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Town of Aurora

Motion

Notice given Sep 22, 2020

Re: Environmental Advisory Committee

To: Members of Council

From: Councillor Rachel Gilliland and Mayor Tom Mrakas

Date: September 29, 2020

Whereas the Town of Aurora declared a Climate Emergency for the purposes of naming and deepening our commitment to protecting our eco systems by identifying key criteria to help reduce our carbon footprint and protect our community from the impacts of climate change; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora is prioritizing the process of creating a Climate Action Plan for the Town of Aurora, focused on reducing emissions and adaptation at the community level; and

Whereas staff have been directed by Council to look for opportunities for economic growth, stimulation in the low-carbon economy, and cost benefits for all who consume energy; and

Whereas local governments around the world have recognized the extreme emergency that climate change embodies and have expedited their own actions, and have called on provincial and national governments to strengthen action on climate change; and

Whereas the Town would benefit from a dedicated committee to address environmental and climate adaptation at a community level to discuss ongoing climate change, protections, energy conservation, education, environmental matters and contribute comments to the Climate Action Plan and Community Energy Plan; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora is committed to taking meaningful action to address the environment and climate change in Aurora;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That a dedicated “Environmental Advisory Committee” be re-established to address ongoing climate change and adaptation initiatives, energy conservation, environmental matters and contribute comments to the Climate Action Plan; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That the “Environmental Advisory Committee” be comprised of one (1) member of Council and five (5) citizen members; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That staff be directed to advertise, in accordance with the provisions of the “Policy for Ad Hoc/Advisory Committees and Local Boards”, for applications from members of the public for appointment to the “Environmental Advisory Committee”; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to appoint one appropriate staff liaison to support the work of the “Environmental Advisory Committee”; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That the terms of reference for the Community Advisory Committee be amended to remove the mandate for environmental initiatives.