



The Corporation of The Town of Cobourg
Strategic Priorities and Policy Standing Committee
Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Council Chambers, Victoria Hall, Cobourg

Members Present: Mayor Lucas Cleveland
Deputy Mayor Nicole Beatty
Councillor Aaron Burchat
Councillor Adam Bureau
Councillor Miriam Mutton
Councillor Randy Barber
Councillor Brian Darling

Staff Present: Ellard Beaven, Fire Chief
Kara Euale, Manager, Communications
Brian Geerts, Director of Community Services
Adam Giddings, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer
Brent Larmer, Municipal Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Kristina Lepik, Deputy Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services
Joanne Taylor, Manager, Finance
Tracey Vaughan, Chief Administrative Officer
Laurie Wills, Director of Public Works

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Nicole Beatty called the Meeting to Order at 9:10 A.M.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

The Town of Cobourg respectfully acknowledge that we are located in the traditional and treaty territory of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga) and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations.

The Town of Cobourg respectfully acknowledge that the Williams Treaties First Nations have been stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters, and that today remain vigilant over their health and integrity for generations to come. We are all Treaty people.

3. Introduction of Addendum Items

None

4. Confirmation of Agenda

4.1 Confirmation of the January 9th 2024 Strategic Priorities and Policy Standing Committee

Moved By Councillor Brian Darling

Seconded By Councillor Aaron Burchat

THAT the Committee confirm the agenda, as circulated.

Carried

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary (Financial) Interest

Councillor Aaron Burchat - Item 10.2 2024 Operating and Capital Budget Review regarding the Market Building Cameras, Electronic Entry Control System, Council Chambers Upgrades, CCC Security System, Marina Fence System, and Operating Budget Items that relate to Alliance Security Systems of Northumberland.

6. Community Announcements

Members of the Committee presented verbal reports on matters of community interest.

7. Delegations/Petitions

None

8. Outside Presentation / Information from Advisory Committees or Task Forces

8.1 Paul Vandegraaf, Cobourg Police Chief, regarding the 2024 Cobourg Police Services Operating and Capital Budgets Presentation

Presentation by Paul Vandegraaf, Cobourg Police Chief, and Ronald Kerr, Cobourg Police Services Board Chair

Moved By Councillor Randy Barber

Seconded By Councillor Brian Darling

THAT Council receive the presentation from Cobourg Police Services regarding the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets for information purposes.

Amended

Moved By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

Seconded By Councillor Randy Barber

MOTION TO AMEND:

That the wording be replaced with the following:

THAT Council refer the 2024 Cobourg Police Operating and Capital Budgets back to the Cobourg Police Services Board to establish Operating Budget estimates that include a total of six (6) Sworn Officers rather than the four (4) being proposed in the current Cobourg Police estimates submitted to Cobourg Council for approval for consideration.

Recorded vote requested by Mayor Lucas Cleveland

YES (2): Mayor Lucas Cleveland, Councillor Randy Barber

NO (5): Deputy Mayor Nicole Beatty, Councillor Adam Bureau, Councillor Brian Darling, Councillor Aaron Burchat, Councillor Miriam Mutton

Defeated (2 to 5)

Moved By Councillor Randy Barber
Seconded By Councillor Brian Darling

THAT Council receive the presentation from Cobourg Police Services regarding the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets for information purposes.

Carried

Council recessed at 10:26 a.m. and reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

The Committee consented to hearing an additional verbal report on matters of community interest.

9. Consent Agenda

Moved By Councillor Randy Barber
Seconded By Councillor Aaron Burchat

THAT the Committee adopt the following recommendations contained within the staff reports on the consent agenda as a single motion and refer to Regular Council for final approval:

Report No. LS-2024-001 from the Town Clerk/Director, Legislative Services, regarding the recommendations on Appointments to Standing Committees of Council

THAT Council receive this staff report to appoint members to the three (3) standing committees of Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following members are appointed as follows:

CORPORATE, FINANCE AND LEGISLATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Deputy Mayor Beatty, Councillor Randy Barber and Mayor Lucas Cleveland.

PUBLIC WORKS, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Councillor Brian Darling and Councillor Miriam Mutton and Mayor Lucas Cleveland

COMMUNITY SERVICES, PROTECTION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Councillor Adam Bureau and Councillor Aaron Burchat and Mayor Lucas Cleveland.

Report No. LS-2024-002 from the Town Clerk/Director, Legislative Services, regarding the 2024 Budget Referral Items – 2024 Budget Deliberations

THAT Council receive the Staff Report for information purposes.

Divided

Moved By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

Seconded By Councillor Brian Darling

MOTION TO DIVIDE

That the motion be divided into two parts with each report voted on separately.

Carried

9.1 Report No. LS-2024-001 from the Town Clerk/Director, Legislative Services, regarding the recommendations on Appointments to Standing Committees of Council.

Moved By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

Seconded By Councillor Randy Barber

THAT Council receive this staff report to appoint members to the three (3) standing committees of Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following members are appointed as follows:

- CORPORATE, FINANCE AND LEGISLATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE Committee Members: Deputy Mayor Beatty, Councillor Randy Barber and Mayor Lucas Cleveland.
- PUBLIC WORKS, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE Committee Members: Councillor Brian Darling and Councillor Miriam Mutton and Mayor Lucas Cleveland
- COMMUNITY SERVICES, PROTECTION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE Committee Members: Councillor Adam Bureau and Councillor Aaron Burchat and Mayor Lucas Cleveland.

Carried

9.2 Report No. LS-2024-002 from the Town Clerk/Director, Legislative Services, regarding the 2024 Budget Referral Items – 2024 Budget Deliberations

Moved By Councillor Miriam Mutton

Seconded By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

THAT Council receive the Staff Report for information purposes.

Carried

10. Items Extracted from Consent Agenda

10.1 2024 Divisional Budget Meeting Resolution Referred from December 12, 2023.

Moved By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

Seconded By Councillor Randy Barber

THAT Council direct Staff to come back with (5) or more options on the reduction of services and/or positions and the impacts on the Town's Budget and Service Delivery for 2024; specifically working to minimize the impact on new customer service initiative and the required positions for growth; and

FURTHER THAT Staff present Council with a more realistic Budget in 2024 that would provide for the ability to hold the Tax Levy to a 2% to 3% + growth increase for the remainder of the budgets (2025 and 2026) in this Term of Council Term; Taking into account the non-unionized salary increases we have set in motion and the anticipated increase in reserve funding required; and

FURTHER THAT Council introduce a 1% dedicated Infrastructure Levy for this and future budgets that will be tied with the Town's Assessment Management Planning to reduce the shortfall in our reserves and infrastructure savings until such time when our Asset management funding gap is fully realized, and a fulsome plan formulated.

Divided

Moved By Councillor Miriam Mutton
Seconded By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

MOTION TO DIVIDE

That the motion be divided into two parts with the second part being the following:

FURTHER THAT Council introduce a 1% dedicated Infrastructure Levy for this and future budgets that will be tied with the Town's Assessment Management Planning to reduce the shortfall in our reserves and infrastructure savings until such time when our Asset management funding gap is fully realized, and a fulsome plan formulated.

Carried

Moved By Councillor Miriam Mutton
Seconded By Mayor Lucas Cleveland

THAT Council direct Staff to come back with (5) or more options on the reduction of services and/or positions and the impacts on the Town's Budget and Service Delivery for 2024; specifically working to minimize the impact on new customer service initiative and the required positions for growth; and

FURTHER THAT Staff present Council with a more realistic Budget in 2024 that would provide for the ability to hold the Tax Levy to a 2% to 3% + growth increase for the remainder of the budgets (2025 and 2026) in this Term of Council Term; Taking into account the non-unionized salary increases we have set in motion and the anticipated increase in reserve funding required.

Recorded vote requested by Mayor Lucas Cleveland

YES (2): Mayor Lucas Cleveland, Councillor Miriam Mutton

NO (5): Deputy Mayor Nicole Beatty, Councillor Adam Bureau, Councillor Brian Darling, Councillor Aaron Burchat, Councillor Randy Barber

Defeated (2 to 5)

The second part of the divided motion did not receive a seconder and thus is not included in the minutes.

10.2 2024 Operating and Capital Budget Review

Presentation by Kara Euale, Manager, Communications and Adam Giddings, Treasurer/Director Corporate Services

The Committee reviewed the 2024 Operating Estimates and extracted items for further consideration.

Council recessed at 12:30 and reconvened at 1:09 p.m.

Council recessed at 2:59 p.m. and reconvened at 3:06 p.m.

Moved By Mayor Lucas Cleveland
Seconded By Councillor Miriam Mutton

THAT the Committee direct Staff to list in order any new staff positions that are being requested in a priority listing of the most important to the organization reflected of the Council approved Strategic Plan.

Carried

Moved By Councillor Brian Darling
Seconded By Councillor Aaron Burchat

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

THAT the Committee adjourn the remaining items to a subsequent meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Amended

Moved By Councillor Adam Bureau

MOTION TO AMEND:

That the wording be replaced with the following:

THAT the Committee adjourn the remaining items to a subsequent meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

January 9, 2024

Moved By Councillor Brian Darling
Seconded By Councillor Aaron Burchat

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

THAT the Committee adjourn the remaining items to a subsequent meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.