



Town of Aurora Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

Council Members: Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)
Councillor Rachel Gilliland (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)
Councillor Wendy Gaertner (left at 8:25 p.m., returned at 8:27 p.m.)
Councillor Michael Thompson
Councillor John Gallo
Councillor Harold Kim

Members Absent: Councillor Ron Weese

Other Attendees: Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer
Patricia De Sario, Director, Corporate Services/Town Solicitor
Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services
Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services
Sara Tienkamp, Director, Operational Services
Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance
Carley Smith, Manager, Corporate Communications
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk
Emily Freitas, Council/Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Mrakas 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

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the revised agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, including the addition of Delegations item 6.3, be approved.

Yeas (5): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (2): Councillor Weese, and Councillor Gilliland

**On a two-thirds majority vote the motion
Carried (5 to 0)**

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

5.1 Mandy Cronin, You Can Play; Re: You Can Play Partnership

(Presentation to be rescheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2024)

5.2 Female Students of the Town's Leadership Course; Re: PLF4M Success From Winter 2024 Term

Students presented an overview of the Female Recreation and Active Leadership High School Course, a 15-week grade 12 credit program hosted by the Town. The course provides opportunities for female students such as leadership and communication skills training,

networking and event planning, resume building, first aid training, and a NCCP coaching certification.

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the presentation be received for information.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

5.3 Franco De Marco, Recreation Supervisor, Community Programs; Re: June is Recreation and Parks Month (JRPM)

Franco De Marco presented an overview of Recreation and Parks Month, highlighting key objectives, the benefits of recreation and parks, and how residents can participate through free drop-in programs, social media, and the JRPM calendar.

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the presentation be received for information.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

6. Delegations

6.1 Caitlyn Harris, Resident; Re: Item 8.8.2 - PDS24-044 - Traffic Calming Measures and All-way Stop Control Request on Tamarac Trail

Caitlyn Harris spoke in support for traffic calming measures and implementing an all-way stop on Tamarac Trail.

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.8.2.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

6.2 Anne Harrison, Resident; Re: Item 8.8.2 - PDS24-044 - Traffic Calming Measures and All-way Stop Control Request on Tamarac Trail

Anne Harrison spoke in support for traffic calming measures and implementing an all-way stop on Tamarac Trail.

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.8.2.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

6.3 Joyce Mikros, Resident; Re: Item 8.8.2 - PDS24-044 - Traffic Calming Measures and All-way Stop Control Request on Tamarac Trail

Joyce Mikros spoke in support for traffic calming measures and implementing an all-way stop on Tamarac Trail.

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.8.2.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

7. Consent Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the Consent Agenda, items 7.1 to 7.4 inclusive, be approved.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

7.1 Council Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024

1. That the Council Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.2 Council Public Planning Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2024

1. That the Council Public Planning Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.3 Council Closed Session Minutes of April 23, 2024 (confidential attachment)

1. That the Council Closed Session Minutes of April 23, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.4 Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of May 7, 2024

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of May 7, 2024, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.8.2 and 8.8.3, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

8.1 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

8.1.1 Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2024

1. That the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.1.2 Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2024

1. That the Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.1.3 Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2024

1. That the Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.1.4 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.1.5 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2024

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 15, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.1.6 Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2024

1. That the Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.1.7 Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2024

1. That the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.2 Consent Agenda

8.2.1 Memorandum from Councillor Thompson; Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of March 22, 2024

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of March 22, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.3 Community Services Committee Agenda

8.3.1 CMS24-016 - 2024-2028 Cultural Action Plan

1. That Report No. CMS24-016 be received; and
2. That Council approve the 2024-2028 Cultural Action Plan.

Carried

8.3.2 CMS24-014 - Petch House - Considerations - Update

1. That Report No. CMS24-014 be received; and
2. That Council approve the proposed renovations of the Petch House; and
3. That a new capital project with budget authority of \$50,000 be approved to be funded from the Heritage reserve fund.

Carried

8.3.3 CMS24-015 - Aurora War Memorial 100th Anniversary

1. That Report No. CMS24-015 be received; and
2. That Council approve the collaborative plan of action as presented in this report; and
3. That staff report back at a later date with an update including final budget considerations.

Carried

8.3.4 CMS24-017 - Aurora Community Centre Liquor License - Pilot Program Results

1. That Report No. CMS24-017 be received for information.

Carried

8.3.5 CMS24-018 - Aurora Town Square - Rotary Clock Project

1. That Report No. CMS24-018 be received; and
2. That Council accept the offer from the Rotary Club for the installation of a rotary clock at Town Square; and

3. That Council agree with the preferred site identified for the location of the clock.

Carried

8.4 Corporate Services Committee Agenda

None.

8.5 Finance and Information Technology Committee Agenda

8.5.1 FIN24-019 - Anticipated Financial Impacts to Development Charge Revenue as a Result of Legislative Changes

1. That Report No. FIN24-019 be received for information.

Carried

8.6 Administration Committee Agenda

None.

8.7 Operational Services Committee Agenda

8.7.1 OPS24-009 - Tree Removal Application - 15342 Yonge Street

1. That Report No. OPS24-009 be received; and
2. That the Tree Removal Application for 15342 Yonge Street be approved.

Carried

8.7.2 OPS24-011 - Outdoor Artificial Ice Rinks

1. That Report No. OPS24-011 be referred back to staff to be brought forward at a time when the Town is more certain about development charge revenue.

Carried

8.8 Planning and Development Services Committee Agenda

8.8.1 PDS24-027 - Request for Endorsement of the Active Transportation Master Plan

1. That Report No. PDS24-027 be received; and,
2. That Council endorse the Active Transportation Master Plan (ATMP) and the recommendations contained in the ATMP.

Carried

8.8.2 PDS24-044 - Traffic Calming Measures and All-way Stop Control Request on Tamarac Trail

Main motion

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Report No. PDS24-044 be received for information.

Amendment No. 1

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

2. That an all-way stop be installed at Tamarac Trail and Albery Crescent; and

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

Amendment No. 2

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

3. That flexible traffic sign calming measures be installed on Tamarac Trail

Yeas (5): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Nays (1): Councillor Gilliland

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (5 to 1)

Amendment No. 3

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

4. That, if staff feels necessary, an urban shoulder traffic calming measure and centre lines be implemented on Tamarac Trail.

Yeas (4): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Nays (2): Councillor Gilliland, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (4 to 2)

Main motion as amended

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Report No. PDS24-044 be received; and
2. That an all-way stop be installed at Tamarac Trail and Albery Crescent; and
3. That flexible traffic sign calming measures be installed on Tamarac Trail; and
4. That, if staff feels necessary, an urban shoulder traffic calming measure and centre lines be implemented on Tamarac Trail.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

**Clauses one and two
Carried (6 to 0)**

Yeas (4): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Nays (2): Councillor Gilliland, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

**Third clause
Carried (4 to 2)**

Yeas (5): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Nays (1): Councillor Gilliland

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

**Fourth clause
Carried (5 to 1)**

8.8.3 PDS24-051 - Endorsement of York Region Modifications to the Town's Updated Official Plan

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Kim

1. That Report No. PDS24-051 be received; and
2. That Council endorse the proposed modifications by York Region to the Town's Updated Official Plan as outlined in Attachment #1 of this report; and
3. That Council support the approval of the Town's Updated Official Plan as modified by York Region through Attachment #1 of this report; and
4. That Council authorize any further minor modifications or housekeeping amendments to the Town's Updated Official Plan as may be required, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Development Services.

Yeas (5): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Nays (1): Councillor Gilliland

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (5 to 1)

8.9 Member Motions

8.9.1 Mayor Mrakas; Re: Establishment of a Heritage Grant Program

Whereas preserving and promoting our Town's heritage is of paramount importance to the community; and

Whereas there is a recognized need to support property owners in maintaining and restoring heritage buildings and sites; and

Whereas a Heritage Grant Program would provide financial assistance to property owners for the preservation and restoration of heritage properties; and

Whereas such a program would contribute to the overall preservation and enhancement of our Town's historical character and cultural identity;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff be directed to create a Heritage Grant Program aimed at providing financial assistance to property owners for the preservation and restoration of designated heritage properties in the Town of Aurora; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That staff be instructed to consult with the Town's Heritage Advisory Committee regarding the development of the program and prepare guidelines and criteria for eligibility, application procedures, and grant disbursements, ensuring transparency and fairness in the allocation of funds; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That staff present a report outlining the proposed Heritage Grant Program to Council for review and approval at a future Council meeting.

Carried

8.10 Regional Report

8.10.1 York Regional Council Highlights of April 25, 2024

1. That the York Regional Council Highlights of April 25, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

9. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

9.1 Memorandum from Mayor's Office; Re: Joint Council Committee – Aurora Appointments

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Kim

1. That Councillor John Gallo be removed from Joint Council Committee; and
2. That Councillor Michael Thompson be appointed to Joint Council Committee.

Yeas (5): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (2): Councillor Weese, and Councillor Gaertner

Carried (5 to 0)

10. New Business

None.

11. By-laws

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the By-laws, items 11.1 to 11.4 inclusive, be approved.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Weese

Carried (6 to 0)

- 11.1 By-law Number 6606-24 - Being a By-law to allocate any 2023 Operating Fund surplus and any 2023 Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater Operating Fund surplus or deficit.
- 11.2 By-law Number 6607-24 - Being a By-law to allocate any 2024 Operating Fund surplus and any 2024 Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater Operating Fund surplus or deficit.
- 11.3 By-law Number 6608-24 - Being a By-law to set and levy the rates of Taxation for the taxation year 2024.
- 11.4 By-law Number 6609-24 - Being a By-law to assume highways on Plan 65M-4520 for public use and maintenance by The Corporation of the Town of Aurora.

12. Closed Session

None.

13. Confirming By-law

- 13.1 By-law Number 6610-24 Being a By-law to confirm actions by Council resulting from a Council meeting on May 28, 2024

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the confirming by-law be enacted.

Carried

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Carried

Tom Mrakas, Mayor

Michael de Rond, Town Clerk