Special Council Minutes September 26, 2022 - 5:00 PM Hybrid Meeting Whitby Town Hall

Present: Mayor Mitchell

Councillor Drumm

Councillor Leahy (Participating Virtually starting at 5:02 p.m.)

Councillor Lee

Councillor Mulcahy (Participating Virtually)

Councillor Newman Councillor Roy Councillor Shahid

Councillor Yamada (Participating Virtually)

Also Present: M. Gaskell, Chief Administrative Officer

F. Santaguida, Commissioner of Legal and Enforcement

Services/Town Solicitor

F. Wong, Commissioner of Financial Services/Treasurer

S. Klein, Director of Strategic Initiatives

C. Harris, Town Clerk

K. Douglas, Legislative Specialist

L. MacDougall, Temporary Legislative Specialist (Recording

Secretary)

Regrets: None noted

- 1. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest
 - **1.1** There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.
- Presentations
 - **2.1** Maurya Braun, Senior Consultant, Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG) (Virtual Attendance)

Re: Zero Carbon Costing Study

Maurya Braun, Senior Consultant, Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Zero Carbon Costing Study. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Whitby's short, medium, and long-term greenhouse gas reduction targets between 2021 and 2045 in order to meet Whitby's portion of the global carbon budget;
- the purpose of the Whitby Zero Carbon Costing Study;
- the key results of completing the plan by 2045 including Whitby's reduction in emissions and total energy use, the required investment funds, and the avoided costs and savings;
- the key learnings from the plan including but not limited to decarbonizing the Civic Recreation Centre by 2030 and improving energy efficiency, noting that in 2045, 82 percent of all energy used would be grid electricity;
- detailed information about the incremental costs and savings of a Zero Carbon Whitby between 2023 and 2045;
- the financial results over three periods between 2022 and 2025 (the Town's first targeted budget cycle), between 2026 and 2031 (the end of the Town's long-term capital budget), and between 2032 and 2045 (the period for which budgets have not been established);
- the difference between the current expected capital costs and the total capital costs with a Zero Carbon Whitby;
- a comparison of the operational costs for a business-as-usual versus a Zero Carbon Whitby scenario, and the savings or avoided costs for a Zero Carbon Whitby;
- details about the 2023 incremental budget for a Zero Carbon Whitby;
- Whitby's residual emissions between 2022 to 2045;
- detailed information about the revolving reserve fund between 2022 and 2045, and additional funding alternatives; and,
- the next steps.

A question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Ms. Braun regarding:

- the opportunity for residents to voluntarily purchase the Town and/or Region Green Community Bonds should the need arise;
- whether the additional funding, if required, via a tax levy should operate as mandatory or discretionary for residents; and,
- the timeline to recover the costs.
- **2.2** Yuill Herbert, Principal, Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG) (Virtual Attendance)

Re: Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan Phase 1: Resilience

Yuill Herbert, Principal, Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Whitby Climate Emergency

Response Plan Phase 1: Resilience. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the goals of Phase 1 of the Climate Emergency Response Plan;
- detailed information about the climate adaptation modelling including the spatial, temporal, and financial analysis under current conditions including and excluding without action while the Town continues to grow;
- details about the extensive community engagement process;
- the significant climate hazards in Whitby including heat, flooding (coastal, riverine, and urban), and extreme storms;
- an illustration of the percentage probability of low to high flood damage and the costs associated with damage caused by flooding under current conditions and as a result of climate change;
- the components of risk including severity, probability, and exposure;
- illustrations of riverine, coastal, and urban flooding between 2020 and 2070 under current development levels with current weather, under conditions with additional population and climate change impacts, and under conditions including increased population, climate change and adaptation measures;
- the opportunity to reduce flooding in Whitby with climate change adaptations;
- an illustration indicating the increase in heat waves, heat temperature, and the length of heat waves, and the number of people at serious risk to heat exposure between 2020 and 2070;
- the actions to reduce the risk of heat, and coastal, riverine, and urban flooding hazards;
- illustrations detailing the costs of climate change including and excluding climate change adaptions and the benefits of implementing adaptation measures;
- detailed illustrations and information about the costs and benefits associated with implementing climate change adaptation measures for flooding and heat between 2022 to 2070;
- the number of people that would be protected as a result of climate change adaptation measures;
- the financial impact of implementing the adaptation measures;
- the four key steps to implement the plan; and,
- various strategies to ensure success.

A detailed question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Mr. Herbert regarding:

 details about the coastal and riverine flooding with respect to the restriction of new development on future flood zones and flood berms constructed in two high-risk neighbourhoods, and a

- comparison between Whitby and other communities that already have these measures in place;
- whether there were communities in Canada or the United States of America that have a plan in place for future flooding risk reduction;
- whether the cost of \$1.2 billion between 2022 and 2070 to implement the actions would only benefit the percentage of people directly impacted or whether it would be a benefit to the community as a whole;
- clarification on how the cost of \$1.2 billion was calculated between 2022 and 2070;
- clarification on the hazard prevention costs versus cumulative net financial value for the climate risk actions between 2022 and 2070;
- confirmation that the cumulative net financial value was not a financial value to the municipality specifically, but to the community as a whole, and whether there was information providing the actual cost incurred by the Town;
- confirmation that damage to personal property would not impact the cumulative net financial value for the municipality;
- whether the degree of vulnerability of climate hazards for Whitby relate to the action or inaction of neighbouring municipalities, the province or the country as a whole;
- confirmation that the avoided cost of future damages in the amount of \$17 billion was not based on using the current approved flood hazard boundaries;
- confirmation that the conservation authorities were currently not using the 2070 flood modelling based on accelerating climate change; and,
- confirmation that the flood modelling assumes full development with no stormwater management controls, and the amount of land impacted should the flood modelling assumption include continued current stormwater management control practices.

3. Delegations

Gabriella Kalapos, Clean Air Partnership (Virtual Attendance)
 Re: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report, CAO 17-22
 Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan – Phase 1: Resilience

Refer to Item 4.3, CAO 17-22

Gabriella Kalapos, Clean Air Partnership, stated that the Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan was a comprehensive plan, and that it was obvious that significant input from a variety of stakeholders was included

in the plan. Ms. Kalapos indicated that the plan clearly lays out the need for action, the actions that need to be implemented to increase Whitby's resilience to impacts of climate change into the future, and all the partners that need to be engaged in the implementation. She advised that the climate change actions within the plan, including new development being restricted from flood zones, were practical and forward-thinking, and provide an excellent example to municipalities in Ontario. Ms. Kalapos noted that following Hurricane Hazel, a policy was implemented that no development would take place on the flood plain that was determined on all the areas that Hurricane Hazel flooded. She stated that she had researched the avoided costs resulting from the Hurricane Hazel land use policy, noting that the emphasis was on the incurred cost and not on identifying the avoided costs through preventative policies. She advised that development pressures come from the municipality's own development decisions and from the development decisions of surrounding municipalities noting the increase in the percentage of land moving from permeable to impermeable. Ms. Kalapos stated that there was no doubt that existing developments need to be retrofitted to reduce their vulnerability to flooding. She advised that increasing the resilience of gray infrastructure to flood risk would be critical. She indicated that municipalities need more green infrastructure and increasing the opportunity for green infrastructure to combine with gray infrastructure to reduce costs, noting that should all investments be allocated to gray infrastructure reducing the flood risk would be expensive, and it would also reduce opportunities for the co-benefits of both gray and green infrastructure. Ms. Kalapos advised that we need our governments to make decisions to enable us to avoid future flood risks and costs, noting that the Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan was active, proactive, and preventative.

Jack Wong, Brooklin North Landowner's Group (Virtual Attendance)
 Re: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report, CAO 17-22
 Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan – Phase 1: Resilience

Refer to Item 4.3, CAO 17-22

Jack Wong, Malone Givens, Parsons, representing Brooklin North Landowner's Group, stated that he has participated in the public engagement process since last year and previously provided comments and concerns to the Town regarding some of the assumptions and methodology as they relate to the flood modelling and stormwater management controls. Mr. Wong advised that during a recent meeting with Town Staff, that discussion took place regarding his concerns and next steps. He advised that Staff confirmed that the Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan would be used as a guiding document and

that it was not intended to become policy. He stated that he was in support and agreement with the intent of the plan to be used as a guiding document and not implemented as policy as confirmed by Staff.

4. Items for Consideration

4.1 Financial Services Department Report, FS 52-22 Re: Zero Carbon Revolving Reserve Fund and Policy

Resolution # 192-22

Moved By Councillor Roy Seconded By Councillor Newman

- That Council approve the establishment of a new discretionary program reserve fund called Zero Carbon Revolving Reserve Fund:
- 2. That Council approve the governing Zero Carbon Revolving Reserve Fund Policy included in Attachment 1 of report FS 52-22; and,
- 3. That \$20,016 related to the 2021 Save on Energy rebates be transferred from the Long-Term Finance Reserve to the Zero Carbon Revolving Reserve Fund.

Carried

 4.2 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and Planning and Development Department (Planning Services) Joint Report, CAO 16-22
 Re: Whitby Green Standard Incentive Program

Resolution # 193-22

Moved By Councillor Newman Seconded By Councillor Drumm

- That Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and Commissioner, Financial Services & Treasurer to execute a Memorandum of Understanding to initiate the Whitby Green Standard Demonstration Project with the project partners, upon terms substantially in accordance with Attachment 1 to Report CAO 16-22:
- 2. That Whitby staff be directed to collaborate with the Regional Municipality of Durham to develop a proposed Region-wide

- Green Standard Incentive Program to support the uptake of voluntary green development standards; and,
- 3. That Item MD-5520 be removed from the New and Unfinished Business List.

Carried

4.3 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report, CAO 17-22 Re: Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan – Phase 1: Resilience

Resolution # 194-22

Moved By Councillor Drumm Seconded By Councillor Newman

- 1. That Council endorse in principle the Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan Phase 1: Resilience;
- That the Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan Phase 1: Resilience Implementation Plan be integrated into the business plan and work plans; and,
- 3. That Council direct staff to provide an update on the progress of the plan every five years.

Carried

4.4 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer Report, CAO 18-22 Re: Climate Emergency Response Plan Phase 2: Mitigation-Interim Report

Resolution # 195-22

Moved By Councillor Roy Seconded By Councillor Drumm

- 1. That Council approve the following short, medium, and long-term targets to reduce community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions:
 - o 20 percent reduction by 2025, below 2019 levels
 - o 40 percent reduction by 2030, below 2019 levels
 - 100 percent reduction by 2045, below 2019 levels
- 2. That Council direct staff to bring back a detailed implementation strategy in 2023 for Council consideration that demonstrates the actions that allow the community to achieve these targets.

Carried

4.5 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Financial Services
Department, and Community Services Department Joint Report, CAO
19-22

Re: Zero Carbon Whitby Costing Study

A brief question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Ms. Braun regarding the timeline for the equalization of the costs and savings of the Zero Carbon Whitby.

Resolution # 196-22

Moved By Councillor Newman Seconded By Councillor Drumm

- That Council receive the Zero Carbon Whitby Costing Study for information:
- That Council direct staff to include the Zero Carbon Whitby Costing Study budget into the long-range capital forecast and asset management plan to include a zero-carbon pathway for buildings, fleet, lighting, and waste;
- That staff be authorized to explore funding opportunities such as grants, bonds, and loans to support the seed funding of the Zero Carbon Revolving Reserve Fund; and,
- 4. That Council adopt a Zero Waste Target for corporate operations by 2040.

Carried

4.6 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Community Services Department, and Fire and Emergency Services Department (Operational Services) Joint Report, CAO 25-22 Re: Community Greening Pilot Program Contract Award

A brief question and answer period ensued between Members of Council and Staff regarding the percentage of tree canopy coverage in new development areas in Whitby.

Resolution # 197-22

Moved By Councillor Drumm Seconded By Councillor Newman

- 1. That Council approves a new Community Greening Pilot Program; and,
- 2. That the contract for the delivery of the Community Greening Pilot Program be awarded to LEAF as a sole source contract for four years in the amount of \$95,496 (or \$23,874 per year) inclusive of taxes, funded from capital project # 55217604 Durham Climate Change Adaptation Plan project.

Carried

- 5. Confirmatory By-law
 - **5.1** Confirmatory By-law

Resolution # 198-22

Moved By Councillor Shahid Seconded By Councillor Drumm

That leave be granted to introduce a by-law and to dispense with the reading of the by-law by the Clerk to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Town of Whitby at its special meeting held on September 26, 2022 and the same be considered read and passed and that the Mayor and the Clerk sign the same and the Seal of the Corporation be thereto affixed.

Carried

- 6. Adjournment
 - **6.1** Motion to Adjourn

Moved By Councillor Drumm Seconded By Councillor Roy

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Special	Council Minu	ites
September 26,	2022 - 5:00	РΜ

Christopher Harris, Town Clerk	Don Mitchell, Mayor