



## **Town of Aurora Committee of the Whole Meeting Report**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024  
**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\*  
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  
Hailey Jones, Sport and Community Development Specialist  
Adam Robb, Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage  
Lisa Warth, Manager, Recreation  
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk  
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

\*Attended electronically

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### **1. Call to Order**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Committee of the Whole consented to recess the meeting at 8:57 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

## **2. Land Acknowledgement**

The 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**

Committee of the Whole 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**

### **5.1 Javed S. Khan, President and Chair, and Melanie Pearson, Chair, Induction Committee; Re: Aurora Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2024 Inductees**

Javed Khan and Melanie Pearson announced the 2024 Class of Inductees to the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame: Marcel Gery (Athlete, Swimming); Milton Hart (Athlete, Track & Field); Sandy Townsend (Coach, Rugby); and Grace Wong (Athlete, Table Tennis). An invitation was extended to all for the 11th Annual Induction Celebration Evening on November 7, 2024, at Aurora Town Square.

Committee of the Whole received the presentation for information.

### **5.2 Melanie Osmond, Southlake Foundation; Re: Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake - Mayors Challenge Trophy Presentation**

Melanie Osmond, accompanied by Patricia McLaughlin, Director of Events and Community Partnerships, and Brian North, resident and Chair of the

Run committee, recognized the ongoing fundraising efforts of Team Aurora with appreciation and presented the Mayor and Council with the Run for Southlake Mayor's Challenge trophy.

Committee of the Whole received the presentation for information.

## **6. Delegations**

### **6.1 Geoffrey Dawe, Co-President, Aurora Historical Society; Re: Item 9.2 - CMS24-021 - Aurora Historical Society - Hillary House Considerations**

Geoffrey Dawe spoke in support of the staff report, noting the challenges of maintaining Hillary House, and presented the financial forecast, an updated condition assessment, and motion put forward by the Aurora Historical Society Board.

Committee of the Whole received and referred the comments of the delegation to item 9.2.

### **6.2 Alison Hughes, Resident; Re: Item 13.1 - OPS24-014 - Town Park Accessible Playground Update and Funding Increase**

Alison Hughes spoke in support of the staff report and proposed revised budget, provided background on personal experience and accessibility advocacy, and requested that a swing designed specifically for wheelchair users be included in the Park.

Committee of the Whole received and referred the comments of the delegation to item 13.1

## **7. Consent Agenda**

None.

## **8. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

### **Committee of the Whole recommends:**

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

**Carried**

**8.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2024**

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

**Carried**

**8.2 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024**

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024, be received for information.

**Carried**

**8.3 Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2024**

1. That the Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2024, be received for information.

**Carried**

**8.4 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2024**

1. That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2024, be received for information.

**Carried**

**9. Community Services Committee Agenda**

**9.1 CMS24-023 - Sport Plan Update - No. 5**

Hailey Jones, Sport and Community Development Specialist, presented an update on the Sport Plan and initiatives including: Recreation and Healthy Active Living Leadership Course; Women in Sport Weekend; Ontario Women's Lacrosse Partnership; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (D.E.I.) Workshops; and upcoming Sport Plan initiatives.

**Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. CMS24-023 be received for information.

**Carried**

**9.2 CMS24-021 - Aurora Historical Society - Hillary House Considerations**

**Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. CMS24-021 be received; and
2. That the Town consult with the Aurora Historical Society and its members to receive their input on the future of Hillary House; and
3. That the Town and the Aurora Historical Society together host public consultations on the future of Hillary House; and
4. That staff report back to Council following these consultations with recommendations on the Hillary House.

**Carried**

**10. Corporate Services Committee Agenda**

None.

**11. Finance and Information Technology Committee Agenda**

**11.1 FIN24-025 - 2023 Year End Investment Report and Annual Policy Review**

Item 11.1 was considered following consideration of item 14.1.

**Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. FIN24-025 be received; and
2. That Council re-affirms their approval of the Investment Policy Statement.

**Carried**

**12. Administration Committee Agenda**

None.

**13. Operational Services Committee Agenda**

**13.1 OPS24-014 - Town Park Accessible Playground Update and Funding Increase**

**Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. OPS24-014 be received; and

2. That the total budget authority for Project No. AM0356 – Playground Replacement (Fully Accessible) – Town Park be increased to \$532,000 representing an increase of \$132,000 to be funded from the Parks AM Reserve be approved; and
3. That the total budget authority for Project No. AM0357 – Splash Pad Surface Upgrade – Town Park be increased to \$90,700 representing an increase of \$15,700 to be funded from the Parks AM Reserve be approved.

**Carried**

#### **14. Planning and Development Services Committee Agenda**

##### **14.1 PDS24-064 - 2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan**

Item 14.1 was considered following consideration of item 9.2.

Patrick Darby, Energy & Carbon Team Manager, Partner, Walter Fedy Inc., presented an overview of the project and goals including: targets; overall energy use and GHG emissions; GHG reduction plan, recommendations, and results; costs; and progress toward goals.

##### **Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS24-064 be received; and
2. That Council endorse the 2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan (ECDMP) and the recommendations contained in the 2024 ECDMP.

**Carried**

##### **14.2 PDS24-060 - Results of Consultation with Owners Regarding Heritage Designation**

##### **Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS24-060 be received; and
2. That, at minimum, the eight properties whose owners indicated support for heritage designation (listed under Attachment #1) be designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

- 71 Connaught Avenue, 15 Kennedy Street West, 19 Kennedy Street West, 29 Kennedy Street West, 77 Spruce Street, 80 Spruce Street, 139 Temperance Street, and 59 Tyler Street;
3. That staff be authorized to publish and serve Council's Notice of Intention to Designate the respective properties Council chooses to pursue for designation in accordance with the requirements of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and
  4. That the respective designation by-laws be brought before Council for adoption if no objections are received as per the requirements of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**Carried**

**14.3 PDS24-061 - Draft Affordable Housing Action Plan**

**Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS24-061 be received; and
2. That the draft Affordable Housing Action Plan (Attachment #1) be consulted upon with the public and other stakeholders prior to a finalized version being brought back to Council for endorsement.

**Carried**

**14.4 PDS24-062 - George Street Parkland Acquisition Next Steps - Demolition, Zoning, Park Design Consultation**

**Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That Report No. PDS24-062 be received; and
2. That staff be directed to proceed with the process to demolish the building and prepare the site for development; and
3. That a new capital project with total budget authority of \$415,800 be approved, to be funded from the Proceeds from Land Sales reserve; and
4. That staff be directed to begin the public consultation process for the design of the park and report back to Council; and

5. That staff be directed to proceed with the process to rezone the George Street property as outlined herein.

**Carried**

## **15. Member Motions**

### **15.1 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Supporting Affordable Housing Options Leslie Corridor**

#### **Motion to defer**

That Member Motion - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Supporting Affordable Housing Options Leslie Corridor be deferred to the Council meeting of June 25, 2024.

**Carried**

## **16. Regional Report**

### **16.1 York Regional Council Highlights of May 23, 2024**

#### **Committee of the Whole recommends:**

1. That the York Regional Council Highlights of May 23, 2024, be received for information.

**Carried**

## **17. New Business**

Councillor Gaertner commented on the need to enforce the Town's Fireworks By-law, noting that numerous complaints have been received.

Councillor Weese commented on the need to establish community safety zones in all school areas, and staff provided a response.

## **18. Public Service Announcements**

Mayor Mrakas announced the following upcoming activities and events:

- The Town is looking for Indigenous artists, horticulturalists, and passionate volunteers to contribute to three distinct features of the new John Abel Park;



for more information and to submit your expression of interest, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/JohnAbelPark\*\*](https://aurora.ca/JohnAbelPark).

- June is Recreation and Parks Month; for more details on special events and activities, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/JRPM\*\*](https://aurora.ca/JRPM).
- A Community Garage Sale will be held Saturday, June 15, 2024, at the Aurora Community Centre parking lot from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; for more information, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/GarageSale\*\*](https://aurora.ca/GarageSale).
- Aurora's Performing Arts Festival will be held Saturday, June 15, 2024, at Town Park; for more details, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/ArtsFestival\*\*](https://aurora.ca/ArtsFestival).
- June is National Indigenous People's Month and celebrations will be held Saturday, June 22, 2024, at Town Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; for more information, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/IndigenousPeoples\*\*](https://aurora.ca/IndigenousPeoples).
- June is Pride Month and on May 31, 2024, the Town officially proclaimed Pride Month in Aurora and raised the Pride flag at Town Hall, and the Town will be participating in the York Pride Parade on June 15, 2024, in the Town of Newmarket.
- The inaugural "Aurora Pride Luau", a vibrant celebration of LGBTQ2S+ pride and community spirit will be held Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; for more information, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/SportWorkshops\*\*](https://aurora.ca/SportWorkshops).
- Aurora's Canada Day celebrations will include Dance in the Park on June 30, 2024, the annual Canada Day Parade on July 1 followed by festivities at Lambert Willson Park and fireworks at 10 p.m.; for more details, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/CanadaDay\*\*](https://aurora.ca/CanadaDay).
- Residents are encouraged to explore Aurora and join Cycle Aurora for weekly bike challenges and prizes from July 1 to September 1, 2024; for more details, visit [\*\*aurora.ca/CycleAurora\*\*](https://aurora.ca/CycleAurora).

## 19. Closed Session

None.

**20. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m.