



**Town of Aurora
General Committee
Meeting Report**

Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

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

Other Attendees: Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer
Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services
Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services
Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance
Michelle Outar, Senior Communications Advisor*
Luigi Colangelo, Manager, Public Works
Slav Szlapczynski, Associate Solicitor
Edward Terry, Senior Policy Planner*
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

General Committee consented to recess the meeting at 8:57 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:07 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 revised 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 Yafang Shi, Resident; Re: Request to Council regarding Issues related to the Aurora Public Library's Practice and Conduct

Yafang Shi presented concerns regarding issues related to the Aurora Public Library's practice and conduct in connection with an exhibition at the Library.

General Committee received the comments of the delegation for information.

7. Consent Agenda

General Committee recommends:

That the Consent Agenda, items 7.1 to 7.3 inclusive, be approved with the exception of item 7.2 which was discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Carried

7.1 CS23-042 - Integrity Commissioner's Periodic Report

1. That Report No. CS23-042 be received for information.

Carried

7.2 OPS23-017 - Bag Tag Program - Update

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. OPS23-017 be received for information.

Carried

7.3 Memorandum from Councillor Thompson; Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of June 23, 2023

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of June 23, 2023, be received for information.

Carried

8. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

General Committee recommends:

That the Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, items 8.1 to 8.4 inclusive, be received for information.

Carried

8.1 Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2023

1. That the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 28, 2023, be received for information.

Carried

8.2 Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of July 31, 2023

1. That the Heritage Advisory Committee meeting minutes of July 31, 2023, be received for information.

Carried

8.3 Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2023

1. That the Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee meeting minutes of August 2, 2023, be received for information.

Carried

8.4 Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023

1. That the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee meeting minutes of August 22, 2023, be received for information.

Carried

9. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

9.1 PDS23-109 - Aurora's 2031 Municipal Housing Target Pledge

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS23-109 be received; and
2. That the Town support the municipal Housing Pledge and initiatives described in Staff Report PDS23-109 including Attachment 1 (Housing Pledge for Responsible Growth); and
3. That the Housing Pledge be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and
4. That the Province be requested to continue to work with municipalities to provide grant opportunities to aid in the rapid delivery of the identified municipal initiatives and growth-related infrastructure.

Carried

9.2 OPS23-018 - Approval of Capital Project No. 73217 - Summit Park Playground Replacement and Basketball Court/Walkway Improvements

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. OPS23-018 be received; and
2. That the condition on the approval of a total of \$300,000 in capital budget authority for Capital Project No. 73217 – Summit Park Playground Replacement and Basketball Court/Walkway Improvements be lifted, and the project proceed; and
3. That the scope of this project be expanded to include a fitness park, lighting and rubberized safety surfacing enhancements; and
4. That the total capital budget authority for Capital Project No. 73217 be increased to \$600,000, representing an increase of \$300,000 to be funded from the Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland reserve.

Carried

9.3 PDS23-108 - Centre Street Speed Limit Amendment

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS23-108 be received; and
2. That a by-law to amend Parking By-law No. 4574-04.T be enacted to reduce the speed limit on Centre Street between the Metrolinx GO Transit Corridor (west limit) and a point 90 metres west thereof from 40 km/h to 30 km/h.

Carried

9.4 FIN23-035 - Reserve Management Policy

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. FIN23-035 be received; and
2. That the presented Reserve Management Policy for the Town be approved.

Carried

9.5 PDS23-104 - Application for Draft Plan of Condominium, Addison Aurora Industrial GP Inc., 115, 135, 155 Addison Hall Circle, Block 8, 9, 10, Plan 65M-4650, File Number: CDM-2023-02, Related File Number: SP-2022-01

General Committee recommends:

1. That Report No. PDS23-104 be received; and

2. That the Draft Plan of Condominium File Number CDM-2023-02, to establish a standard condominium consisting of a total of 39 industrial units within 3 separate buildings, be approved subject to the conditions attached hereto as Schedule 'A' of this report.

Carried

10. Notices of Motion

10.1 Mayor Mrakas; Re: As of Right Pre-Zoning

Whereas the forthcoming Town's Official Plan Review is scheduled for presentation to Council for consideration and potential adoption in the Fall of 2023. This review encompasses numerous proposed changes that offer valuable guidance on managing growth within strategically designated areas over the upcoming three decades; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora is making a commitment to the Province by pledging its active role in facilitating the construction of 8,000 new homes by the year 2031;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town will engage in pre-zoning of lands situated along key thoroughfares including Leslie and Bayview, as well as both Yonge and Wellington. This initiative will extend to cover Strategic Growth Areas such as The Promenade and the Major Transit Station Area (MTSA); and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the aforementioned corridors and designated growth areas shall be pre-zoned, with due consideration for suitable building heights and densities. This pre-zoning shall be designated "As of Right," thereby streamlining the development process for residential units; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That staff be directed to undertake this pre-zoning exercise as an integral component of the accelerated Phase 1 of the Zoning By-law review.

10.2 Mayor Mrakas; Re: Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic

Whereas 42 municipalities and regions including OBCM (Ontario Big City Mayors) and MARCO (Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario) members Ajax, Brampton, Burlington, Clarington, Hamilton, London, Oakville, Ottawa,

Pickering, Whitby, Toronto, and Windsor, along with Peel, Durham and Halton Regions as well as Lanark County, Essex County and Renfrew County across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic (as of August 18, 2023); and

Whereas on August 16, 2023, Justice Minister Arif Virani described gender-based violence as “an epidemic” in the federal government’s formal response to a coroner’s inquest, also stating that his government is committed to ending the gender-based violence epidemic “in all its forms, and is working to address any gaps in the Criminal Code to ensure a robust justice system response”; and

Whereas by declaring gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic, the Town of Aurora can join the growing number of municipalities and regions in demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic; and

Whereas the incidences of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of intimate partner and gender-based violence has not kept pace;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora declare gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora recommend that gender-based violence and intimate partner violence be declared an epidemic in the Province of Ontario; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities and regions in Ontario declare a gender-based and intimate partner violence epidemic across the country; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the provincial and federal governments enact the additional 85 recommendations from the inquest into the 2015 murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew

County, Ontario, which provide a roadmap to preventing intimate partner violence from escalating to femicide; and

5. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the federal government starts this enactment by adding the word Femicide as a term to the Criminal Code of Canada; and
6. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the provincial and federal governments provide the necessary support to municipalities, regions, and their emergency and social services to meaningfully address the gender-based violence and intimate partner violence epidemic.

11. Regional Report

None.

12. New Business

Councillor Gilliland referred to the Reserve Management Policy item on the agenda and inquired about whether language pertaining to the ONE JIB Investment Fund should be included, and staff provided a response.

Councillor Weese referred to the proposed men's shelter in Aurora and inquired about any updates from the Region. Staff provided a response regarding the Region's planned public engagement and the Town's future public meeting on this matter, and agreed to notify Council once the dates have been set.

13. Public Service Announcements

Councillor Gallo extended best wishes to all students, teachers and support staff for the upcoming school season. Mayor Mrakas echoed Councillor Gallo's sentiments on behalf of Council.

Mayor Mrakas advised that the grand opening of St. Anne's School, a private school for girls, was held today, noting that the presence of this school in the community represents the Town's commitment to education and well-rounded opportunities for women and girls.

Mayor Mrakas announced that Saturday Night Fever will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2023, from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Yonge Street (between Mosley and Wellington Streets) including headliner George St. Kitts.

Councillor Gilliland announced that a Victorian Harvest Tea will be held at Hillary House on Saturday, September 16, 2023, and a virtual Scotch Tasting will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 7 p.m., and encouraged all to explore the Aurora Historical Society and Hillary House website for other great events. Councillor Gaertner noted that reservations are required for the Tea event.

Councillor Gilliland encouraged all to explore the programs and shows presented by the Aurora Cultural Centre in support of local artists.

Councillor Weese announced that the Aurora Chamber of Commerce fundraising golf tournament will be held on September 12, 2023, at the Westview Golf Club.

Councillor Weese announced that Sport Aurora's All Sport One Day event will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2023.

Mayor Mrakas noted that Friday, September 8, 2023, is opening night for the Aurora Tigers Junior A Hockey Club and encouraged all to support the team.

Councillor Gaertner extended appreciation to the Town's Special Events team for a terrific season of Concerts in the Park.

14. Closed Session

None.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.