



**The Corporation of The Town of Cobourg
Sustainability and Climate Emergency Advisory Committee**

MINUTES

**June 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Electronic Participation**

Members Present: Minnie de Jong, Chair
Anthony Pitts, Vice-Chair
Councillor Adam Bureau
Marius Marsh
Warren McCarthy
John Vickers

Staff Present: Judy Smith, Environmental Officer, County of Northumberland
Linda Gregg, Sustainable Cobourg Representative
Krystal Christopher, Deputy Clerk

Staff Absent: Pam Lancaster, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority
Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Minnie de Jong, called the Meeting to Order at 2:01 P.M.

2. TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

Chair, Minnie de Jong, recited the Traditional Land Acknowledgment Statement.

3. APPROVAL/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Moved by Marius Marsh

THAT the Agenda dated June 2, 2021, be approved as presented

Carried

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared by Committee Members.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THAT the minutes dated May 5, 2021, be adopted as presented

Carried

6. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Delegation by the Bicycle Action Committee (BAC)

Winston Emery and Bill Glover provided an overview of the Bicycle Action Committee's (BAC) revised request for support. W. Emery noted he will be making a delegation to other Advisory Committees within the Town to seek their support. Members of the Committee engaged in a discussion regarding BAC requests and agreed to approve the draft motion to Council supporting the BAC requests. Further, members of the committee agreed to the addition of a seventh request that spoke to the BAC being consulted on all developments that are presently underway that have moved passed the site plan approval stage. Members agreed to refer this item to the August 4th meeting to allow time for the BAC to provide the revised presentation to other Advisory Committees.

7. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

8. REPORTS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Council Meeting of May 17, 2021

Chair, Minnie de Jong, confirmed that the motions were approved at the May 17, 2021, Regular Council meeting

9.2 Installation of EV Charging Stations

Chair, Minnie de Jong, provided comments regarding the information and documentation that was located for the EV charging stations noting the history has been confirmed. Members of the Committee engaged in a discussion regarding the draft motion and the installation of EV Charging stations. Members agreed the project should move forward and Judy Smith, Environmental Officer, noted IVY would provide the services to install, operate, repair, maintain, modify and disassemble EV charging

units and its supporting infrastructure as stated in the Agreement. Councillor Bureau spoke to the potential concerns that could be raised by Laurie Wills, Director, Public Works, for the project. Members agreed for Chair, Minnie de Jong, to send the draft motion to L. Wills to review to address the remaining concerns she may have pertaining to EV charging units.

Moved by Anthony Pitts, Vice-Chair

WHEREAS at their meeting of September 9, 2019, Council approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) that OPG would install, own, operate and maintain 8 electric chargers in Cobourg; and

WHEREAS the Sustainability and Climate Change Advisory Committee (SCCAC) has learned that the Town of Cobourg has not proceeded with the installation of these 8 electric vehicle chargers Council, and for which they would receive the benefit of the \$5,000/per charger one-time installation grant from Natural Resources Canada (\$40,000 grant in total); and

WHEREAS as Cobourg's Municipal Clerk listed in his Staff Report to Council of September 5, 2019, the benefits of this 'turnkey' arrangement include:

- avoid high upfront installation costs
- not being responsible for the installation, maintenance and operation of the charging stations which will be done by OPG;
- provides seamless user experience by connecting site hosts to a wider Ontario based network of EV chargers; and

WHEREAS the cost of the electricity used to charge the vehicle would be added to the bill of the site host, who would recover this cost through the price charged to the drivers; and

WHEREAS in September 2019 OPG and Hydro One formed a limited partnership named Ontario Charging Network LP referred to as 'IVY', which can be found on the internet under Ivy Charging Network <https://ivycharge.com/about-ivy/>, to assume their role with regard to electric vehicle charging stations as mentioned above meaning that Cobourg would now contract with IVY; and

WHEREAS in a recent email dated April 15, 2021 Hydro One confirmed that the cost to Cobourg to contract with IVY would be \$1,650 per charger, which when including the tax of 1.75% that Cobourg pays would total \$13,432 per year for the 8 chargers; which price includes the charger, installation, maintenance, software, remote support/call centre, and marketing/signage; and

WHEREAS in a recent email dated May 20th 2021 Hydro One confirmed that Cobourg could have the 8 charging ports installed this year (2021), with payment to IVY deferred into 2022, while receiving the benefit of the \$5,000/per charger one-time grant from Natural Resources Canada that is only available for 2021; and

WHEREAS establishing a public EV charging infrastructure is an action in the Cobourg Community Climate Action Plan, and is recognized Canada-wide as one of the measures to address the climate emergency; and

WHEREAS the lack of access to electric vehicle charging stations is a deterrent to people buying electric vehicles, or conversely as the Municipal Clerk states in his report, according to experts, access to localized and visible charging infrastructure is key to alleviate consumer concerns about where to charge their vehicles; and

WHEREAS the Sustainability and Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (SCEAC) has had recent email exchanges with Laurie Wills, Director of Public Works, to address her concerns; and

WHEREAS given the delay by Cobourg in moving forward on these EV chargers it may be too late to have them installed in 2021 meaning the price Ivy quoted Cobourg would be dependent on Ivy getting an extension from NRCan or applying for a new round of NRCan funds; and

WHEREAS the need to address the Climate Emergency is ever more urgent as time moves on, and additional actions must be implemented;

NOW THEREFORE the SCCAC Recommends that in recognition of the dire climate emergency we are facing which requires unprecedented action, Cobourg Council approve that:

- the installation of 8 electric chargers (i.e. 4 dual head charging stations) be completed as soon as possible at the locations identified by Public Works and Lakefront Utilities as follows:
 - 2 dual chargers to charge 4 vehicles at the Cobourg Community Centre

- 1 dual charger on lower Division St. next to Victoria Park
- 1 dual charger in the Cobourg Harbour parking lot; and
- if still possible to have installed in 2021, that funds for the 2021 annual cost for the 8 chargers be found within Cobourg's 2021 budget, or that the 2021 annual cost of these 8 chargers plus the 2022 annual cost of these 8 chargers be included in the 2022 budget; and
- should it be too late to have these chargers installed in 2021 that as soon as this is determined Cobourg actively work with Ivy to seek an extension of the grant from NRCan or with Ivy apply for a new round of NRCan funds.

Attachments:

- Staff Report to Council from the Municipal Clerk dated Sept 5, 2019 re Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program Partnership with OPC
- Signed Memorandum of Understanding with OPG;
- By-law authorizing the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Memorandum of Understanding
- IVY EV Charging Services Agreement with Cobourg.
 - This Agreement provides that IVY and the Site Host will jointly develop a marketing and customer promotion strategy; and
 - This Agreement also allows Ivy to increase the price by the CPI inflation; however, in a recent email dated April 9, 2021, Hydro One advises that for the first five years most of their costs are fixed
- April 15, 2021 email from Nicholas Fraser of Ontario HydroOne re cost of chargers and what the cost includes
- May 20, 2021 email from Nicholas Fraser of Ontario HydroOne re Cobourg being able to defer 2021 payment, and OPG and HydroOne signing partnership agreement.

Carried

9.3 Progress on the GDS and ICSP

Chair, Minnie de Jong, provided an update regarding the email sent to the CAO about the GDS/ICSP and noted that she has not yet received a response. M. de Jong noted the RFP for the Project Manager position has been posted on the Town's website, with a closing date of June 15, 2021. Members agreed no further follow-up to the CAO was required.

9.4 Impact of Work Plan Objective in Reducing CO2/GHG Emissions

Member, Warren McCarthy, provided an overview of the responses received from members who participated in the exercise of applying a weighted score to SCEAC Workplan objectives to help determine its usability. W. McCarthy spoke to how a weighted score can be applied by using high/med/low values to apply to workplan objectives. Members discussed the value of associating a score to work plan objectives and its suitability. Members concluded they do not want to recommend to Council that a weighed score be applied to workplan objectives for Advisory Committees. Chair, Minnie de Jong, agreed to follow up with the progress of the highest ranked SCEAC workplan objectives.

9.5 Carbon Footprint Calculator

Linda Gregg, Sustainable Cobourg representative, provided information and overview of carbon footprint calculators of interest for the committee to consider. L. Gregg spoke to the reasons to pursue the endorsement of a carbon footprint calculator noting the differences between calculators from a for profit vs. not-for-profit organization. Members discussed the options provided as well as the features and criteria of each calculator. Members agreed to further review the calculators and provide L. Gregg additional criteria's for selecting a calculator. L. Gregg agreed to provide a recommended list of calculators based on the information/feedback received by members to the next meeting.

9.6 Update on Special Projects of Interest to the SCEAC

Chair, Minnie de Jong, provided an overview of the status of the projects of interest to the committee as written in the Planning and Development Coordinator's Report. The committee agreed the projects of interests are Updated Zoning By-Law; Tannery District Sustainable Neighbourhood Master Plan; and the ICSP/GDS project. M. de Jong agreed to monitor the progress of each project of interest and advise the committee when they each are available for review.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 Topics for the July 7, 2021, SCEAC Meeting

Housing Project on Ontario Street led by the County with Habitat Northumberland and Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services

Chair, Minnie de Jong, provided information regarding the project and noted the County would like to achieve a net zero for this building site. M. de Jong noted a consulting firm has yet to be hired for this project and that the RFP will be posted on the County's website. Members of the Committee agreed that it is imperative for the County to demonstrate leadership by ensuring it was a net zero building. M. de Jong agreed to monitor the progress of this project.

10.2 Outstanding Items

Inviting Derik Paul of Lakefront Utilities to an SCEAC meeting:

Members of the Committee discussed the purpose for inviting Derik Paul to a SCEAC meeting and agreed that one topic of interest would be to receive information regarding Lakefront Utilities' role in accelerating the use of electric vehicles. Member, Marius Marsh, agreed to draft an invitation to Derik Paul to attend an SCEAC meeting.

SCEAC position on development density for Cobourg:

Members of the Committee agreed to no longer pursue this work plan item.

County Official Plan Update:

Members of the Committee agreed to no longer pursue this work item.

11. ADJOURNMENT

12. NEXT MEETING

July 7, 2021