

Present: Mayor Mitchell
Councillor Leahy
Councillor Lee
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Newman
Councillor Roy
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Yamada

Also Present: M. Gaskell, Chief Administrative Officer
J. Kittle, Director of Operational Services
W. Mar, Commissioner of Legal and Enforcement Services/Town Solicitor
K. Nix, Commissioner of Corporate Services/Treasurer
J. Romano, Commissioner of Community Services
H. Ellis, Executive Advisor to the Mayor
S. Klein, Director of Strategic Initiatives
C. Harris, Town Clerk
L. MacDougall, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Councillor Alexander

Call to Order

Call of the Roll: The Clerk

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Mayor Mitchell declared a pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act regarding Item 4.1, Report, CAO 01-20, Employment Land Investment Readiness Assessment – Update, as Mayor Mitchell and his family have an interest in 5455 Ashburn Road which has been identified in the report as an area to be serviced. Mayor Mitchell left the meeting during the discussion and voting of this matter.

General Government

Councillor Leahy assumed the Chair.

1. Presentations

1.1 There were no presentations.

2. Delegations

2.1 There were no delegations.

3. Correspondence

3.1 There was no correspondence.

4. Staff Reports

4.1 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report, CAO 01-20
Re: Employment Land Investment Readiness Assessment – Update

Having previously declared a conflict of interest, Mayor Mitchell left the meeting and did not take part in the discussion or vote on the matter.

A question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Staff regarding:

- the development of employment lands being one of the Town's highest priorities to generate business growth and local employment in order to balance the residential growth;
- a presentation by Town Staff in 2020 to provide an update;
- establishing a strategy for employment lands within the Economic Development Strategy;
- feedback obtained from the Provincial Government with respect to the status of the release and servicing of provincially owned lands along Highway 407 and 412 corridors;
- the response from Open for Business Ontario with respect to generating revenue and declaring surplus properties, and whether it would be reinforced as part of future budget consultations;
- whether the Region of Durham servicing employment lands would have an impact on the Province to declare surplus land;
- the challenges associated with serviced employment land not available for development, and incentives to motivate landowners to invest in developing on these lands;

- opportunities through the Town, the Region or the Province to recover funds associated with servicing employment land through front-ending agreements and sharing those costs with landowners who subsequently benefit; and,
- whether the Province has released employment lands in the past in Whitby or another municipality, and whether those lands were developed.

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Roy

1. That Report CAO 01-20 be received as information regarding an update to the employment land investment readiness assessment; and,
2. That the Clerk forward a copy of Staff Report CAO 01-20 to the Region of Durham Planning and Economic Development, Finance and Public Works Departments and to the Ministry of Transportation.

Carried later in the meeting (see following motion)

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Newman

That the main motion be amended by including Item 2 as follows, and the recommendation renumbered accordingly:

2. That given the imperative need for greater local business, that Staff include a strategy for the development of employment lands in the Economic Development Strategy to be presented to Council in 2020.

Carried

The main motion, as amended, was then carried as follows:

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Newman

1. That Report CAO 01-20 be received as information regarding an update to the employment land investment readiness assessment;

2. That given the imperative need for greater local business, that Staff include a strategy for the development of employment lands in the Economic Development Strategy to be presented to Council in 2020; and,
3. That the Clerk forward a copy of Staff Report CAO 01-20 to the Region of Durham Planning and Economic Development, Finance and Public Works Departments and to the Ministry of Transportation.

Carried

Mayor Mitchell returned to the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

4.2 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report, CAO 02-20
Re: Community Development Funds – 2019 Annual Report

A question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Staff regarding:

- whether the balance of the Mayor's Community Development Fund and the Performing Arts Development Fund from 2019 would carry over into 2020; and,
- whether groups or organizations could peruse a grant associated with the Culture Plan once it was implemented.

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Newman

That Report CAO 02-20 regarding the 2019 Annual Report for the Mayor's Community Development Fund and the Performing Arts Community Development Fund be received.

Carried

4.3 Corporate Services Department Report, CS 04-20
Re: Temporary Borrowing By-law

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Yamada

That a By-law be brought forward to authorize the temporary borrowing of an amount up to Fifteen Million dollars for cash flow purposes, if

required, at any one time during the calendar year 2020.

Carried

4.4 Legal and Enforcement Services Department Report, LS 01-20
Re: Proposed Amendments to the Private Transportation Services By-law

A question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Staff regarding:

- inconsistencies in the private transportation services by-laws among municipalities in the Region of Durham; and,
- whether it would be appropriate for the Region to set standards for all municipalities in the Region to ensure consistency in the issuance of taxi and private transportation licences across the Region.

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Roy

That staff be directed to bring forward a by-law to amend the Private Transportation Services By-law to give effect to the recommendations contained in Report LS 01-20.

Carried

4.5 Public Works Department Report, PW 01-20
Re: Fees for Services and Activities Provided and Performed by the Town of Whitby Public Works Department

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Mulcahy

1. That Council approve the proposed Fees for Services and Activities provided and performed by the Public Works Department as outlined within Public Works Report PW 01-20; and,
2. That the Town Clerk be directed to bring forward a by-law to amend the Fees and Charges By-law to give effect to the recommendations contained in Report PW 01-20.

Carried

5. New and Unfinished Business - General Government

5.1 Region of Durham Community Improvement Plan - Affordable Housing

Councillor Newman introduced a motion regarding the Region of Durham Community Improvement Plan - Affordable Housing.

Discussion ensued between Members of Council regarding:

- the need and the requirement for affordable housing in Whitby;
- the funds required to support the need of affordable housing in Durham Region, and the lack of financial support from all levels of government;
- the definition of affordable housing including rent-geared-to-income, seniors, new home buyers, downsizing and social assistance;
- the percentage of a household income consumed by rent or mortgage;
- the possibility of a representative from Durham Region providing an update to Council on the implementation of the recommendations from the Affordable Housing Task Force;
- the financial role of the Region versus the Town with respect to affordable housing; and,
- the provision of a link on the Town's Website to Durham Region's Website for information on affordable housing, and the difficulty in identifying affordable housing in Whitby on the Town's website or the Region's website.

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Newman

Whereas the Council of the Region of Durham adopted recommendations on December 18, 2019 with respect to Report #2019-COW-35 in support of retaining consulting services for a comprehensive review for the design of a proposed Regional Community Improvement Plan for the Region of Durham;

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Council of the Town of Whitby endorses this initiative of the Region of Durham and supports Staff of the Town of Whitby in providing support as required to ensure policies and relief mechanisms are fully considered through the consultation

- process to promote the development of affordable housing in the Town of Whitby of the Region of Durham; and,
2. That the Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Region of Durham and Durham Area Municipalities for information.

The disposition of this matter, Item 5.1, was determined by the motion to table below.

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Roy

That the motion regarding the Region of Durham Community Improvement Plan - Affordable Housing be tabled.

Carried

5.2 Installation of a Crosswalk or a Crossing Guard - Springwood Street and Nicol Avenue.

Councillor Shahid inquired about the future installation of a crosswalk or a crossing guard in the area of Springwood Street and Nicol Avenue.

J. Kittle, Director of Operational Services, advised that Transportation Staff would review the necessity of a crosswalk or crossing guard at this location in conjunction with other locations of concern.

A brief question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Staff regarding the timeline for the review, and whether a staff report would be presented to Council should there be a number of locations currently under review.

5.3 Whitby in Bloom Committee Member Leslie Tate

Councillor Shahid advised of the passing of Leslie Tate who was a Member of the Whitby in Bloom Committee and the Horticultural Society. Councillor Shahid expressed condolences to Ms. Tate's family.

5.4 Coronavirus

Councillor Mulcahy inquired regarding the Town's preparedness with respect to the Coronavirus and whether there was a protocol in place for this type of situation.

M. Gaskell, Chief Administrative Officer advised that the situation would be continuously monitored, and that staff would have all necessary personal protective equipment in order to provide service to the public.

5.5 New and Unfinished Business List - Item MD - 4151

Councilor Yamada inquired about the status of Item MD - 4151 regarding community safety zones.

J. Kittle, Director of Operational Services advised that he would investigate the matter and advise accordingly.

5.6 New and Unfinished Business List - Item MD - 5045

Councillor Lee inquired about the status of Item MD 5045 regarding traffic calming on Robert Attersley Drive and Promenade Drive.

J. Kittle, Director of Operational Services advised that a meeting with stakeholders and residents would take place prior to June 2020, a report would be presented to Council in September 2020, and implementation would take place by December 2020.

Adjournment

Adjournment

Recommendation:

Moved By Councillor Newman

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Advisory Committee Minutes – For Information Only

- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes - January 7, 2020
- Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Minutes - January 8, 2020
- Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee

Minutes - January 9, 2020