



Committee Report

Sustainability Advisory Committee Report

Meeting Date: September 9, 2020
Meeting Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

Sustainability Advisory Committee Recommendations

NOTE: The following are recommendations from the Sustainability Advisory Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(September 9, 2020\)](#)

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT Council of The Town of The Blue Mountains receives Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes dated September 9, 2020, as attached, for information purposes.



Minutes

Sustainability Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: September 9, 2020
Meeting Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers
Prepared by: Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

A. Call to Order

Co-Chairs Councillor Andrea Matrosovs and Ken Mehi called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m. with Committee members Rosemary Mesley, Deputy Mayor Rob Potter, Andrew Siegwart, and Pamela Spence present.

Town staff present were Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets Sam Dinsmore, Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeffery Fletcher, and Director of Operations Shawn Carey.

- **Traditional Territory Acknowledgement**
- **Committee Member Attendance**
- **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Rob Potter

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT the Agenda of September 9, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 UN Habitat Summit

Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Potter, Rob	Yay
Siegwart, Andrew	Yay
Spence, Pamela	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay
Mehi, Ken	Yay

The motion is Carried.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, Sustainability Advisory Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

▪ **Previous Minutes (August 12, 2020)**

Moved by: Pamela Spence

Seconded by: Ken Mehi

THAT the Minutes of August 12, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Mesley, Rosemary Yay

Potter, Rob Yay

Siegwart, Andrew Yay

Spence, Pamela Yay

Matrosovs, Andrea Yay

Mehi, Ken Yay

The motion is Carried.

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

B.1 Deputations, if any

None

B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56 fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Sustainability Advisory Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair. Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

NOTE: Committee meetings are currently being held virtually to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

B.3 Staff Reports, if any

None

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1 2021 - 2023 Budget Memorandum – Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets Sam Dinsmore

Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeffery Fletcher reviewed the 2021 – 2023 Budget Memorandum with the Committee. Staff confirmed there is currently \$100,000 in the 2020 budget for the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, and \$75,000 in the 2021 budget.

Staff noted that several items, such as water bottle refilling stations, are included in Department budgets. Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets confirmed that the Sustainability Coordinator position approved by Council will be funded through the taxation budget and not the Committee budget.

Moved by: Rob Potter

Seconded by: Andrew Siegart

THAT the Sustainability Advisory Committee receives Item C.1 2021 – 2023 Budget Memorandum

Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Potter, Rob	Yay
Siegart, Andrew	Yay
Spence, Pamela	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay
Mehi, Ken	Yay

The motion is Carried.

C.2 Development Charges – Other Initiatives Sub-Committee Update – Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets Sam Dinsmore (verbal)

Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets Sam Dinsmore noted that a sub-committee was formed to develop a policy to determine what, if any, development charge credits can be considered if a development or individual home is being built with consideration for green/passive building guidelines.

Sam noted the key barrier to sub-committee progress is that the Development Charges By-law was appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (“LPAT”). This LPAT appeal process in turn, has been delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sam noted that while the LPAT appeal is ongoing, the sub-committee could still research the potential criteria for the policy, but the development charge component cannot be finalized. The sub-committee may decide to meet virtually for criteria research purposes only. Sam confirmed details of the appeal cannot be shared at this time.

Co-Chair Ken Mehi questioned the status of The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation Gateway Project, and whether development charges are being waived. Sam noted the Town’s Planning staff are undertaking a Community Improvement Plan which will consider whether credits are applicable for the Gateway Site. Sam further confirmed there are some legal constraints to be taken into account around development charge credits, and noted only Council can decide whether credits are applied. Sam confirmed that currently, the Attainable Housing Corporation will be levied development charges.

Committee member Pamela Spence requested clarity on the Community Improvement Plan. It was agreed that planning staff can attend the October Sustainability Committee meeting to provide additional information on this Plan.

Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets Sam Dinsmore left the meeting at 2:43 p.m.

C.3 Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Update – Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeffery Fletcher (verbal)

Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeffery Fletcher advised the Committee that there were many submissions for the ICSP with reputable firms providing proposals. Jeffery noted that Committee member Ken Mehi participated in the submission review and the evaluation team determined the successful proponent. Jeffery noted the Town is still in the agreement-signing stage of the ICSP and as such, the consultant cannot be disclosed at this time. Jeffery noted the successful firm was competitively priced, with a price submission of approximately \$98,000.

Ken thanked the Committee for appointing him to assist with submission review and noted he was pleased with how the process evolved.

The Committee requested that the consultant present at the October meeting, if appropriate, or alternatively, that staff provide a written overview of the firm’s timeline, key project deliverables and other relevant details for consideration at the meeting.

C.4 Rural Access to Broadband Internet Technology (RABIT) Task Force Information – Deputy Mayor Rob Potter (verbal)

Deputy Mayor Rob Potter noted the original Sustainable Path document, and the Red, Hot and Blue document both identify rural internet provision as a key priority for The Blue Mountains. Deputy Mayor Potter noted that despite this, very little work has been done to service the entire Town with high speed internet.

Deputy Mayor Potter confirmed Grey County partnered with Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (“SWIFT”) but the Town would like to supplement those efforts with the Rural Access to Broadband Internet Technology (“RABIT”) Task Force. The RABIT Task Force, composed of Deputy Mayor Potter, Councillor Sampson, and Mayor Soever is investigating ways to bring 50/10 broadband internet to rural areas of The Blue Mountains. Deputy Mayor Potter advised that a local firm, Bruce Street Technologies, approached the Town about providing a letter of support for its ICON application. Further, the Town is reviewing possible efficiencies by working with the apple growing community to install fiberoptic conduit at the same time as trenching for irrigation lines is undertaken.

Deputy Mayor Potter confirmed the Town is looking for collaboration options and noted the ICON program will have a second submission that other firms may be interested in applying for.

C.5 Alternate Economic Development Advisory Committee Appointee to Sustainability Advisory Committee

NOTE: At the August 21, 2020 Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting, the Economic Development Advisory Committee resolved as follows:

THAT the Economic Development Advisory Committee appoint Sarah Filion as the Alternate Economic Development Advisory Committee representative to the Sustainability Advisory Committee for the 2018-2022 Term of Council, Carried.

Councillor Matrosovs read the August 21, 2020 Economic Development Advisory Committee motion noted above.

C.6 Tree Preservation By-law Update, Councillor Andrea Matrosovs and Tree Canopy Sub-Committee Members (standing item)

Councillor Matrosovs noted she has no further update beyond what was previously discussed August 12, 2020.

C.7 Renewable Energy Working Group Update (verbal)

No update.

C.8 Sustainability Advisory Committee Action Items

- **Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Request for Proposal (Comprehensive Situational Assessment)**
- **Tree Preservation By-law Update**
- **Renewable Energy Working Group**
- **Sub-Committee regarding Policy for Development Charges – Other Initiatives**
- **Policy for Development Charges – Attainable Housing**
- **Single-Use Plastics Directives and Implementation**

D. Correspondence

**D.1 Matthew Morton
Re: Town Issues for Consideration and Action**

Provided by Council for information

The Committee reviewed the correspondence and received it but no formal motion was made.

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1 UN Habitat Summit

Councillor Matrosovs noted she, along with Committee member Pamela Spence, participated in a pilot project with Town of Collingwood, provided by the United Nations. Councillor Matrosovs advised the UN Habitat Summit used UN Sustainable Development Goals in a city prosperity initiative to measure how communities are able to meet sustainability needs.

Committee member Pamela Spence noted her appreciation to the Town of Collingwood for allowing participation in the UN Habitat Summit. Pamela noted her takeaway is the need for seamless boundaries between communities to maximize sustainability efforts.

Councillor Matrosovs provided the following resources from the Summit:

City Prosperity Initiative Brochure:

https://cpi.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/resources/CPI_Brochure.pdf

The Global Goals for Sustainable Development & City Prosperity Initiative:

<https://cpi.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/resources/CPI%20and%20SDGs.pdf>

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Community Improvement Plan Overview
- ICSP Consultant Presentation **or** Written Overview of Firm Timeline, Key Project Deliverables, etc.
- RABIT Task Force Progress Update
- Agricultural Advisory Committee Update – Rosemary Mesley
- Economic Development Advisory Committee Update – Andrew Siegart

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

October 14, 2020

Town Hall, Council Chambers

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Rosemary Mesley

Seconded by: Rob Potter

THAT the Sustainability Advisory Committee does now adjourn at 3:34 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair

Mesley, Rosemary Yay

Potter, Rob Yay

Siegwart, Andrew Yay

Spence, Pamela Yay

Matrosovs, Andrea Yay

Mehj, Ken Yay

The motion is Carried.