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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

A regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

Regional Chair Henry assumed the Chair.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter* attended for part of the meeting
Councillor Chapman* attended for part of the meeting
Councillor Cook*
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb* attended in person then remotely at 11:53 AM
Councillor Kerr attended for part of the meeting
Councillor Leahy attended the meeting at 10:35 AM
Councillor Lee*
Councillor Marimpietri attended for part of the meeting
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Neal attended for part of the meeting
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Pickles*
Councillor Roy
Councillor Schummer*
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten*
Councillor Yamada attended the meeting at 10:33 AM
Regional Chair Henry
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

All members of Committee were present with the exception of Councillors Ashe, Collier, Leahy and Yamada

Councillor Leahy attended the meeting at 10:35 AM
Councillor Yamada attended the meeting at 10:33 AM

Staff

Present: S. Austin, E. Baxter-Trahair, B. Bridgeman, A. Burgess, T. Cheseboro, S. Ciani, S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, J. Demanuele, H. Finley, L. Foulds, B. Goodwin, A. Harras, B. Holmes, L. Huinink, J. Hunt, R. Inacio, J. Kilgour, R.J. Kyle, L. McIntosh, I. McVey, N. Pincombe, J. Presta, L. Soto Maya, J. Svanda, and N. Taylor

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

4. Presentations

- 4.1 Troy Cheseboro, Chief, Durham Paramedic Services; and Nicole Pincombe, Director, Business Planning and Budgeting, Finance Re: 2023 - 2032 Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2023-COW-7) [Item 7.2]
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T. Cheseboro, Chief, Durham Paramedic Services and N. Pincombe, Director, Business Planning and Budgeting, provided a Powerpoint presentation on the 2023 - 2032 Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) Service and Financing Strategy.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Region of Durham Paramedic Services Service and Financing Strategy (2023 – 2032)
- Report Recommendations
- Call Volumes
- Hospital Offload Delay
- Paramedic Absences
- Down Staffed Ambulances
- Service Impacts – Offload Delay & Paramedic Absences
- Proposed Investment
 - Staffing
 - Other Investments
 - Projected Service Performance
- 2023 – 2032 Implementation Plan
- Risks and Consideration
- Conclusions

T. Cheseboro provided an overview of the 10-year Paramedic Services Financing strategy. He advised that the presentation responds to Regional Council's direction to staff on October 27, 2021 to report back on the status of the review of the recommendations in the Comprehensive Master Plan for Paramedic Services before presenting the proposed Public Health and Paramedic Services 2023 Business Plans and Budget.

T. Cheseboro provided an overview of the need for additional investment as a result of the financial impacts due to an increase in call volumes; offload delays at hospitals; staff absences; frontline resources; and, paramedic absences.

N. Pincombe provided an overview of the financial pressures on Paramedic Services service levels and the investment needed to be actioned in the 10-year financial plan. She noted that fifteen staff were approved in 2022, and they are recommending 142 full-time paramedics, including seven supervisors and four commanders, one Disability Management Specialist and additional staff for a total of 160 new full-time employees. She added that other investments include three new/replacement paramedic stations, new capital assets to support proposed staff increases, increased investment in state of good repair of existing facilities, and Advanced Care Paramedic training.

N. Pincombe provided an overview of the 2023 - 2032 implementation plan and projected regional tax levy impact. She noted that the plan is formed by a number of assumptions and outlined the risks and considerations.

N. Pincombe stated that the 10-year Paramedic Service and Financing Strategy is a starting point and will be reviewed every two years to ensure the plan is meeting projected service performance objectives.

T. Cheseboro responded to questions regarding future population growth exceeding the capacity of the healthcare system; equity related matters; the implications of the Whitby hospital void; increased provincial funding to offset the challenges; reporting mechanisms; the new paramedic station in North Oshawa; staffing absence impacts; retention and recruitment of staff; and investments in staff.

T. Cheseboro also responded to questions regarding meeting the provincial service delivery standards; a break down of the impacts by ward or area to identify gaps to address capacity matters; the implications of part-time staff working in other municipalities and being deployed to respond in other municipalities; funding for new models of care such as paramedics treating residents at their residence; offload delays in Uxbridge; ambulance offload based on vicinity/resource availability; the increased investment and state of good repair of existing facilities; and, hospital emergency departments.

N. Pincombe responded to questions regarding the proposed investment in staffing from 2023 to 2031 and the growth projections of the Region.

E. Baxter-Trahair responded to questions with regards to working with the province regarding funding to support the increased investment in paramedic services.

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Foster,

- (7) That the agenda be altered to consider Item 7.2, Report #2023-COW-7 re: 2023 – 2032 Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) Service and Financing Strategy, at this time.

CARRIED

7. Reports

7.2 2023 – 2032 Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2023-COW-7)

Report #2023-COW-7 from Dr. R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health and N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance was received.

T. Cheseboro responded to questions regarding underserved areas; the central ambulance communication centre; if there is a system in place to call off the Fire Department if it is determined they are not required; and, call diversion systems to transfer to healthcare providers.

E. Baxter-Trahair responded to questions regarding municipal benchmarking.

Moved by Councillor Barton, Seconded by Councillor Nicolson,

- (8) That the Committee recess for 15 minutes.

CARRIED

The Committee recessed at 11:53 AM and reconvened at 12:08 PM

Following the recess, the Clerk conducted a roll call, and all members of Committee were present with the exceptions of Councillors Ashe, Carter, Collier, Kerr, Lee, Marimpietri, and Neal.

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Foster,

- (9) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the 10-year implementation plan outlined in Attachment #1 to Report #2023-COW-7 of the Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health and Commissioner of Finance for increased investment in Paramedic Services response be approved in principle subject to annual investment approvals through the Region's business planning and budget process;

- B) That given the significant service level investments needed, that annual incremental increases for Paramedic Services be acknowledged in the range of half to threequarters of a per cent per year on the overall Regional tax levy over the forecast period;
- C) That staff monitors and reports every two years on the outcomes of the implementation plan and that the plan be updated as required to respond to changes impacting the forecast including, but not limited to, changes in service demands, provincial funding, offload delays and provincial policy decisions impacting the delivery of Paramedic Services; and,
- D) That staff continues working with the Province and local hospitals to improve hospital offload delays, advance provincial legislative changes to improve paramedic service delivery and efficiency and advocate for additional funding to support the increased investment in paramedic services response.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING RECORDED
VOTE:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Councillor Anderson	None
Councillor Barton	
Councillor Brenner	
Councillor Chapman	
Councillor Cook	
Councillor Crawford	
Councillor Dies	
Councillor Foster	
Councillor Garrod	
Councillor Jubb	
Councillor Leahy	
Councillor McDougall	
Councillor Mulcahy	
Councillor Nicholson	
Councillor Pickles	
Councillor Roy	
Councillor Schummer	
Councillor Shahid	
Councillor Woo	
Councillor Wotten	
Councillor Yamada	
Regional Chair Henry	

Members Absent: Councillor Ashe
Councillor Carter
Councillor Collier

Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor Neal

Declarations of Interest: None

4. Presentations

- 4.2 Sandra Austin, Director, Strategic Initiatives, Chief Administrative Officer's Office; and Lesley-Ann Foulds, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Chief Administrative Officer's Office Re: Durham Region 2020-2024 Strategic Plan Community Dashboard Release (2023-COW-9) [Item 7.4]
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S. Austin, Director, Strategic Initiatives, and L. Foulds, Manager, Strategic Initiatives provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Durham Region 2020-2024 Strategic Plan Community Dashboard Release.

Highlights of the presentation include:

- 2020 - 2024 Strategic Plan Development
- 2020 - 2024 Durham Region Strategic Plan
- 2022 Regional Strategic Plan Validation
- Community Dashboard
- Key Performance Indicators & Initiatives
- Indicator Definitions
- Community Dashboard Demonstration
- Towards 2025 – Developing the New Regional Strategic Plan
- 2025 Durham Region Strategic Plan

S. Austin introduced the first ever 2020 to 2024 Regional Strategic Plan Community Dashboard Release. She stated that the Strategic Plan sets the path for a healthy, prosperous community for all in Durham Region.

S. Austin reviewed the key performance indicators (KPIs) to achieve the Council endorsed goals of the Plan. She also highlighted the key performance indicators and initiatives that demonstrate the results of efforts by the Region towards the goals and the targets achieved, which are tracked on an annual basis. She demonstrated examples of the indicators, trends and data metrics.

L. Foulds gave a live demonstration of the community dashboard. She stated that key performance indicators and results have been added to the website under the tabs for each component of the strategic plan. As well, links to initiatives are included on the dashboard.

S. Austin stated that they are looking to gather insights for the 2025 Strategic Plan and will be utilizing strategic foresight tools for community engagement.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
(10) That the agenda be altered to consider Item 7.4, Report #2023-COW-9
re: Durham Region 2020-2024 Strategic Plan Community Dashboard
Release, at this time.

CARRIED

7. Reports

7.4 Durham Region 2020-2024 Strategic Plan Community Dashboard Release (2023-COW-9)

Report #2023-COW-9 from E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer, was received.

S. Austin responded to questions regarding the Strategic Plan including: the colour indicators on the dashboard to indicate the status of the goals; what the expectation of the strategies are for 2025 onwards; the new Strategic Plan taskforce; community engagement with the Strategic Plan; and, measuring the level of engagement within the community and demonstrating how the feedback is meaningful and impacting the Strategic Plan.

L. Foulds responded to questions regarding the back data and trends in terms of the trajectory; and, access to the data.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,
(11) That Report #2023-COW-9 of the Chief Administrative Officer be received for information.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. Reports

7.1 Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) Leadership Committee - Regional Councillor Nominations (2023-COW-6)

Report #2023-COW-6 from E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer, was received.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,
(12) That we recommend to Council:

That the appointment of the following Regional Council members to the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) Leadership Committee be approved and confirmed:

- Councillor Brenner, Pickering
 - Councillor Lee, Ajax
 - Councillor Leahy, Whitby
 - Councillor Carter, Oshawa
 - Councillor Foster, Clarington
 - Councillor Barton, Uxbridge
 - Councillor Wotten, Scugog; and
 - Councillor Schummer, Brock
- CARRIED

7.2 2023 – 2032 Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2023-COW-7)

This matter was considered earlier in the meeting. See Item 7.2 on pages 4 to 6 of these minutes.

7.3 Tender Award and Additional Financing for Regional Municipality of Durham Tender T-1109-2022 for Early Learning Child Care Centre Playground Refurbishments at Various Locations (2023-COW-8)

Report #2023-COW-8 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner Social Services, N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance and J. Presta, Commissioner of Works was received.

J. Demanuele, Director of Corporate Infrastructure and Strategic Business Services, Works Department, responded to questions regarding completing the playground projects within the year and associated costs.

N. Taylor responded to questions regarding the funding source for the project.

The Committee requested that a list of the playground refurbishment projects are forwarded to all members of Regional Council for information purposes.

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,
(13) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the lowest compliant bid of DonRos Landscape Construction in the amount of \$1,198,199* be awarded for Regional Municipality of Durham Tender T-1109- 2022 for Early Learning Child Care Centre Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby, resulting in a total estimate project cost of \$1,364,500;
- B) That the previously approved project budget of \$849,500 for the Early Learning Child Care Centre Playground Refurbishments in the Town of Ajax, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering and the Town of Whitby be increased by \$515,000 to a revised total project cost of \$1,364,500; and
- C) That financing for the additional project commitments in the amount of \$515,000 be provided at the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance.
(*before applicable taxes)

CARRIED

7.4 Durham Region 2020-2024 Strategic Plan Community Dashboard Release
(2023-COW-9)

This matter was considered earlier in the meeting. See Item 7.4 on page 7 of these minutes.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Barton, Seconded by Councillor Mulcahy,
(14) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Henry, Regional Chair

Laurie Soto Maya, Committee Clerk