

Minutes of a Public Meeting of
The Council of the Town of Tecumseh

Tecumseh Council meets in public session on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, in the Council Chambers, 917 Lesperance Road, Tecumseh, Ontario at 5:00 pm.

1. Call to Order

The Mayor calls the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present:

Mayor

Deputy Mayor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Gary McNamara

Joe Bachetti

Bill Altenhof

Andrew Dowie

Brian Houston

Tania Jobin

Rick Tonial

Also Present:

Chief Administrative Officer

Director Parks & Recreation Services

Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Director Planning & Building Services

Director Fire Services & Fire Chief

Deputy Clerk & Manager Legislative Services

Manager Engineering Services

Manager Planning Services

Administrative Assistant to the Director Corporate
Service & Clerk

Margaret Misk-Evans

Paul Anthony

Phil Bartnik

Brian Hillman

Doug Pitre

Jennifer Alexander

John Henderson

Chad Jeffery

Sue White

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There is no pecuniary interest declared by a Member of Council.

4. Introduction and Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of the meeting is to hear public comment and provide Council with an update on the works completed on the Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP – Streetscape Plan and Design Project since the last update in October 2017.

5. Delegations

1. Gail Shilingford, Dialog Project Manager, and Laura Herlehy, P.Eng., Project Coordinator, Dillion Consulting Ltd.

Re: Tecumseh Road Main Street Detailed Streetscape Design

Manager Engineering Services provides that since the last meeting, the Town has had significant dialog with the affected property owners and has reviewed costs and potential cost saving alternatives for this project.

Administration is seeking some direction with some of the potential cost saving alternatives to proceed with the final design phase of the project. Following this meeting, Administration will prepare a future report to council later with a recommendation.

Ms. Gail Shilingford, Dialog Project Manager, presents a PowerPoint presentation on their activity since the last Council update in October 2017.

She notes one of the key objectives of this meeting is to receive feedback and direction from Council and to move forward with the Streetscape Plan.

Ms. Shilingford reviews the purpose of this project, which is to build an identity and community within the downtown core, and make Tecumseh a destination. She explains the streetscape design features including a mixed-use and residential development in a land urban context, and the opportunities to bring synergies with other developments within the Town.

A series of consultations with the affected property owners were initiated regarding street access and plan implementation. There is a need identified to expedite the Tecumseh Road sanitary sewer to accommodate development proposals.

Ms. Laura Herlehy, Dillion Consulting Inc., indicates they have reviewed the project costs and alternatives specifically with the need to relocate the existing utilities underground. She explains the various utilities options and states this revised plan will save 2.48 million dollars on the overall project costs.

A member raised concern that the implementation of phase one will increase traffic between McNorton Road and Arbour Street as motorists will avoid Tecumseh Road traffic. Ms. Herlehy comments that they did assume that there would be some diversion of traffic in this area but mostly to County Road 22.

The County is planning to improve capacity at the intersection at County Road 22 and Lesperance Road. The Town is trying to move commuters off Tecumseh Road onto County Road 22. A Member notes that traffic is the number one concern with this initiative and this proposed work will make traffic worse. A concern is raised over the Town's plan for traffic diversion, which appears to be in conflict with the County plans for County Road 22.

Director Planning and Building Services explains the ongoing communications with the County on the Town's initiative with this project. The Town's perspective is to have this corridor safe and efficient with on street parking. This initiative will slow down traffic in this area. He notes that the County will need to recognize the need for these improvements. Administration will review and provide a quantifiable answer to this question.

Discussion ensues about communicating with the public regarding the plan's costs. In response to a query, it is suggested that the Consultant review the financial impacts and risks associated with this type of project by analyzing other projects of similar municipal size.

A Member inquires if there is any other opportunities for the utilities to be relocated other than underground. The Consultant has worked closely with the utility company to move these routes to other locations and determined it significantly increases the costs. Options to partially bury utilities and keep utilities aerial are reviewed.

The Mayor opens the floor for questions.

Mr. Brian Chillman, Lawyer for Dionne Orthodontist

Mr. Brian Chillman raises a procedural question regarding the public notice for this meeting. The Mayor confirms that Council wants input from the public on this plan. A Public Information Centre regarding the Streetscape Plan will be held as an opportunity for public input and address any concerns.

The Director Planning and Building Services advised that formal public notice had not been given for this meeting as it's original purpose was to provide an update to Council and further that it was intended to hold a public meeting with proper notice at a later date.

Mr. Steve Columbo, 163 Arlington Blvd.

Mr. Columbo comments that Lesperance Road is better suited for this development than Tecumseh Road. He has lived in two cities, Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay that tried to implement a downtown revitalization plan and failed. He recommends that Administration contact these municipalities and review the reasons why these plans did not work.

The Director Planning and Building Services reviewed how this streetscape design project is just one of the components of the Tecumseh Road Main Street Community Improvement Plan which was previously adopted by Council after a very lengthy and thorough public consultation process.

6. Communications

There are no communications presented to Council.

7. Reports**1. PWES-2019-28 Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP - Streetscape Plan and Design Project Update - April 2019****Motion: PCM - 25/19**

Moved By	Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti
Seconded By	Councillor Brian Houston

That Report No. PWES-2019-28 titled Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP – Streetscape Plan and Design Project Update - April 2019 be received;

And that based on the feedback received during the April 23, 2019 Public Meeting of Council, Administration bring forward a future report to Council recommending the direction forward for this project.

Carried

8. Adjournment**Motion: PCM - 26/19**

Moved By	Councillor Bill Altenhof
Seconded By	Councillor Brian Houston

That there being no further business, the Tuesday, April 23, 2019 meeting of the Public Council Meeting now adjourn at 6:27 pm.

Carried

Gary McNamara, Mayor

Jennifer Alexander, Deputy Clerk