



**Town of Aurora
General Committee
Meeting Report**

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

Council Members: Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)
Councillor Ron Weese
Councillor Wendy Gaertner
Councillor Michael Thompson*
Councillor John Gallo
Councillor Harold Kim

Members Absent: Councillor Rachel Gilliland

Other Attendees: Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer
Allan Downey, Director, Operations*
Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services
Techa van Leeuwen, Director, Corporate Services
Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services
Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance
Daniel Bitonti, Acting Manager, Corporate Communications*
Slav Szlapczynski, Associate Solicitor
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk
Palak Mehta, Council/Committee Coordinator

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

General Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

3. Approval of the Agenda

General Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services.

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50.

5. Community Presentations

None.

6. Delegations

6.1 Javed S. Khan, Aurora Sports Hall of Fame; Re: Seeking Nominations for 2023 Class of Inductees

Javed S. Khan, President, representing the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, provided information regarding the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame seeking nominations for the 2023 Class of Inductees.

General Committee received the comments of the delegation for information.

7. Consent Agenda

None.

8. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

None.

9. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

9.1 PDS23-016 - Application for Draft Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment Approval, 5-70 Archerhill Court Lots 1 to 14 and Archerhill Court, Plan 65M-2494 File Numbers: SUB-2021 and ZBA-2021-06

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS23-016 be received; and
2. That Draft Plan of Subdivision application SUB-2021-02 be approved, as shown in Figure 4 of this report and subject to the Conditions of Draft Plan Approval as outlined in Appendix 'A'; and
3. That the corresponding Zoning By-law Amendment application ZBA-2021-06 be approved, to rezone the subject lands from "Estate Residential (ER)" to "Detached Third Density Residential (R3-X) Exception Zone", "Detached Fourth Density Residential (R4)", "Detached Fourth Density Residential (R4-X) Exception Zone", "Detached Fourth Density Residential (R4-X2) Exception Zone", "Public Open Space (O1)", and "Environmental Protection (EP)" with site specific zoning standards as outlined in Appendix 'B' of this report; and
4. That the appropriate servicing be allocated to the development (138 units); and
5. That an implementing Zoning By-law Amendment be brought forward to a future Council meeting for enactment; and
6. That a By-law to stop up, close and convey Archerhill Court to the owner of the subject lands be brought forward to a future Council meeting for enactment.

Carried

9.2 CMS23-006 - Church Street School - Asset Management**General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CMS23-006 be received; and
2. That a new capital project with total budget authority of \$173,000 be approved for the refinishing and repainting of Brevik Hall, Aurora room, boardroom, gallery, and ancillary spaces in the Church Street school to be funded from the facility asset management reserve; and
3. That a new capital project with total budget authority of \$187,000 be approved for the refinishing and repainting of Aurora Museum & Archives and Aurora Cultural Centre administrative spaces to be funded from the facility asset management reserve.

Carried**9.3 CMS23-004- Office Furniture and Contract Award****General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CMS23-004 be received; and
2. That Council authorize Non-Standard procurement, under section 2.7 of the procurement policy for Piggyback Purchasing, to award the supply, delivery, and installation of systems furniture to Teknion under the terms of the Vendor of Record (VOR) agreement; and
3. That Council approve the procurement as a standing offer as defined under section 5.2 Standing Offers in the Procurement Policy.

Carried**9.4 CS23-009 - Council Compensation Ad Hoc Committee****General Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. CS23-009 be received; and
2. That the Terms of Reference (Attachment 1) for the Council Compensation Ad Hoc Committee be approved.

Carried

10. Notices of Motion

10.1 Mayor Mrakas; Re: Affordable Housing Action Plan

Whereas affordable housing has reached a crisis level in communities across Canada; and

Whereas responsible growth management and providing a range and mix of housing options are fundamental pillars of the Town's Official Plan; and

Whereas the Town continues to implement Provincial and Regional targets on housing, population, and density - having grown by approximately 12% from 2016-2021, and forecasted to continue to grow by over another 30% to 2051; and

Whereas this growth emphasizes the importance of proactive and strategic planning for affordable and attainable housing, which further supports the economic strength and livability of the Town overall; and

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That through the Town's ongoing Official Plan Review, the scope of the Town's Official Plan be expanded to include modernized housing policies that clearly articulate and define the Town's strategies and actions on affordable and attainable housing to 2051 and beyond; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town develop an Affordable Housing Action Plan (AHAP), to be used to guide decision-making on how to address affordable housing and promote attainable housing options for residents through clear objectives and targets specifically designed for implementation within the local Aurora community context; and
3. Be it Further Resolved That the Affordable Housing Action Plan (AHAP) be developed through collaborative engagement with the community, local partners, and housing providers, and apply to both private market and public housing development; and
4. Be it Further Resolved That the Affordable Housing Action Plan also include specific monitoring and measuring tools to ensure the successful implementation of strategies over the horizon of 2051 and beyond.

10.2 Mayor Mrakas; Re: 672 and 684 Henderson Drive

Whereas Weston Consulting has made requests to the Town of Aurora, The Regional Municipality of York, and the Province (Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing) to permit residential development at 672 and 684 Henderson Drive as of right; and

Whereas the effect of such request would result in circumventing the Town's existing approval process and forgoing an assessment of potential environmental impacts of proposed development on the subject lands; and

1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora request the Province continue to support the Town's position as well as the OLT ruling for 672 and 684 Henderson Dr and NOT permit residential development as of right on these lands; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

10.3 Councillor Rachel Gilliland, Councillor Ron Weese; Re: Pickleball Opportunities

Whereas the Town envisioned by 2021, Aurora would have a dynamic and robust sport system that enables all Town residents to engage in meaningful sport opportunities equal to their abilities, resulting in increased levels of participation in sport; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora supported a Sport Plan, prioritizing growth, supporting an active community, and to place focus on increasing participation in sport; and

Whereas Pickleball is the number one growing sport in North America that is gaining popularity in Aurora within numerous age groups, particularly adults and older adults; and

Whereas often Pickleball leagues and courts fill up within the same day of registration leaving many without an opportunity to try or play the sport, or forced to go out of Town; and

Whereas even though, the Town is still developing a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan, residents are eager to begin identifying creative Pickleball opportunities to capitalize on the upcoming spring, summer and fall seasons to help meet the demand; and

Whereas there may be creative opportunities with existing tennis courts, under-utilized parking lots, or community/corporate partnerships that could be explored; and

Whereas tennis and pickleball courts serve a multi-use purpose extending use efficiently; and

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff report back with possible creative opportunities to increase Pickleball courts for the 2023 summer season; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That staff report back with a future Pickleball development plan with recommendations and future budget considerations through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

10.4 Councillor Rachel Gilliland; Re: Feasibility of a Permanent Liquor License at the Aurora Community Centre

Whereas the Town of Aurora has developed a Sport Tourism Strategy to enhance the visitor experience, bring new events into the community, highlight hometown athletes, and incorporate cultural experiences for the community and visitors; and

Whereas Aurora is a proven growing hockey community of fans, emerging players, and residents, with talent such as Connor McDavid, Robert Thomas, Barclay Goodrow, and Jr Panther Abby Lunney; and

Whereas the cost of watching NHL-level games in person has become extremely unaffordable for the average family or for couples to enjoy; and

Whereas there is an opportunity at the Aurora Community Centre to offer a permanent liquor license to watch in-person, high-level hockey games, such as the Jr. A Aurora Tigers and U18 Women's International Silver Stick Tournament; and

Whereas other municipalities have successfully licensed certain facilities, such as Barrie and Collingwood, to enjoy watching high-level hockey talent and provide an opportunity for local athletes to compete in their hometown, celebrate and highlight the achievements of local athletes who are role models for future athletes; and

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff be directed to investigate and report back to Council on the feasibility of a permanent liquor license at the Aurora Community Centre arena;
2. Be It Further Resolved That staff report back with the recommended amendments to the Municipal Alcohol Policy that would need updating to facilitate this opportunity.

11. Regional Report

11.1 York Regional Highlights of January 26, 2023

1. That the York Regional Council Highlights of January 26, 2023, be received for information.

Carried

12. New Business

None.

13. Public Service Announcements

Councillor Gallo acknowledged Wednesday, February 23, 2023 is "Pink Shirt Day"; to raise awareness of youth impacted by bullying in schools, and to raise funds to support programs that nurture children's healthy self-esteem. Background information on the inspiration behind Pink Shirt Day was provided. For more information on the "Pink Shirt Day" movement visit; pinkshirtday.ca.

Councillor Weese advised that Sunday, March 26, 2023 is "Epilepsy Awareness Day." Councillor Weese inquired regarding the Town's proclamation process. Mayor Mrakas added that several restaurants within York Region are selling pancakes for \$1 and proceeds of the pancake sales will be donated to Epilepsy York Region. For more information, visit epilepsyork.org/pancake-Tuesday.

Councillor Weese thanked the Town Staff involved with the Family Day long weekend events, with a special thanks to Shelley Ware, Supervisor, Recreation - Special Events.

Mayor Mrakas announced the following activities and events:

- Just as a reminder, parking on residential streets is strictly prohibited until April 15, 2023 between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. This restriction allows for the safe and effective clearing of snow and road maintenance. To learn more, visit [**aurora.ca/winterparking**](https://aurora.ca/winterparking).
- For the month of February, Aurora's Online Skylight Gallery is featuring the work of Samantha Jones, entitled "Disembodied." Meditating on her own experience growing up in a suburban home in Aurora, Samantha creates micro-detailed artworks that translate the ambience of a space through familiar textures, objects, and backgrounds rooted in both reality and the dream world. View this online gallery at [**aurora.ca/skylightgallery**](https://aurora.ca/skylightgallery).
- The Town of Aurora's Spring & Summer 2023 Program Guide and Summer Camps 2023 Program Guide will be available for online viewing on March 7. For further details and information on the Spring & Summer Guide, visit [**aurora.ca/programguide**](https://aurora.ca/programguide) and for Summer Camps visit [**aurora.ca/summercamps**](https://aurora.ca/summercamps).
- Until March 31, nominate someone for a 2023 Community Recognition Award. We are honouring the best individuals, groups and businesses that have contributed their time and talents to making Aurora an incredible place to live. For more information and how to place your nomination, visit [**aurora.ca/cra**](https://aurora.ca/cra)
- The 2023 Waste and Recycling Calendars have been delivered to households, can be picked up at Aurora Town Hall and digital copies are also available online. For more information, please visit [**aurora.ca/wasteandrecycling**](https://aurora.ca/wasteandrecycling).
- Aurora continues to celebrate Black History Month and the important contributions of Black Canadians. In partnership with the Aurora Black Community Association, we're providing so many opportunities to learn about and celebrate Aurora's Black community and our diverse and rich cultures. For more information, visit [**aurora.ca/blackhistorymonth**](https://aurora.ca/blackhistorymonth).

- Be in the know! Subscribe to the Town's enewsletter for a monthly roundup delivered right to your inbox. Aurora Matters provides everything you need to stay up to date on key projects, engagement opportunities, upcoming events, and important reminders. Subscribe at [**aurora.ca/AuroraMatters**](https://aurora.ca/AuroraMatters).
- The Annual Mayor's Luncheon, presented by the Aurora Chambers of Commerce, will be held on February 22, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information, please visit [**aurorachamber.on.ca**](https://aurorachamber.on.ca).

14. Closed Session

None.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.