



Ward Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 12, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre
700 River Street

1. McIntyre Ward Meeting 02-2024

Chair: Councillor Albert Aiello

2. Resource Persons

Flo-Ann Track, Council & Committee Clerk

3. Guests

Rebecca Johnson, Chair - Council Composition Review Committee
Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes - Thunder Bay Police Service

There were approximately 22 people in attendance.

4. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chair to provide introductory comments.

The Chair, Councillor Albert Aiello welcomed Administration, Guests, and those in attendance.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of meeting 01-2024 of the McIntyre Ward held on February 29, 2024 for information.

6. Council Composition

Rebecca Johnson, Chair - Council Composition Review Committee provided an overview relative to the Council Composition Review Committee's work completed to date and of the Committee's next steps.

The following information was shared:

- In June 2023, at the request of Council, a Report was presented, and a Resolution was passed to approve the Terms of Reference and start recruiting for the Council Composition Review Committee, ratified in July 2023.
- In September 2023 Council selected the Committee Members.

Phase 1:

- Committee first met in November 2023.
 - 5 representatives appointed by City Council
 - 1 representative appointed by The Chambers of Commerce
- Surveys were developed and launched online and in-person at pop-up locations across the city.
 - 659 surveys were completed online.
 - 43 surveys were completed at pop up locations and Public Meetings held at the Waverly Resource Library, and Brodie Resource Library.
 - 22 surveys were completed at an Indigenous Learning Circle.
 - upon review, it was determined that representation of respondents from all wards and age groups was received.
- All Members of City Council were interviewed.
- A Public Deputation meeting was held.
- Phase 1 Results will be presented to City Council on June 24, 2024.

Phase 2:

- September 2024 – review options and prepare the final survey questions.
- October 2024 - Final Public Engagement will commence. Like a ballot, individuals will be asked to vote on their preferred option.
- January/February 2025 – Results and Recommendation will be presented to Council.

Discussion was held relative to the above noted.

A Resident asked why is Council Composition being looked at now?

Rebecca Johnson provided the following information:

- Since Port Arthur and Fort William amalgamated, and 2 (two) rural areas were added, council composition has not been reviewed. The previous Council decided, based on feedback from the community, that it was time to review the council composition, and explore the options.

A Resident asked if an analysis has been done which shows that a smaller Council would be better for our community? What are the pros and cons? Is it cost that makes it better for the community?

Rebecca Johnson provided the following information:

- Municipal councils look different across the Province.
- The cost to the community is insignificant, there will not be a large savings even if Council is reduced by 2 Members.
- The community is asking for a smaller Council, all of the research to-date supports that this is what the community wants.

A Resident asked if the fall survey will be presented as a ranked ballot, for example: Choose 5 of the following options ranking them from your favourite to your least favourite?

Rebecca Johnson provided the following information:

- This option had not previously been considered by the Committee.
- This option will be shared with the Committee at the next meeting.

Rebecca Johnson provided the following information:

- The Public will be advised when the Survey and Public Engagement opportunities are available.

7. Thunder Bay Police Service

Crime Statistics - McIntyre Ward

Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes - Thunder Bay Police Service provided an overview of the crime statistics for the McIntyre Ward for the following 6-month period December 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024.

The following information was provided:

Occurrence Type	Count of Occurrences
Routine Traffic Stop	202

Person welfare check	142
Motor vehicle collision	95
Alarm	92
Domestic dispute	81
Unwanted person	69
Ambulance assistance	68
Police assistance	62
Assault	59
Family dispute	50
Traffic enforcement – H.T.A.	45
Mental Health Act	42
Attempt or threat of suicide	38
Liquor License Control Act	38
911 call/911 hang-up	36

Discussion was held relative to the above noted. Some of the items discussed were as follows:

- New Police Station:
 - currently using several satellite locations.
 - existing facility will require \$11M just to bring up to today's standards.
 - existing location is not large enough to build an expansion big enough to house current operations.
 - crime has changed since the 1990's, more resources and different resources are used/required.
- Would an RCMP Detachment/Entity help? What prevents RCMP, OPP, TBPS and NAPS from working together?

- Discussions are underway but no timeline is set.
- Services work together but it is based on jurisdiction.
- RCMP Manitoba West has a large presence in Thunder Bay - speciality service.
- OPP is Thunder Bay's biggest partner offering immediate response.
 - OPP Tactical Unit relieves TBPS at times.
- Truck Route
 - Thunder Bay Police are most visible on Dawson Road, as traffic data supports the probability that a fatal accident will occur in the area.
 - Due to the volume of traffic in the area, enforcement patrols are routine/frequent.
 - New technology is being utilized to assist enforcement.
 - The truck route is on the books, and it will help mitigate ongoing problems in the area, but a By-law is required to enforce. Council will be revisiting the By-law in the future.
 - Speed limit in the school zone on Dawson Rd. is high, there is no other school zone with a 70 km/hr speed limit.
 - MTO has been contacted, no action is expected as traffic volume does not warrant per/standards.
 - Signage in the area is poor creating bottle necks where transports are not meant to travel.
 - MTO has been contacted, no action is expected as traffic volume does not warrant per/standards.
 - Can flashing light standards, in advance of each intersection along the highway, be installed?
 - MTO has been contacted, no action is expected as traffic volume does not warrant per/standards.
- Mental Health Facility
 - Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee is lobbying the Government for a Mental Health Facility and resources.

- Officers remain with individual until they are admitted to hospital for mental health related occurrences.
 - the current process limits police resources available on shift to respond to other calls of service.
 - Former Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital is Provincially owned. The building is not habitable.

Drug Investigation Results

Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes - Thunder Bay Police Service provided an overview of Drug Investigation Results for the McIntyre Ward for the period from January 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024 as follows:

- Approximately 4 known drug houses.
- 3 Warrants executed/occurrences.
- 3 Home take-overs.
- 0 Firearms seized.
- 12 Overdoses reported to Thunder Bay Police Service.

Discussion was held relative to the above noted.

A Resident asked if money seized through drug related crimes stays in the community?

Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes provided the following information:

- Money seized through enforcement goes to the Crown then to the Province.
- A portion of the money comes back to the community through funding initiatives that require an application, civil remedy, for example "Guns and Gangs'.
- Money found is given to the Thunder Bay Police Service after a waiting period.

8. Infrastructure Project Update

The Chair provided an overview of the following Infrastructure Projects scheduled for the 2024 construction season:

Asphalt Rehabilitation – Streetlighting, Drainage & Sidewalk Removal

Wasco Drive

Asphalt Rehabilitation

Mapleward Road - Landfill to Oliver Rd

Onion Lake Road - North 1.3 km Section

Sidewalk Replacement

County Blvd - House #241 to Perth Cres.

Valleywood Cres. - Fassina Sreet to House #536

Pedestrian Crossover

Valley Street at Hutton Park Drive

Hot-In-Place Resurfacing

John Street Road - #1820 to Community Hall Road

Residential Resurfacing

Oxford Street - Oliver Road to Dead End

Surface Treatment

Alice Avenue - Melbourne Road to Wilen Road

9. Ward & City Issues

9.1 Central Library Location

A Resident asked why Council is considering a central library location?

The Chair provided the following information:

- it is cheaper to lease a space than to own buildings that require upgrades and regular maintenance.

9.2 Transportation of Nuclear Waste

A Resident asked if Council would lobby against the transport of Nuclear Waste through our community?

The Chair provided the following information:

- Council does not have control over what is transported over the highways.

- Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee has heard a deputation relative to the above noted.
 - A deputation is scheduled to be heard by City Council in September 2024.
- Communities accepting nuclear waste for storage stand to benefit financially.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.