptions including notification requirements, mitigation efforts and by-law enforcement officer monitoring an event, all of which will be at the discretion of the Clerk whose decision on the exemption request shall be final and binding with no further appeal to Council. Other factors that are considered in a temporary noise exemption application approval are: past infractions to noise by-law exemptions and mitigation measures proposed by the applicants themselves.

The Director adds that the by-law will be administered by the Clerk but enforcement will be through the Town's by-law enforcement officer and OPP.

The Mayor opens the floor to questions from the Members.

A Member inquires on enforcement of neighbour disputes regarding noise complaints. The Director responds that enforcement by either the Town By-law enforcement Officer or the OPP will depend on the hour of day and that what is or is not an acceptable level of noise will be at the discretion of the enforcement officer exercised reasonably.

A Member requests that an online Temporary Noise Exemption application be created.

Motion: PPC - 18/23

Moved By Councillor Brian Houston

Seconded By Councillor Alicia Higgison

That Report LCS-2023-33 entitled "Tecumseh Noise By-law Review" be received;

And that By-law 2023-110 be recommended for consideration for first, second, third and final readings at the December 12, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

H. Unfinished Business

There are no Unfinished Business items presented to the Committee.

I. New Business

The CAO advised that there is more policies to come in December at a second convening of the Committee.

J. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday December 12, 2023.

K. Adjournment

Motion: PPC - 19/23

Moved By Councillor Alicia Higgison
Seconded By Councillor James Dörner

That there being no further business, the Tuesday, November 28, 2023 meeting of the Policies and Priorities Committee **be adjourned** at 6:12 pm.

Carried

Gary McNamara, Mayor

Robert Auger, Clerk