



Minutes
Special General Committee
April 25, 2017
Meeting Number 7

Finance & Administrative Issues

Chair: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Vice Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell

Community Services Issues

Chair: Councillor Alan Ho
Vice Chair: Councillor Alex Chiu

Environment & Sustainability Issues

Chair: Councillor Valerie Burke
Vice Chair: Councillor Karen Rea

Building, Parks, & Construction Issues

Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell
Vice Chair: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

Alternate formats are available upon request.

Attendance

Mayor Frank Scarpitti(arrived at 9:30 am)
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Regional Councillor Joe Li(arrived at 9:20 am)
Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong
Councillor Valerie Burke
Councillor Alan Ho
Councillor Don Hamilton
Councillor Karen Rea(arrived at 9:20 am)
Councillor Colin Campbell
Councillor Amanda Collucci(arrived at 9:45am)
Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Councillor Alex Chiu

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services
Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor and Acting Director of Human Resources
Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk
Biju Karumanchery, Director of Planning & Urban Design
Raymond Law, Manager, Business & Technical Services
Christopher Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law Enforcement & Regulatory Services
Shirley Marsh, Senior Planner, Urban Design
David Hunt, Tree Preservation Technician
Jody Parsons, Court Administration Coordinator
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

The General Committee meeting convened at the hour of 9:06 AM with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath in the Chair and Councillor Alan Ho assumed the Chair for Community Services related item.

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None disclosed.

**2. PRESENTATION ON CITY OF MARKHAM
TREE PRESERVATION BY-LAW 2008-96 (2.0)**
[Presentation](#) [Attachment 1](#) [Attachment 2](#)

Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services addressed the Committee and provided some opening remarks relative to the Tree Preservation By-law 2008-96 that establishes the City's policy for preservation, protection, replacement and enhancement of significant trees while respecting the development approval process.

Raymond Law, Manager, Business & Technical Services; Christopher Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law Enforcement & Regulatory Services and Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor and Acting Director of Human Resources delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the City of Markham's Tree Preservation By-law 2008-96.

The Committee discussed and suggested the following relative to the City of Markham Tree Preservation By-law:

- Should there be a permit application fee?
- Importance of retaining trees within private property to assist with the City's overall tree canopy
- Are survival rates of newly planted trees monitored?
- Importance of aligning the process to ensure that both infill development, and new subdivisions are treated the same
- Ensure any changes to the by-law are easy for the residents to understand
- Consider including some exceptions such as: if more than 80% of the tree canopy needs to be removed then is it worth retaining the tree; if the tree has an impact on the building structure (residential and/or commercial) can it be removed
- Importance of educating the public
- Should the Licensing Committee be the final decision or should Council ratify the recommendation of the Licensing Committee?

The Committee discussed the current composition of the Markham Licensing Committee, and whether Members of Council should be members or should it be only citizen representatives. Staff advised that they will be bringing forward a report in the Fall regarding a proposed compositions for the Licensing Committee that will remove it from the political realm.

The Committee suggested that staff schedule another Special General Committee meeting in a few months to further discuss potential amendments to the City of Markham's Tree Preservation By-law 2008-96.

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

That the presentation regarding the City of Markham's Tree Preservation By-law 2008-96 by Raymond Law, Manager, Business & Technical Services; Christopher Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law Enforcement & Regulatory Services and Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor and Acting Director of Human Resources be received.

Carried

3. DEPUTATIONS
- PRESENTATION ON CITY OF MARKHAM
TREE PRESERVATION BY-LAW 2008-96 (2.0)

Peter Miasek, Unionville Residents Association addressed the Committee regarding the City of Markham Tree Preservation By-law and spoke in support of continuous improvement to the by-law. He indicated that he has submitted some items for staff to consider.

Christiane Bergauer-Free, Markham resident addressed the Committee with respect to the City of Markham Tree Preservation By-law and spoke in support of continuous improvements to the by-law. She suggested that mature hedges be included, and that neighbouring properties need to respect the mature trees.

4. COMMUNICATIONS
- PRESENTATION ON CITY OF MARKHAM
TREE PRESERVATION BY-LAW 2008-96 (2.0)
[Correspondence](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

That the communication dated April 20, 2017 from Ricardo Mashregi, member of Trees and Residents for Urban Environments (TRUE) regarding “Tree Preservation By-law 2008-96” be received.

Carried

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 11:39 AM.

Carried