



Town of Aurora  
General Committee Meeting Report

Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall  
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

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**Attendance**

**Council Members** Councillor Gaertner in the Chair; Councillors Gallo, Gilliland, Humfryes, Kim, Thompson, and Mayor Mrakas

**Members Absent** None

**Other Attendees** Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer, Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services, Techa van Leeuwen, Director of Corporate Services, Jason Gaertner, Acting Director of Financial Services, Allan Downey, Director of Operational Services, Lawrence Kuk, Manager of Development Planning, Stephanie Mackenzie-Smith, Manager of Corporate Communications, Patricia De Sario, Town Solicitor, Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, and Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

General Committee consented to recess the meeting at 8:58 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

General Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, with the following addition:

- Delegation (a) Miju Stinson, Resident; Re: Item R5 – PDS19-013 – Proposal for Interim Control By-law Exemption, 29 Church Street

## **2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

## **3. Community Presentations**

None

## **4. Delegations**

### **(a) Miju Stinson, Resident**

**Re: Item R5 – PDS19-013 – Proposal for Interim Control By-law  
Exemption, 29 Church Street**

Mr. John Stinson, on behalf of Miju Stinson, owners of 29 Church Street, spoke in support of the request to exempt their property from the Interim Control By-law.

General Committee received and referred the comments of the delegation to Item R5.

## **5. Consent Agenda**

### **General Committee recommends:**

That the following Consent Agenda Items, C1 and C2, be approved:

### **C1. OPS19-001 – Winter Maintenance Report No. 1 Revised Provincial Minimum Maintenance Standards (MMS) and Windrow Clearing Program**

1. That Report No. OPS19-001 be received; and
2. That the recommendations and service levels contained in Table 1 associated with the Revised Provincial Municipal Maintenance Standards (MMS) be approved; and

3. That staff report back with options to meet standards for winter pre-treatment of roads with the intent of finalizing any additional requirements for the 2020 Capital and Operating Budgets; and
4. That the Director of Operations, or their designate, be appointed as the designated Official for the purposes of declaring a “Significant Weather Event”; and
5. That the Town of Aurora not proceed with a Windrow Clearing Program.

**Carried**

**C2. Memorandum from Mayor Mrakas**

**Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting  
Highlights of November 30 and December 14, 2018**

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of November 30 and December 14, 2018, be received for information.

**Carried**

**6. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

None

**7. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)**

General Committee consented to consider items in the following order: R1, R5, R2, R3, R4, R6, R7, R8, and R9.

**R1. CMS19-005 – Library Square Project – Update**

General Committee consented to waive the provisions of the Procedure By-law to permit more than the allotted time of ten minutes for the presentation.

Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services, introduced David Leinster, Partner, The Planning Partnership, and Thomas Nemeskeri, Architect, OAA, RAW Design Inc., who provided a project update including: project team participants; documentation for the schematic design process of the buildings; outdoor rooms

and programming; section elevations; lighting; site finishings; traffic and pedestrian flow; and parking.

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CMS19-005 be received for information.

**Carried**

**R2. CS19-013 – Council Code of Conduct and Local Boards Code of Conduct**

Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, presented an overview including: framework of the Council Code of Conduct; formation and guiding principles; Local Boards Code of Conduct; relationship with the Integrity Commissioner; and complaint resolution process.

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CS19-013 be received; and
2. That the Council Code of Conduct be approved; and
3. That the Local Boards Code of Conduct be approved; and
4. That the necessary by-law to implement the Council Code of Conduct and the Local Boards Code of Conduct be enacted at the February 26, 2019 Council meeting.

**Carried**

**R3. CMS19-004 – Sport Plan – Update**

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CMS19-004 be received; and
2. That the budgeted amount of \$103,400 that has been allocated in the draft 2019 Operating Budget be preserved until such time a final delivery option is agreed upon.

**Carried**

**R4. CS19-011 – Fence By-law Exemption Request – 203 St. John’s Sideroad West**

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CS19-011 be received; and
2. That an exemption to the Town’s Fence By-law No. 4753-05.P to permit a recently constructed non-compliant fence in the front and side yard, which includes a wrought iron entry gate at 203 St. John’s Sideroad West, be denied.

**Carried**

**R5. PDS19-013 – Proposal for Interim Control By-law Exemption 29 Church Street**

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS19-013 be received; and
2. That a by-law be enacted to amend the Interim Control By-law to remove the lands municipally known as 29 Church Street from the provisions of the By-law.

**Carried**

**R6. FS19-004 – Major Capital Investments Funding Strategy**

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. FS19-004 be received for information.

**Carried**

**R7. PDS19-008 – Amendment to the Site Plan Control By-law**

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS19-008 be received; and

2. That a by-law be enacted to amend By-law No. 6108-18, to include delegated approval authority for select site plan applications within the Business Park zone.

**Carried**

**R8. PDS19-012 – Proposed Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe**

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS19-012 be received; and
2. That this Report be forwarded to the Ontario Growth Secretariat and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and
3. That a letter be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to request an extension of the commenting deadline for “Proposed Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe” from 45 days (February 28, 2019) to 90 days (April 14, 2019) to allow Council the opportunity to consider a subsequent report with further comments on the proposed amendments.

**Carried**

**R9. FS19-002 – 2019 Operating Budget**

Jason Gaertner, Acting Director of Financial Services–Treasurer, presented an overview to kick off the Operating Budget review process including: tax increases for inflation and fiscal strategies; directives and levy increase; impact on taxpayers; schedule of budget meetings; key contributing tax pressures; new or enhanced services; options; and water/wastewater/stormwater core assumptions and rates.

**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. FS19-002 be received; and
2. That the 2019 draft Operating Budget be referred to Budget Committee for review at its scheduled meetings commencing February 21, 2019.

**Carried**

## 8. Notices of Motion

### (a) Mayor Mrakas

#### Re: Backyard Swimming Instruction on Private Property

Whereas swimming is a life skill that all people should acquire and residents who have backyard swimming pools offer lessons and instruction in their private pools providing a community service within their neighbourhood; and

Whereas often these instructors are young adults and students seeking summer employment; and

Whereas the Town's Zoning By-law permits home occupation for similar types of activities such as dance or music instruction provided that all home occupation activities be conducted entirely within the dwelling or permitted accessory buildings;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff be directed to take forward a Zoning By-law amendment to a future Public Planning meeting to amend the Home Occupation provisions to allow for backyard swimming instruction on private property.

### (b) Mayor Mrakas

#### Re: Cannabis Public Use By-law

Whereas , as of October 17, 2018, the sale and recreational use of cannabis is now legal in Canada; and

Whereas the Provincial government has enacted legislation that "...aligns the laws surrounding the consumption of cannabis with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*"; and

Whereas, as cannabis use will fall under the same regulations as the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*, it will therefore be prohibited to consume cannabis within 20 metres of a children's playground, publicly-owned sport field or sport surface, such as a basketball court, baseball field, soccer pitch, ice rink, splash pad or beach volleyball court; and it is illegal to smoke or hold lighted tobacco or cannabis on public or private school property as well as in any common

areas of condos, apartment buildings, or college and university residences;  
and

Whereas, as per recent amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, municipalities can pass by-laws respecting the smoking and vaping of cannabis that are more restrictive than the rules under the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*; and

Whereas residents are concerned about the use of cannabis in public spaces;  
and

Whereas there is a lack of understanding as to what is or is not permitted regarding the use of cannabis in public spaces; and

Whereas consistency and clarity of regulation of use of cannabis in public spaces across municipalities in York Region is in the public interest;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora request York Region to work with Regional municipalities to create a Regional public cannabis usage by-law that addresses and reflects community concerns regarding use of cannabis in public spaces; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That, upon approval of said by-law, staff be directed to create a cannabis education/resource guide and awareness campaign, to ensure residents and businesses are aware of the regulations as they speak to the use of cannabis in public spaces.

**(c) Councillor Gaertner**

**Re: Information Regarding 672 and 684 Henderson Drive**

Whereas there is a significant public interest in the proposed development of the properties located at 672 and 684 Henderson Drive; and

Whereas the community is requesting more information with respect to the history of the property and any contact between the owners and the Town; and

Whereas it is important to recognize the public expectation of open and accessible information;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That any and all Town information regarding the properties located at 672 and 684 Henderson Drive,



including but not limited to prior correspondence and Closed Session Reports and Minutes, excluding anything currently being considered by Council in Closed Session, be released to the general public and the Committee of Adjustment before a Meeting is held regarding these properties.

## **9. New Business**

Councillor Gilliland inquired about the timing of an upcoming report regarding Animal Services, and staff advised that the report and a draft by-law is expected to be submitted to Council in the March 2019 meeting cycle.

## **10. Closed Session**

None

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.