

Electronic General Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Number: 9
June 15, 2020, 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Live streamed

Roll Call	Mayor Frank Scarpitti	Councillor Reid McAlpine
	Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton	Councillor Karen Rea
	Regional Councillor Jack Heath	Councillor Andrew Keyes
	Regional Councillor Joe Li	Councillor Amanda Collucci
	Regional Councillor Jim Jones	Councillor Khalid Usman
	Councillor Keith Irish	Councillor Isa Lee
	Councillor Alan Ho	
Staff	Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer	Brian Lee, Director, Engineering
	Trinela Cane, Commissioner, Corporate Services	Alex Moore, Manager of Purchasing & Accounts Payable
	Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services	Hristina Giantsopoulos, Election & Council/Committee Coordinator
	Arvin Prasad, Commissioner Development Services	Scott Chapman, Election & Council/Committee Coordinator
	Claudia Storto, City Solicitor and Director of Human Resources	John Wong, Technology Support Specialist II
	Joel Lustig, Treasurer	Meg West, Manager of Business Planning and Projects
	Bryan Frois, Chief of Staff	Claudia Marsales, Sr. Manager Waste Management & Environment
	Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk	Gord Miokovic, Manager, System Engineering
	Martha Pettit, Deputy City Clerk	Rob Grech, Manager, Stormwater
	Phoebe Fu, Director of Environmental Services	

1. CALL TO ORDER

In consideration of the ongoing state of emergency surrounding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the emergency public health orders issued by the

Government of Ontario, this meeting was conducted electronically to maintain physical distancing among participants.

The General Committee Meeting convened at the hour of 9:34 AM in the Canada Room with Regional Councillor Jack Heath presiding as Chair for all items on the agenda.

General Committee recessed at 1:00 PM and reconvened at 1:47 PM.

Mayor Frank Scarpitti did not return after the recess.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none disclosed.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 2020 GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)

Moved by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

Seconded by Councillor Isa Lee

1. That the minutes of the June 1, 2020 General Committee meeting be confirmed.

Carried

4. DEPUTATIONS

Deputations were made for the following item:

9.2 - Swan Lake Water Quality Improvement Program.

Refer to the individual item for the deputation details.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5.1 MARKHAM'S DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM – AN OVERVIEW ON COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS AND OTHER REGULATORY AND WATER QUALITY ACTIVITIES (5.0)

There was brief discussion with respect to the level of responsibility and the role of Council Members in the City's maintenance of the water system.

Claudia Storto, City Solicitor advised that a memo will be prepared to provide information in relation to the significant onus on Council Members to maintain safe drinking water for the City. Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services confirmed that the *Safe Drinking Water Act* outlines the role of

Council as the owner of the water system and includes the requirements to undertake that due diligence.

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea

Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

1. That the memo dated June 10, 2020 titled “Markham’s Drinking Water Distribution System – An Overview on Compliance Inspections and other Regulatory and Water Quality Activities” be received.

Carried

6. PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

7. CONSENT REPORTS - FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27, 2020 MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD (16.0)

The Committee requested that staff prepare a presentation for the next Council Meeting on June 23, 2020 that will provide an update on the initiation of curb-side library services.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Khalid Usman

1. That the minutes of the April 27, 2020 Markham Public Library Board meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

7.2 057-S-20 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) STREET SWEEPERS (7.12)

Moved by Councillor Khalid Usman

Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

1. That the report entitled “057-S-20 Supply and Delivery of Two (2) Street Sweepers” be received; and,

2. That the contract for the supply and delivery of two (2) Tymco brand, model DST-6 regenerative (waterless, dustless) type street sweepers be awarded to The Equipment Specialists Inc. (an authorized Tymco dealer), in the amount of \$814,080.00, inclusive of HST; and,
3. That the costs of \$814,080.00 be funded from account 057-6150-19207-005 (Corporate Fleet Replacement) with a budget available of \$726,240.00; and,
4. That the budget shortfall in the amount of \$87,840.00 (\$814,080.00 - \$726,240.00 or \$43,920 per unit) be funded from the Life Cycle Replacement and Capital Reserve Fund; and,
5. That the tendering process be waived in accordance with Purchasing By-Law 2017-18, Part II, Section 11 (1) (b) which states, where there is only one source of supply for the goods to be purchased and (e) “where the City is acquiring specialized vehicles in which case the sources of supply may be identified based on technical specifications prepared by the User Department; and,
6. That the units being replaced (1234 and 1235) be sold upon delivery of the new units in accordance with Purchasing By-Law 2017-8, Part V, Disposal of Personal Property. Proceeds will be posted to account 890 890 9305 (Proceeds from the Sale of Other Fixed Assets); and further,
7. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

7.3 STAFF AWARDED CONTRACTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020 (7.12)

There was a brief discussion in relation to the City's purchasing by-law.

Moved by Councillor Alan Ho

Seconded by Councillor Reid McAlpine

1. That the report entitled “Staff Awarded Contracts for the Month of May 2020” be received; and,
2. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

8. CONSENT REPORTS - ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

8.1 CITYWIDE MULTI-PHASE SANITARY SYSTEM DOWNSPOUT DISCONNECTION PROGRAM – ANNUAL PROGRESS UPDATE AND 2020 DETAILS (5.3)

Moved by Councillor Keith Irish

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

1. That the report entitled “Citywide Multi-Phase Sanitary System Downspout Disconnection Program – Annual Progress Update and 2020 Details” be received; and,
2. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

9. PRESENTATIONS - ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

9.1 THE BEST OF THE BEST #2 MARKHAM'S DIVERSION STRATEGY (2020-2023) (5.1)

Note: This presentation is deferred to the July 6, 2020 General Committee meeting.

9.2 SWAN LAKE WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (5.0)

Madeleine Nevins, Swan Lake resident addressed the Committee regarding her concerns with the condition of Swan Lake including the odour, people fishing in the lake, algae, and cyanobacteria. Ms. Nevins advocated for a remedy to return the water to its original blue colour, and restore Swan Lake Park and its ecosystem.

Martin Silver, Swan Lake resident addressed the Committee to express his concerns with the deteriorating condition of Swan Lake and suggested that treatments to the lake be applied more frequently to increase their effectiveness, improve the condition of the lake and potentially decrease the costs over time.

Cindy Fowler, Swan Lake resident addressed Committee Members and spoke about the beauty of Swan Lake Park including the water, sounds, and

wildlife. Ms. Fowler expressed her enjoyment of the park and of others using it such as other residents, photographers and students from neighbouring colleges.

Rain Geiger, Swan Lake resident addressed the Committee regarding her appreciation of Swan Lake Park and her concerns with the current condition of the lake, the pathway, uneven curbs, surrounding thorny bushes, and spray from the fountain containing cyanobacteria. Ms. Geiger requested that the City complete a path from the small bridge to the round-a-bout, a sidewalk, and a pathway with asphalt ramps all around the lake that is accessible to everyone.

Andrew Fuyarchuk, Swan Lake resident addressed Members of the Committee with questions related to tree cutting, the discarding of cut branches into the lake in addition to bulldozing that removed foliage causing soil erosion, resulting in soil run off into the lake after a rainfall.

Carly Carrigan, Swan Lake resident addressed the Committee and spoke about her appreciation of the maintenance work undertaken by the City to keep it beautiful and expressed her concerns with the water quality of Swan Lake. Ms. Carrigan requested that the City maintain the ecosystem of the lake, in addition to the installation of benches and a play area to further enhance the beauty of the Swan Lake community.

Fred Peters, representative of Friends of Swan Lake Park, addressed the Committee and delivered a presentation entitled, Friends of Swan Lake Park, We Want To Go Back To The Future, that provided an overview of the issues surrounding Swan Lake and Swan Lake Park. Mr. Peters expressed concerns with the current conditions and indicated support for a restoration policy, more frequent chemical treatments to the water, and an investment into phosphorus and oxygen enhancement together with a goose relocation program on behalf of the group. He requested that the City take on a restore and sustain approach in the restoration of Swan Lake and Swan Lake Park.

Gord Landon, Swan Lake resident addressed the Committee to state his appreciation and daily use of the park and the surrounding trails for his regimented physical activity. Mr. Landon voiced his concerns relating to the odour of Swan Lake, the maintenance issues surrounding the park and the paths resulting from the increased goose population and suggested increased conservancy to uphold the attraction of the Swan Lake community.

The Committee thanked the speakers, Councillor Keyes, Deputy Mayor, Don Hamilton, and staff for their responsiveness and support to this community and the issues concerning the lake and the surrounding park.

Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community and Fire Services addressed the Committee, and thanked the Friends of Swan Lake Park, all the deputants and Councillor Keyes for their efforts and support to the Swan Lake community. Ms. Librecz indicated that today's presentation will focus on the water quality issues and the unique features of Swan Lake and introduced Rob Grech, Manager, Stormwater, who delivered a presentation entitled, Swan Lake Water Quality Improvement Program, which provided an overview of the level of service for the water quality in Swan Lake, City activities, the treatment strategy, and recommendations for next steps. Mr. Grech introduced Dr. Gertrud Nurnberg, a limnologist with Freshwater Research who has been working with the City on Swan Lake since 2013.

There was discussion relating to the concerns and the proposed recommendations of the program which included the following:

- Inquiry into making Swan Lake an open system;
- The chemical treatment options and the potential effects of different chemical additives;
- Concerns with the current frequency of water treatments;
- Consideration to investigate permanent natural solutions to improve and maintain the water quality;
- The cost implications to increase the frequency of water treatments;
- Consideration of the removal of bottom feeders (fish) and oxygenation of the lake to restore habitation;
- Inquiry into the sources of phosphorous in the lake and how the level of water quality is determined;
- The technical reference to Swan Lake as an Urban Lake;
- Potential results of the recommended treatment option on phosphorus levels;
- The difference between eutrophic versus mesotrophic with regard to odours, and depth visibility of the lake;
- Inquiry into potential approaches to maintain lower phosphorus levels at all times at Swan Lake;
- Inquiries related to the scope of the study used for the report, the initiation of a separate sediment study and the impact on the staff recommendation;

- Inquiry into reasons why a phoslock treatment is not being considered this year;
- Consideration to initiate a water treatment this year to address the odour of the lake, increase the frequency of treatments and improve the condition of the pathways;
- Concerns with stormwater management and the use of lawn fertilizers around the lake;
- Inquiry into the current and potential approach to managing geese at Swan Lake, including increased planting, drones, and strobe lights;
- Consideration into forming a sub-committee for working with the community and Friends of Swan Lake on the water quality;
- Consideration of using Swan Lake as a test area for geese population control;
- Continued promotion of Swan Lake to encourage its use for physical activity by area residents

Staff addressed the Committee to respond to the inquiries made and will report back to General Committee through the Markham Sub-Committee.

Moved by Councillor Andrew Keyes

Seconded by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

1. That the presentation, titled “Swan Lake Water Quality Improvement Program” be received; and,
2. That Council approve the following Swan Lake Water Quality Program:
3. **Staff will report back in 2021 with an overall water quality (with service levels) and park improvement program that will be sustainable into the future; and,**
4. **Staff will report back on this matter to General Committee through the Markham Sub-Committee with the participation of the Friends of Swan Lake; and,**
5. That Council direct staff to contact the private property owners who own a portion of Swan Lake to obtain financial contribution to the Swan Lake Water Quality Improvement Program; and further,
6. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Andrew Keyes
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton

1. That the deputations of Fred Peters, Gordon Landon, Carly Carrigan, Madeleine Nevins, Martin Silver, Cindy Fowler, Rain Geiger, Andrew Fuyarchuk, be received; and further,
2. That the communications submitted by Fred Peters and Mark Henschel be received.

Carried

10. MOTIONS

There were no motions.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

11.1 MAINTENANCE ON REGIONAL ROADS AND BOULEVARDS

Councillor Karen Rea introduced a motion for consideration at the next General Committee Meeting on July 6, 2020.

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea
Seconded by Councillor Andrew Keyes

Whereas, Region of York looks after boulevard cutting on Regional roads; and,

Whereas, Region of York provides winter snow removal on Regional roads; and,

Whereas, Region of York is called to remove debris or animals on Regional roads; and,

Whereas, many residents of Markham are not aware of the two tier system and jurisdiction of what level of government to contact for issues on Regional roads; and,

Whereas the City of Markham and the Region of York have different service levels and cutting schedules for boulevard maintenance; and,

Whereas the City of Markham could deliver these services and provide a consistent approach on all roads within the City; and,

Whereas residents would have one point of contact for road issues; and,

Therefore, be it resolved;

1. That the City of Markham negotiate an agreement with York Region for the City of Markham to provide boulevard cutting, winter snow removal and removal of debris and/or animals on all Regional roads within the City of Markham. That all costs associated for these services to be reimbursed by the Region of York to the City of Markham.

12. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

There was no new or other business.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Khalid Usman

Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 2:07 PM.

Carried