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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:31 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Ryan, Chair
Councillor Joe Neal, Vice-Chair
Councillor Grant
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Yamada attended the meeting at 9:33 AM
Regional Chair Henry
*** all members of Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Collier
Councillor Drew
Councillor Foster
Councillor Smith
Councillor Wotten

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
C. Acosta, Planner
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
A. Luqman, Project Planner
G. Muller, Director of Planning
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning
B. Pickard, Manager, Tourism
K. Ryan, Senior Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
S. Salomone, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development and Investment

J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development
L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation
A. Yearwood, Project Planner
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Highet,
(16) That the minutes of the regular Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Presentations

With the consensus of the Committee, the order of the agenda was altered to hear the presentation from Aneesah Luqman and Jay Cuthbertson at this time.

6.2 Aneesah Luqman, Project Planner, and Jay Cuthbertson, Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Member, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee “Residents’ Guide to Climate Resiliency” (2021-P-9)

A. Luqman and J. Cuthbertson provided a presentation outlining the details of Report #2021-P-9 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development.

A. Luqman advised that the Residents’ Guide to Climate Resiliency is intended to provide residents with information on how to build climate resilience into their day-to-day lives by incorporating various consideration and lifestyle choices that will contribute to a cleaner and healthier Durham. She also advised that the Residents’ Guide was identified as a high priority project in the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee’s 2020 and 2021 workplans.

A. Luqman advised that the Residents’ Guide to Climate Resiliency consists of the following eight sections:

- Your Home

- Food
- Waste
- Health and Wellness
- Transportation
- Water
- Energy
- Businesses

A. Luqman briefly outlined the practical information, tips and small changes included under each section. She concluded by advising that the Residents' Guide is available on the Regional website at durham.ca/DEACguide and will be promoted through a public service announcement and social media campaign.

Chair Ryan congratulated the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee and J. Cuthbertson on the new Residents' Guide.

With the consensus of the Committee, the order of the agenda was altered to consider Report #2021-P-9 at this time.

7.2 Reports

B) Durham Environmental Advisory Committee "Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency" (2021-P-9)

Report #2021-P-9 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Highet,
(17) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee's "Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency" be endorsed; and
- B) That a copy of DEAC's "Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency" be forwarded to the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change, Durham's area municipalities, area municipal environmental advisory committees, conservation authorities, school boards, BIAs, homeowners' associations, condominium boards, property management groups, and real estate boards and associations.

CARRIED

6. Presentations

6.1 Ashley Yearwood, Project Planner, and Carla Acosta, Planner, re: Region of Durham Soil and Groundwater Assessment Protocol (2021-P-8)

A. Yearwood and C. Acosta provided a presentation outlining the details of Report #2021-P-8 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development. Highlights of their presentation included:

- History
- Purpose and Importance
- Site Contamination Approval Authority
- Protocol Improvements
- Ongoing Commitments

With the consensus of the Committee, the order of the agenda was altered to consider Report #2021-P-8 at this time.

7.2 Reports

A) Region of Durham Soil and Groundwater Assessment Protocol (2021-P-8)

Report #2021-P-8 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
(18) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the "Soil and Groundwater Assessment Protocol" included as Attachment #1 to Report #2021-P-8 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be endorsed, and that it replace the Region's existing Site Contamination Protocol; and
- B) That a copy of Report #2021-P-8 be forwarded to the Region's area municipalities; conservation authorities; the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC); the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC); the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP); the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) - Durham Chapter; other stakeholders, and members of the public who have expressed interest.

CARRIED

7. Planning

7.1 Correspondence

- A) Correspondence from Town of Ajax, re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on February 22, 2021, regarding Conservation Authorities Working Group
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Councillor Collier advised that the resolution is related to Schedule 6 of Bill 229 passed by the Province in December 2020 and he asked the Committee to endorse the resolution from the Town of Ajax.

Discussion ensued with respect to the composition of the Conservation Authorities Working Group.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(19) That we recommend to Council:

That the following resolution from the Town of Ajax regarding Conservation Authorities Working Group be endorsed:

Whereas significant, substantive legislative changes to conservation authorities' (CA) mandates, board responsibilities and enforcement authority were hastily pushed through the Province's fall budget, Bill 229 (Schedule 6), which received Royal Assent on December 8, 2020 in spite of widespread outcry from environmental experts, municipalities and municipal groups, NGOs and individuals;

And Whereas on January 11, 2021 Minister Yurek sent an email to heads of Council across the province to inform them of the composition of a Conservation Authorities Working Group to examine and consult on the regulations that follow legislative changes made through Schedule 6, including: details about which programs and services CAs will deliver and how they may be funded, and how CAs will regulate development (with a lens of public safety), the requirement for CAs to establish community advisory boards, and further details about CA operation and management of lands owned by the authority;

And Whereas both the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), as well as the agriculture sector and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are represented as part of the working group; however, an additional list of advisors to the working group was also announced, which includes representatives from the development industry (Remington Group, Mattamy Homes and EQ Homes);

And Whereas the working group does not consist of representatives from non-governmental agencies who have been very vocal about Schedule 6, including the implications on the mandate and future of CAs;

And Whereas CAs should be able to have a fulsome discussion about regulatory issues, including appropriate limitations to development without the interference or lobbying potential of the development industry;

Therefore Be It Now Resolved That:

1. Ajax Council convey their concern to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, requesting that the Province remove the influence of the development industry from the working group, instead having them provide their input as part of the public consultation process like other stakeholders and the general public; and
2. Ajax Council requests that the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks consider adding environmental protection-focused non-governmental agencies onto the working group; and
3. This motion be distributed to the Hon. Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Rod Phillips, Region of Durham, Chair of the Working Group Hassaan Basit, CEO of Conservation Halton, Conservation Ontario, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Ontario's Big City Mayors.

MOTION DEFEATED

Moved by Councillor Grant, Seconded by Councillor Lee,

(20) That the correspondence from the Town of Ajax regarding Conservation Authorities Working Group be received for information.

CARRIED

7.2 Reports

A) Region of Durham Soil and Groundwater Assessment Protocol (2021-P-8)

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. Refer to page 4 of these minutes.

B) Durham Environmental Advisory Committee "Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency" (2021-P-9)

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. Refer to page 3 of these minutes.

8. **Economic Development**

8.1 Correspondence

A) Correspondence from Town of Ajax, re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on February 22, 2021, regarding In-store Alcohol Service at Convenience Stores

Councillor Collier advised that the resolution is related to an application by 7-Eleven Canada to introduce in-store alcohol service at 61 stores in Ontario and he asked the Committee to endorse the resolution from the Town of Ajax.

Discussion ensued with respect to the 7-Eleven request for in-store alcohol service.

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(21) That we recommend to Council:

That the following resolution from the Town of Ajax regarding In-store Alcohol Service at Convenience Stores be endorsed:

Whereas Ajax Council recognizes the ongoing hardships faced by restaurants, pubs and other foodservice businesses as a result of mandated closures and patron limits due to Covid-19;

And Whereas the Town has been working hard to implement and advocate for business supports (such as providing restaurants the ability to access wine, beer and spirits at wholesale or discounted pricing, permitting flexibility, online support and more) to ensure more local businesses survive the pandemic;

And Whereas convenience stores have not been mandated to close during the pandemic and have not endured undue hardship like other industries;

And Whereas 7-Eleven Canada has applied to introduce in-store alcohol service at 61 stores throughout Ontario (including Ajax) to leverage their open status as a competitive advantage;

And Whereas the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) is ultimately responsible for granting all liquor licensing requests;

And Whereas approval of 7-Eleven's request would also mean exposing an already vulnerable and hard-hit restaurant/bar industry to further competition;

And Whereas Ontario's Big City Mayors caucus passed a motion on Friday, February 19 opposed to the 7-Eleven Canada request to serve alcohol;

Therefore Be It Now Resolved That Ajax Council oppose 7-Eleven Canada's proposal to serve alcohol;

And That this motion be distributed to Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General; Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction; Rod Phillips, MPP for Ajax; the Region of Durham, and local Durham Region municipalities.

CARRIED

8.2 Reports

A) Investment Attraction Metrics – Annual Activity Report 2020 (2021-EDT-2)

Report #2021-EDT-2 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Lee,
(22) That Report #2021-EDT-2 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Overview of Specialty Crops Workshop Series (2021-EDT-3)

Report #2021-EDT-3 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Hight,
(23) That Report #2021-EDT-3 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

9. **Advisory Committee Resolutions**

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

10. **Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

11. **Other Business**

11.1 Appointment to the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD)

Chair Ryan advised that Councillor Joe Neal has indicated he is unable to continue as the Regional Council representative on the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) Board of Directors. He asked if another member of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was interested in representing Regional Council on the BACD Board.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(24) That we recommend to Council:

That Councillor Lee be appointed to the Business Advisory Centre Durham (BACD) Board of Directors.

CARRIED

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
(25) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 AM

Respectfully submitted,

D. Ryan, Chair

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk