



**Town of Aurora  
Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2026  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

**Council Members:** Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)  
Councillor Ron Weese  
Councillor Rachel Gilliland  
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/Deputy Clerk  
Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services\*  
Kyle Stitt, Manager, Facilities Management  
Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services  
Sara Tienkamp, Director, Operational Services  
Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance  
Carley Smith, Manager, Corporate Communications  
Anne Kantharajah, Town Clerk  
Julia Shipcott, Council/Committee Coordinator

\*Attended electronically

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**1. Call to Order**

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

Council consented to recess the meeting at 8:53 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:03 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 Weese

**Seconded by** Councillor Thompson

That the revised agenda as circulated by Legislative Services including the addition of Delegations items 6.3 and 6.4, be approved.

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

**On a two-thirds majority vote the motion  
Carried (7 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**

None.

**6. Delegations**

**6.1 Shawn Deane, Resident; Re: Item 8.3.1-Community Reflection Space Concept Plan**

Shawn Deane spoke to concerns regarding governance, oversight and transparency with respect to the need for repairs and request for additional funds to refurbish Victoria Hall.

**Main Motion**

**Moved by** Councillor Gaertner

**Seconded by** Councillor Kim

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.3.1.

**Amendment**

**Moved by** Councillor Weese

**Seconded by** Councillor Gallo

That the rules of procedure be waived to permit the addition of the following amendment:

'...and item 8.3.2.'

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**Main Motion as amended**

**Moved by** Councillor Gaertner

**Seconded by** Councillor Kim

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.3.1 and item 8.3.2.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**6.2 John Hartman, Resident; Re: Item 8.3.2-Victoria Hall Refurbishment Funding Increase**

John Hartman expressed gratitude to staff snow-removal teams, and spoke to concerns with transparency and disclosure regarding the Victoria Hall refurbishment funding increase request.

**Moved by** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded by** Councillor Kim

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.3.2.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**6.3 Linda Duringer, Resident; Re: Item 8.3.2-Victoria Hall Refurbishment Funding Increase**

Linda Duringer spoke to concerns regarding the potential impact on neighbouring residents with regard to Victoria Hall's proposed renovations, long-term use, parking, noise, traffic, garbage, lighting and operating hours. Linda commented on the cost per square foot as compared to industry standards, queried how costs may be recouped via rental fees, and provided feedback on its preferred usage remaining as a community space.

**Moved by** Councillor Gilliland  
**Seconded by** Councillor Weese

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.3.2.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**6.4 Leta Dayfoot, Resident; Re: Item 8.3.2-Victoria Hall Refurbishment Funding Increase**

Leta Dayfoot spoke to the heritage and history of Victoria Hall and hoped that its legacy might continue as a hub for community and social programming, and suggested additional reserve funds may be used to enhance other heritage projects.

**Moved by** Councillor Kim  
**Seconded by** Councillor Gallo

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to item 8.3.2.

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 Gilliland  
**Seconded by** Councillor Kim

That the Consent Agenda, items 7.1 to 7.3 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 January 27, 2026**

1. That the Council Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**7.2 Council Closed Session Minutes of January 27, 2026 (confidential attachment)**

1. That the Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**7.3 Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026**

1. That the Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of February 10, 2026**

**Moved by** Councillor Kim  
**Seconded by** Councillor Gallo

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of February 10, 2026 be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.3.1, 8.3.2, 8.5.2, 8.8.1, 8.8.2 and 8.9.1, 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 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2026**

1. That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2026, be received for information.

**Carried**

**8.1.2 Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2026**

1. That the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2026, be received for information.

**Carried**

**8.1.3 Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2026**

1. That the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2026, 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 January 23, 2026**

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of January 23, 2026, be received for information.

**Carried**

**8.2.2 Correspondence from Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; Re: Minimizing Salt Pollution in our Watersheds with Limited Liability Legislation**

1. That the Correspondence from Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, regarding Minimizing Salt Pollution in our Watersheds with Limited Liability Legislation be received; and

2. That Aurora Town Council support the resolution adopted by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority regarding the development of enforceable and provincially recognized contractor training and certification, and a single set of provincially endorsed standard best management practices for snow and ice management.

**Carried**

### **8.3 Community Services Committee Agenda**

#### **8.3.1 CMS26-003 - Community Reflection Space Concept Plan**

**Moved by Councillor Weese**

**Seconded by Councillor Kim**

1. That Report No. CMS26-003 be received; and
2. That the design for the Community Reflection Space be approved.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

#### **8.3.2 CMS26-002 - Victoria Hall Refurbishment Funding Increase**

**Main Motion**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Weese**

1. That Report No. CMS26-002 be received for information.

**Amendment**

**Moved by Councillor Kim**

**Seconded by Councillor Thompson**

That the main motion be amended to include the following clauses:

1. That capital project number AM0259 - Victoria Hall Refurbishment budget authority be increased by \$1,682,000 to a total of \$2,182,000; and

2. That this project's total revised budget authority of \$2,182,000 be funded by \$500,000 and \$1,682,000 from the Facility Asset Management and Growth & New reserves, respectively; and
3. That Council delegate authority to the Department Head, in accordance with the Procurement By-law, to approve a Non-Standard Procurement for consulting services greater than \$250,000, if required.

Yeas (4): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Kim

Nays (3): Councillor Weese, Councillor Gaertner, and Councillor Gallo

**Carried (4 to 3)**

**Main Motion as amended**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Weese**

1. That Report No. CMS26-002 be received; and
2. That capital project number AM0259 - Victoria Hall Refurbishment budget authority be increased by \$1,682,000 to a total of \$2,182,000; and
3. That this project's total revised budget authority of \$2,182,000 be funded by \$500,000 and \$1,682,000 from the Facility Asset Management and Growth & New reserves, respectively; and
4. That Council delegate authority to the Department Head, in accordance with the Procurement By-law, to approve a Non-Standard Procurement for consulting services greater than \$250,000, if required.

Yeas (4): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Kim

Nays (3): Councillor Weese, Councillor Gaertner, and Councillor Gallo

**Carried as amended (4 to 3)**

**8.4 Corporate Services Committee Agenda**

**8.4.1 CS26-003 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Plan Status Report**

1. That Report No. CS26-003 be received for information.

**Carried**

**8.4.2 CS26-005 - Third Party Consultant Contractual Release**

1. That Report No. CS26-005 be received; and
2. That staff implement the framework to release third-party consulting reports, studies or analyses as set out in this report.

**Carried**

**8.5 Finance and Information Technology Committee Agenda**

**8.5.1 FIN26-004 - 2026 Investment Policy Review**

1. That Report No. FIN26-004 be received; and
2. That Council approve the updated Investment Policy Statement.

**Carried**

**8.5.2 FIN26-006 - Procurement Amendments Report and Bylaw**

**Main Motion**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Weese**

1. That Report No. FIN26-006 be received for information; and
2. That the necessary by-law to replace Appendix "A" of the Town's Procurement By-law No. 6404-22, as amended, with an updated policy reflecting the amendments outlined in this report be enacted at a future Council meeting.

**Amendment 1**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Weese**

That the main motion be amended by adding the following clause(s):

1. That Schedule D – Threshold and Authorization Schedule, Table 2 – Non-Standard Procurement, be amended to require Council approval for Piggyback Procurements with a Procurement Value equal to or greater than \$500,000; and
2. That Piggyback Procurements with a Procurement Value up to \$500,000 may be authorized by the Procurement Governance Committee (PGC) in accordance with the Procurement By-law.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

#### **Amendment 2**

**Moved by** Councillor Gallo

**Seconded by** Councillor Gaertner

That the main motion be amended by adding the following clause(s):

1. That staff be directed to revise Schedule B – Non-Standard Procurements to include objective definitions and criteria for the following justification categories:
  - a. “Significant inconvenience”; and
  - b. “Substantial duplication of costs”; and
  - c. “Best interest of the Town”; and
2. And that such criteria require written justification to be retained.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

#### **Amendment 3**

**Moved by** Councillor Gallo

**Seconded by** Councillor Weese

That the main motion be amended by adding the following clause(s):

1. That Schedule E – Exclusions to the Procurement By-law be amended to remove the following proposed exclusions:
  - a. Advertising for Town services or programs; and
  - b. Goods or services for public relations, media, and social media monitoring; and
  - c. Trade show registration, booth rentals, and event sponsorship; and
2. And that such goods and services remain subject to the standard procurement requirements, thresholds, and approval authorities established under the Town's Procurement By-law.

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

Carried (7 to 0)

**Main Motion as amended**

**Moved by** Councillor Gallo

**Seconded by** Councillor Weese

1. That Report No. FIN26-006 be received; and
2. That the necessary by-law to replace Appendix "A" of the Town's Procurement By-law No. 6404-22, as amended, with an updated policy reflecting the amendments outlined in this report be enacted at a future Council meeting; and
3. **That Schedule D – Threshold and Authorization Schedule, Table 2 – Non-Standard Procurement, be amended to require Council approval for Piggyback Procurements with a Procurement Value equal to or greater than \$500,000; and**
4. **That Piggyback Procurements with a Procurement Value up to \$500,000 may be authorized by the Procurement Governance**

Committee (PGC) in accordance with the Procurement By-law;  
and

5. That staff be directed to revise Schedule B – Non-Standard Procurements to include objective definitions and criteria for the following justification categories:
  - a. “Significant inconvenience”; and
  - b. “Substantial duplication of costs”; and
  - c. “Best interest of the Town”; and
6. And that such criteria require written justification to be retained;  
and
7. That Schedule E – Exclusions to the Procurement By-law be amended to remove the following proposed exclusions:
  - a. Advertising for Town services or programs; and
  - b. Goods or services for public relations, media, and social media monitoring; and
  - c. Trade show registration, booth rentals, and event sponsorship; and
8. And that such goods and services remain subject to the standard procurement requirements, thresholds, and approval authorities established under the Town’s Procurement By-law.

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

Carried as amended (7 to 0)

**8.6 Administration Committee Agenda**

None.

**8.7 Operational Services Committee Agenda**

None.

**8.8 Planning and Development Services Committee Agenda**

**8.8.1 PDS26-009 - Traffic Calming Requests on Limeridge Street and Gateway Drive - Update**

**Main Motion**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Gaertner**

1. That Report No. PDS26-009 be received for information.

**Amendment**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Gaertner**

That the main motion be amended by adding the following clause(s):

1. That Council recognize and support the recommendations and agreement of the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, as reflected in its January 28, 2026 meeting minutes, which advised that traffic calming measures should be considered along the entire length of Gateway Drive to improve roadway safety; and
2. That staff be directed to proceed with the installation of traffic calming speed cushions on the south leg of Gateway Drive; and
3. That staff be directed to implement traffic calming speed cushions on the north leg of Gateway Drive, subject to the completion of a successful traffic calming petition in accordance with the Town's Traffic Calming Policy; and
4. That staff report back to Council with implementation timing and funding requirements.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**Main Motion as amended**

**Moved by Councillor Gallo**

**Seconded by Councillor Gaertner**

1. That Report No. PDS26-009 be received; and
2. That Council recognize and support the recommendations and agreement of the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, as reflected in its January 28, 2026 meeting minutes, which advised that traffic calming measures should be considered along the entire length of Gateway Drive to improve roadway safety; and
3. That staff be directed to proceed with the installation of traffic calming speed cushions on the south leg of Gateway Drive; and
4. That staff be directed to implement traffic calming speed cushions on the north leg of Gateway Drive, subject to the completion of a successful traffic calming petition in accordance with the Town's Traffic Calming Policy; and
5. That staff report back to Council with implementation timing and funding requirements.

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

Carried as amended (7 to 0)

**8.8.2 PDS26-010 - Heritage Grant Application HGP-2025-01 – 220 Old Yonge Street**

**Moved by** Councillor Gaertner  
**Seconded by** Councillor Weese

1. That Report No. PDS26-010 be received; and
2. That Heritage Grant Application HGP-2025-01 for 220 Old Yonge Street be approved with grant funding of \$10,000.

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

Carried (7 to 0)

**8.8.3 PDS26-011 - Heritage Grant Application HGP-2025-02 – 57 Fleury Street**

1. That Report No. PDS26-011 be received; and
2. That Heritage Grant Application HGP-2025-02 for 57 Fleury Street be approved with grant funding of \$5,000.

**Carried**

## **8.9 Member Motions**

### **8.9.1 Councillor Weese; Re: Reduction of Commercial Stormwater Charges for St. Andrews Shopping Centre**

Whereas the Town of Aurora levies commercial fixed-rate stormwater charges to recover costs associated with stormwater management and related infrastructure; and

Whereas the stormwater charged is a fixed commercial rate which is charged on each water account, and tenants of the St. Andrews Shopping Centre have individual water accounts; and

Whereas tenants of the St. Andrews Shopping Centre have raised concerns that existing commercial stormwater fixed rate charges create a disproportionate financial burden on small and medium-sized local businesses as they pay the same as larger businesses, particularly in the context of rising operating costs; and

Whereas the St. Andrews Shopping Centre is a unique and long-established commercial hub within the Town of Aurora that provides essential goods, services, and employment opportunities to the community; and

Whereas municipal stormwater billing structures can be reviewed and adjusted through Council policy direction where unique site-specific or economic circumstances exist; and

Whereas Council has an interest in supporting the sustainability and economic vitality of local commercial tenants while maintaining fiscal responsibility and cost recovery principles for municipal services;

**Moved by** Councillor Gaertner

**Seconded by** Councillor Weese

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff be directed to prepare a report for Council's consideration that:
  - a. Reviews the current commercial stormwater charges applied to tenants of the St. Andrews Shopping Centre; and
  - b. Analyzes options to reduce or eliminate such charges, including but not limited to alternative billing structures, exemptions, rebates, or cost-sharing arrangements; and
  - c. Assesses the financial, operational, and legal implications of any proposed changes, including impacts on the Town's stormwater rate-supported budget; and
  - d. Considers whether similar relief measures may apply to other comparable commercial plazas or tenant configurations within Aurora; and
  - e. Provides recommendations, implementation timelines, and any required policy or by-law amendments for Council's consideration.

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

**Carried (7 to 0)**

**9. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)**

None.

**10. New Business**

Councillor Thompson inquired about communication plans staff may have for the Yonge Street South Public Open House, occurring on Monday, March 23, 2026 from 6-8 p.m., and staff provided a response.

Councillor Weese expressed sorrow for human and economic losses experienced over the four years of Russian aggression against the Ukraine and offered prayers for peace.

Councillor Gallo acknowledged the Operational Services Department on their prompt and helpful snow-clearing efforts this season.

Councillor Gaertner echoed thanks and congratulations to the Operational Services Department for their tireless efforts at snow-clearing. Additionally, Councillor Gaertner acknowledged the human loss of the Russian aggression.

Mayor Mrakas spoke to the unjust war in the Ukraine, and suggested the solidarity walk and Town Park flag-raising event that occurred at its outbreak be revisited. Additionally, Mayor Mrakas shared appreciation for the Operational Services Department, referencing an eye-opening ride-along with plow operators.

## 11. By-laws

11.1 By-law Number 6763-26 - Being a By-law to appoint a Clerk

11.2 By-law Number 6764-26 - Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 6000-17, as amended, respecting the lands municipally known as 115 George Street (File No. ZBA-2024-07)

11.3 By-law Number 6765-26 - Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 6000-17, as amended, respecting the lands municipally known as 180 Wellington Street East, to remove a holding symbol "H" (File No. ZBA(H)-2025-01)

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

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 6766-26 - Being a By-law to confirm actions by Council resulting from a Council meeting on February 24, 2026

**Moved by** Councillor Weese  
**Seconded by** Councillor Kim

That the confirming by-law be enacted.

**Carried**

**14. Adjournment**

**Moved by** Councillor Gaertner  
**Seconded by** Councillor Gilliland

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

**Carried**

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Tom Mrakas, Mayor

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Patricia De Sario, Deputy Clerk