



Quality of Life Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 16, 2025, 4:30 p.m.

S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff
Councillor Andrew Foulds
Councillor Greg Johnsen
Councillor Kristen Oliver

Officials: Jeff Walters, Manager – Legislative Services & Deputy City Clerk
John Collin, City Manager
Kayla Dixon, Commissioner - Infrastructure & Operations
Keri Greaves, Commissioner - Corporate Services & City
Treasurer
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner - Growth
Kelly Robertson, Commissioner - Community Services
Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Dawne Latta, Deputy City Solicitor
Jason Sherband, Manager – Solid Waste & Recycling Services
Kristyn Lovato-Day, Policy & Research Analyst
Gordon Stover, Committee & Meeting Management System
Coordinator

1. Quality of Life Standing Committee in the S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium (Council Chambers)

Chair: Councillor Kristen Oliver

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Greg Johnsen provided a land acknowledgement.

3. Disclosures of Interest

4. Confirmation of Agenda

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to the Tuesday, December 16, 2025 Quality of Life Standing Committee meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

5.1 Food Action Network of Northwestern Ontario Update

Sarah Siska, Executive Director - Food Action Network of Northwestern Ontario and Sarah Jensen, Regional Food Systems Coordinator appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

5.2 Age Friendly Thunder Bay Update

Donna Nagy, Chair - Age Friendly Thunder Bay and Rachel Macsemchuk, Vice-Chair - Age Friendly Thunder Bay appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

6. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes of the Quality of Life Standing Committee, held on November 18, 2025, for information.

7. Reports of Administration

7.1 Update - Recycling Depot Operations

Report 356-2025 - Infrastructure & Operations - Environment seeking endorsement from the Quality of Life Standing Committee for City Council to include Recycling Depot Operations in the draft 2026 Operating Budget.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

WITH RESPECT to Report 356-2025-Infrastructure & Operations-Environment, we request endorsement of the Standing Committee for inclusion of Recycling Depot Operations in the draft 2026 Operating Budget for City Council's consideration;

AND THAT Administration continue to work with Circular Materials to confirm the continued operation of the City's 900 Walsh Street recycling depot or an alternate local site to meet their service level obligations under the Blue Box regulations;

AND THAT the City funds the operation of all three existing recycling depots until March 31, 2026 or until a decision is made by Circular Materials on the location of the required Producer operated depot;

AND THAT from April 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026 the City funds the operation of recycling depots at the Landfill Site and one of the two urban locations;

AND THAT Administration report back to Standing Committee by the end of March 31, 2026 on the status of recycling depot operations in the City, and provide an additional update by September 30, 2026 on the future of recycling depot operations in 2027 and beyond;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

7.2 Update – Animal Services Taskforce

Report 320-2025 - Corporate Services - Licensing & Enforcement seeking endorsement from the Quality of Life Standing Committee for City Council to approve the action plan as presented in the report.

Correspondence received from Valerie Mackett on December 11, 2025 requesting to appear before Committee was distributed separately on Friday, December 12, 2025.

Confidential Memorandum from Keri Greaves, Commissioner – Corporate Services & City Treasurer, dated December 10, 2025 was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager, City Solicitor and Commissioner – Corporate Services & City Treasurer only on Friday, December 12, 2025.

Valerie Mackett and David Mackett appeared before Committee, provided a deputation and responded to questions.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds
SECONDED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

WITH RESPECT to Report 320-2025-Corporate Services-Licensing & Enforcement, we request endorsement of the Standing Committee to forward the following recommendations to City Council:

WE RECOMMEND THAT the action plan be approved as presented within the report;

AND THAT the withdrawals of the Animal Control Donation Reserve be amended to "Programming for the health and care of animals in Thunder Bay;"

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.