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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM

Present: Councillor Ryan, Chair
Councillor Joe Neal, Vice-Chair
Councillor Bath-Hadden
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Yamada attended the meeting at 9:37 AM
Regional Chair Henry

Also

Present: Councillor John Neal left the meeting at 11:23 AM
Councillor Smith
Councillor Wotten left the meeting at 11:37 AM

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism
C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy Planning & Special Studies
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Jibb, Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
S. Jones, Manager, Data, Mapping and Graphics
T. Lavery, Manager, Corporate Communications
M. McKnight, Manager, Application & GIS Services, Corporate Services – IT
G. Muller, Director of Planning
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning
B. Pickard, Manager, Tourism
N. Pincombe, Director, Business Planning, Budgets and Risk Management
S. Salomone, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development and Investment
J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development
M. Stevenson, Manager, Administrative Services
N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance
L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation

R. Woon, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services, attended for part of the meeting

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,

(1) That the minutes of the regular Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

S. Gill introduced Stacey Jibb as the new Manager of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. The Committee congratulated S. Jibb.

3. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

4. Delegations

4.1 Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site

Allen Frank appeared before the Committee regarding Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site. He advised that the subject site is located on Wilson Road north of Columbus Road in the City of Oshawa.

Mr. Frank stated that Phase 1 took place at the site approximately 10-15 years ago and at that time neighbouring residents had no idea what was occurring until trucks began arriving at the site. He also stated that residents went to the City of Oshawa, Durham Region and the Regional Health and Social Services Committee looking for answers and their questions included:

- What are they dumping?
- How long will this be going on?
- Is there a permit and how long is it for?
- Is there anyone monitoring the content of what is being dumped?

Mr. Frank further advised that the site is located just south of the Oak Ridges Moraine and that residents surrounding the site are all using wells. He explained that water testing on the private wells is pending and he stated that the incidence of cancer in the area includes 7 of 9 homes.

Mr. Frank stated his opinion that previous permits had no consideration for the environment or neighbouring residents. He questioned if Phase 2 will be the same. He also stated that climate change and the environment are issues that must be taken seriously. He noted that there are signs on Regional Roads stating the Oak Ridges Moraine is in the area and he added that this is supposed to be a regulated area.

Mr. Frank responded to questions of the Committee.

4.2 Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Large land fill site operations in North Oshawa and elsewhere in the Region of Durham and the current agricultural practice that allows the spreading of toxic soil by-products on our rural lands in North Durham and impacts to our ground source water supply

Clint Cole appeared before the Committee regarding large land fill operations in north Oshawa and the agricultural practice that allows the spreading of soil by-products on rural lands.

Mr. Cole referenced the goal and strategies for a Healthy Environment and Sustainable Communities included in the 2015-2019 Durham Region Strategic Plan. He stated his belief that the Strategic Plan mission and vision would apply to the Oak Ridges Moraine aquifer and he noted that the Oak Ridges Moraine is recognized as an important resource to be managed through the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.

Mr. Cole questioned why poorly managed and essentially non-monitored land use operations that threaten the water resources and soils that thousands of residents depend upon are allowed. He stated that examples include large fill sites regulated by municipal site alteration by-laws, and poorly practiced agricultural soil enhancement operations involving biosolids, spreading on rural lands and various other soil by-products. He also stated that there are large stock piles of toxic commercial paper fibre sludge all over the Moraine in Durham Region and these are leaching into the aquifers and are not inspected for environmental damage in any comprehensive way.

Moved by Councillor Joe Neal, Seconded by Councillor Lee,

(2) That Mr. Cole be granted a one time 2-minute extension in order to finish his delegation.

CARRIED

Mr. Cole further stated his opinion that the amounts operators have been spreading are excessive. He stated that operators are mixing their own soil by-products in unmonitored ratios and not following regulated amounts and proportions. He advised that this is a watershed area and is an area where the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) has an interest, however CLOCA has indicated they do not have the power to make regulatory change. He

questioned who is watching the gates of these lands and the groundwater contamination.

Mr. Cole concluded by advising that the Region and other municipalities have recently declared a climate emergency and twinned with this is a water protection emergency. He advised that he has submitted a request for a motion for a Regional health protection by-law to be considered and he is requesting on behalf of the residents that a comprehensive assessment be made by the Region that encompasses the total load of toxic chemicals in the soils.

Mr. Cole responded to questions of the Committee.

Staff responded to questions with respect to the land use designation of the site; the applicability of Regional by-laws; and whether the Region is a commenting agency for site alteration permits.

Discussion ensued with respect to the level of government with jurisdiction for this matter and site alteration by-laws of the area municipalities. It was suggested that members of Regional Council raise this issue at their local municipal councils.

Moved by Councillor Joe Neal, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

- (3) That staff report to Planning & Economic Development Committee on regulatory tools available to the Region of Durham to address placement of fill on environmentally sensitive land.

DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING
RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Joe Neal
Councillor Yamada

No

Councillor Bath-Hadden
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Ryan, Chair

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

Staff responded to further questions with respect to the new regulations for fill from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; well water testing; and the Region's well interference policy.

The Chair clarified that the Region does not have jurisdiction of this matter and that this item needs to be brought forward to the respective municipality.

The Committee recessed at 10:26 AM and reconvened at 10:32 AM.

5. Presentations

5.1 Gary Muller, Director of Planning, and Simon Gill, Director of Economic Development & Tourism, re: 2020 Planning and Economic Development Department Business Plans and Budgets (2020-P-1)

G. Muller and S. Gill provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2020 Planning and Economic Development Department Business Plans and Budgets. Highlights of their presentation included:

- 2020 Budget – Strategic Priorities
- Budget Overview - Planning Division
 - 2019 Accomplishments
 - 2020 Proposed Expenditures and Financing
 - 2020 Priorities and Highlights
- Budget Overview - Economic Development & Tourism Division
 - 2019 Accomplishments
 - 2020 Proposed Expenditures and Financing
 - 2020 Priorities and Highlights
- 2020 Risks and Uncertainties
- 2020 Initiatives to Modernize & Find Service Efficiencies

Staff responded to questions with respect to risks and uncertainties related to the Provincial Land Need Assessment methodology and provincial population and employment forecast; the difference between professional and contracted services; computer replacement costs; the number of investment inquiries received from Toronto Global; funding for Toronto Global; performance measures used for Economic Development & Tourism; staffing for grant and funding applications; program costs for call centre operations; the Regional broadband strategy; funding for conservation authorities; and the net budget increase.

6. Planning

6.1 Correspondence

A) Correspondence from June Gallagher, Deputy Clerk, Municipality of Clarington, dated January 21, 2020, re: Emerald Ash Borer Funding Assistance

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Bath-Hadden,

- (4) That the correspondence from the Municipality of Clarington, re: Emerald Ash Borer Funding Assistance, be referred to the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) and Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) for information.

CARRIED

6.2 Reports

A) 2020 Planning and Economic Development Department Business Plans and Budgets (2020-P-1)

Report #2020-P-1 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Staff responded to questions with respect to the line-by-line review savings; the net budget increase; the impact of the Oshawa General Motors plant closure; program costs for call centre operations; program costs for tangible capital assets replacement; and funding for 1855 Whitby's Masterclass Series, Spark Centre, the Durham Region Innovation District project and Toronto Global.

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Lee,

(5) That we recommend to the Finance and Administration Committee for subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the 2020 Business Plans and Budgets of the Planning and Economic Development Department be approved.

CARRIED LATER IN THE MEETING
(See Following Motion)

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Joe Neal,

(6) That the main motion (5) of Councillors Kerr and Lee be amended by adding the following words "and request removal of the Non-Departmental Toronto Global allocation of \$206,000" after the words "be approved".

DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING
RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Lee

Councillor Joe Neal

No

Councillor Bath-Hadden

Regional Chair Henry

Councillor Hight

Councillor Kerr

Councillor Yamada

Councillor Ryan, Chair

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

The main motion (5) of Councillors Kerr and Lee was then put to a vote and CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Bath-Hadden
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Yamada
Councillor Ryan, Chair

No

Councillor Joe Neal

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

7. Economic Development

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

7.2 Reports

A) 2019 Durham Region International Film Festival (2020-EDT-1)

Report #2020-EDT-1 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Bath-Hadden, Seconded by Councillor Highet,
(7) That Report #2020-EDT-1 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

B) DNext: Innovation and Investors Summit 2019 (2020-EDT-2)

Report #2020-EDT-2 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Bath-Hadden, Seconded by Councillor Highet,
(8) That Report #2020-EDT-2 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

8. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

9. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

10. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Bath-Hadden, Seconded by Councillor Highet,
(9) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM

Respectfully submitted,

D. Ryan, Chair

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk