



**Town of Aurora
Council
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

Council Members: Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)
Councillor Ron Weese
Councillor Rachel Gilliland* (arrived 7:03 p.m.)
Councillor Wendy Gaertner
Councillor Michael Thompson
Councillor John Gallo
Councillor Harold Kim

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
Adam Robb, Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

*Attended electronically

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 Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

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

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

Absent (1): Councillor Gilliland

**On a two-thirds majority vote the motion
Carried (6 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 Stephen Forsey, Director, Sport Aurora; Re: Sport Aurora and Community Programs 2024

Stephen Forsey provided an overview of the 19-year history of Sport Aurora and their ongoing community programs and involvement, and expressed appreciation for the Town's financial support through community partnership grants.

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the presentation be received for information.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

5.2 Mayor Mrakas; Re: 2024 Citizen of the Year Presentation

Mayor Mrakas presented the 2024 Citizen of the Year Award to local resident and business owner Vern Cunningham, noting his numerous volunteer efforts and accomplishments.

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Weese

That the presentation be received.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

6. Delegations

6.1 Tom Hashem, Resident; Re: Item 8.7.4 - PDS24-062 - George Street Parkland Acquisition Next Steps - Demolition, Zoning, Park Design Consultation

Tom Hashem provided background and suggested that the George Street Public School's gymnasium be exempted from the proposed demolition and be made available for public use along with a portion of the land area.

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Weese

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.7.4.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

6.2 David Heard, Resident; Re: Item 8.7.2 - PDS24-060 - Results of Consultation with Owners Regarding Heritage Designation

David Heard presented an overview of the historical significance of Joseph Fleury and family and their Fleury plows, and requested that the former Fleury Implement Works property on Wellington Street West be included on the list of properties to be designated.

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.7.2.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

6.3 Christopher Watts, The Aurora Heritage Authority; Re: Item 8.7.2 - PDS24-060 - Results of Consultation with Owners Regarding Heritage Designation

Christopher Watts presented background and a proposal to honour the historical prominence and significance of the property known as Knowles Butcher Shop at 9 Wellington Street East, and requested that this property be included on the list of properties to be designated.

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.7.2.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

7. Consent Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the Consent Agenda, items 7.1 to 7.9 inclusive, be approved.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

7.1 Council Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2024

1. That the Council meeting minutes of May 28, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.2 Council Closed Session Minutes of May 28, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Minutes of May 28, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.3 Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.4 Council Closed Session Minutes of June 4, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Minutes of June 4, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.5 Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.6 Council Closed Session Minutes of June 18, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Minutes of June 18, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.7 Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.8 Memorandum from Councillor Thompson; Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of April 26 and May 24, 2024

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of April 26 and May 24, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

7.9 Council Workshop/Education Session Minutes of June 18, 2024

1. That the Council Workshop/Education Session Minutes of June 18, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of June 4, 2024

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of June 4, 2024, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.7.1, 8.7.2, 8.7.3, and 8.7.4, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

8.1 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

8.1.1 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

8.1.2 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

8.1.3 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

8.1.4 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

8.2 Community Services Committee Agenda

8.2.1 CMS24-023 - Sport Plan Update - No. 5

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

Carried

8.2.2 CMS24-021 - Aurora Historical Society - Hillary House Considerations

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

8.3 Corporate Services Committee Agenda

None.

8.4 Finance and Information Technology Committee Agenda

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

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

Carried

8.5 Administration Committee Agenda

None.

8.6 Operational Services Committee Agenda

8.6.1 OPS24-014 - Town Park Accessible Playground Update and Funding Increase

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

8.7 Planning and Development Services Committee Agenda

8.7.1 PDS24-064 - 2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan

Moved by Councillor Gaertner
Seconded by Councillor Gallo

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.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

8.7.2 PDS24-060 - Results of Consultation with Owners Regarding Heritage Designation

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

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*.
 - o 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*.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

8.7.3 PDS24-061 - Draft Affordable Housing Action Plan

Moved by Councillor Weese
Seconded by Councillor Gallo

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.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

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

Council consented to vote on each clause separately.

Moved by Councillor Gilliland
Seconded by Councillor Weese

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.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Clause one
Carried (7 to 0)

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

Nays (1): Councillor Gaertner

**Clause two
Carried (6 to 1)**

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

Nays (1): Councillor Gaertner

**Clause three
Carried (6 to 1)**

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

**Clause four
Carried (7 to 0)**

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

Nays (1): Councillor Gaertner

**Clause five
Carried (6 to 1)**

8.8 Member Motions

None.

8.9 Regional Report

8.9.1 York Regional Council Highlights of May 23, 2024

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

Carried

9. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

9.1 Member Motion - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Supporting Affordable Housing Options Leslie Corridor

The Member Motion was withdrawn.

9.2 FIN24-035 - Required Bill 185 Amendments to the Development Charges Study and By-law

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Weese

1. That Report No. FIN24-035 be received; and
2. That no public meetings are required under section 12 of the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, and
3. That the updated development charge calculations be adopted; and
4. That the proposed amending Development Charges By-law be enacted on June 25, 2024.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

10. New Business

Councillor Gaertner remarked on the upcoming Canada Day long weekend and concerns regarding fireworks displays, and advised that complaints may be submitted through the after-hours call centre at 905-727-3123 or via email to bdepartment@aurora.ca.

Councillor Gaertner expressed appreciation to residents Wendy Kenyon and George Skoulikas for their years of successful efforts toward protecting the Henderson Forest.

Councillor Gaertner noted that Canada Day can be a traumatic time for our First Nations community.

Councillor Weese and Councillor Gilliland inquired about the progress and timing of future updates on the York Housing application and a suitable location for the men's transitional shelter, and staff provided a response.

Councillor Weese commented on resident concerns about safety and playgrounds in the Aurora Heights neighbourhood, and inquired about joint use

opportunities with the school board. Staff agreed to discuss this matter further with the Councillor.

Councillor Gilliland requested an update on resident concerns about young persons trespassing on the George Street Public School property, and staff provided a response.

11. By-laws

11.1 By-law Number 6613-24 - Being a By-law to declare as surplus and sell municipal lands (south side of Mosley Street).

11.2 By-law Number 6614-24 - Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 6592-24, to establish development charges for the Town of Aurora.

11.3 By-law Number 6615-24 - Being a By-law to appoint a Deputy Clerk and to delegate certain authority to the Deputy Clerk on behalf of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora.

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the By-laws, items 11.1 to 11.3 inclusive, be enacted.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

12. Closed Session

None.

13. Confirming By-law

13.1 By-law Number 6616-24 - Being a By-law to confirm actions by Council resulting from a Council meeting on June 25, 2024

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the confirming by-law be enacted.

Carried

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Weese
Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Carried

Tom Mrakas, Mayor

Michael de Rond, Town Clerk