



## Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

**Monday, October 21, 2024,  
McNaughton Room 4:31 p.m.**

### **1. Closed Session**

Present:

- Mayor Ken Boshcoff
- Councillor Rajni Agarwal
- Councillor Albert Aiello
- Councillor Mark Bentz
- Councillor Shelby Ch'ng
- Councillor Kasey Etreni
- Councillor Andrew Foulds
- Councillor Brian Hamilton
- Councillor Greg Johnsen
- Councillor Dominic Pasqualino
- Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials:

- Dana Earle, Deputy City Clerk
- John Collin, City Manager
- Patty Robinet, City Solicitor
- Brendan Hardick, Solicitor
- Kerri Marshall, General Manager - Infrastructure, Development & Operations

Chair: Councillor Andrew Foulds

### **2. Disclosures of Interest**

None.

### **3. Reports of Municipal Officers**

#### **3.1 Legal Matter - Litigation Update**

Report 2024CLS.004 (City Manager's Office-Legal Services) was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager and City Solicitor only.

Director - Environment Division Michelle Warywoda, Larry Theall and Christiann Jordaan, Theall Group LLP entered the meeting room via MS Teams.

City Solicitor Patty Robinet provided an overview.

Larry Theall and Christiann Jordaan provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

Patty Robinet responded to questions.

City Manager John Collin responded to questions.

Michelle Warywoda, Larry Theall and Christiann Jordaan left the meeting room.

### **3.2 Legal Matter - Temporary Village Initiatives**

Director of Engineer Kayla Dixon, General Manager - Corporate Services & City Treasurer Keri Greaves, Solicitor Michael Grimaldi, Director - Development Services Joel DePeuter, Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen, and Policy & Research Analyst Rilee Willianen entered the meeting room.

Confidential Memorandum dated October 17, 2024 from Solicitor Brendan Hardick was distributed separately to Members of Council, City Manager and City Solicitor only.

City Solicitor Patty Robinet provided an overview.

Solicitor Brendan Hardick provided an overview.

City Manager John Collin provided an overview and responded to questions.

Patty Robinet responded to questions.

Cynthia Olsen responded to questions.

Brendan Hardick responded to questions.

Michael Grimaldi responded to questions.

Rilee Willianen responded to questions.

## **4. Open Session (Planning Services)** **S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium 6:46 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Ken Boshcoff  
Councillor Rajni Agarwal  
Councillor Albert Aiello  
Councillor Mark Bentz

Councillor Shelby Ch'ng  
Councillor Kasey Etreni  
Councillor Andrew Foulds  
Councillor Brian Hamilton  
Councillor Greg Johnsen  
Councillor Kristen Oliver  
Councillor Dominic Pasqualino  
Councillor Michael Zussino

Officials:

Dana Earle, Deputy City Clerk  
John Collin, City Manager  
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor  
Brendan Hardick, Solicitor  
Keri Greaves, General Manager – Corporate Services & City Treasurer  
Kerri Marshall, General Manager - Infrastructure, Development & Operations  
Cynthia Olsen, Director – Strategy & Engagement  
Krista Power, Director - Legislative Services & City Clerk  
Kelly Robertson – General Manager – Community Services  
Cory Halvorsen, Manager – Parks & Open Spaces  
Rilee Willianen, Policy & Research Analyst  
Flo-Ann Track, Council & Committee Clerk

Chair: Councillor Andrew Foulds

**5. Disclosures of Interest**

None.

**6. Confirmation of Agenda**

MOVED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to the October 21, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

**7. Presentations**

**7.1 Growth Initiatives Update**

Memorandum dated October 10, 2024 from City Manager John Collin requesting an opportunity to provide a presentation.

City Manager John Collin appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

**8. Reports of Committees, Boards and Outside Agencies**

**8.1 Committee of Adjustment Minutes**

Minutes of meeting 07-2024 and 08-2024 of Committee of Adjustment, held on July 25, 2024 and August 29, 2024 respectively, for information.

**8.2 Lakehead Region Conservation Authority**

Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority meeting held on August 28, 2024, for information.

**9. Reports of Municipal Officers**

**9.1 Governance Process Changes - Preliminary Review**

Report 361-2024-City Manager's Office-Office of the City Clerk recommending that the work associated with implementing a new governance process, that modifies the Committee of the Whole structure and introduces a Standing Committee structure, continues.

Memorandum dated October 10, 2024 from Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power requesting an opportunity to provide a presentation.

Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Michael Zussino

WITH RESPECT to Report 361-2024-City Manager's Office-Office of the City Clerk, we recommend that the Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk be directed to continue the work associated with implementing a new governance process that modifies the Committee of the Whole structure and introduces a Standing Committee structure;

AND THAT a new procedural by-law be brought forward for approval on or before June 30, 2025 to take effect September 1, 2025;

AND THAT Item 2024-009-ADM Direction-Governance Process Changes Preliminary Review be removed from the outstanding list;

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

CARRIED

## **9.2 Chippewa Park C.W. Parker Carousel - New Building Enclosure Update**

Report 386-2024 Infrastructure, Development & Operations-Engineering & Operations recommending that up to \$234,868 from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund be used to fund the C.W. Parker Carousel Building Enclosure project.

Correspondence dated September 20, 2024 from Donna Gilhooly - Save Our Carousel Committee-The Friends of Chippewa Park, requesting an opportunity to provide a deputation relative to the construction of a protective structure for the Carousel and potential funding opportunities.

Iain Angus, Treasurer - The Friends of Chippewa Park appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions.

MOVED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

WITH RESPECT to Report 386-2024-Infrastructure, Development & Operations-Engineering & Operations, we recommend that up to \$234,868 from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund be used to fund the C.W. Parker Carousel Building Enclosure project;

AND THAT up to \$300,000 from the Municipal Accommodation Tax Reserve Fund be used to fund the C.W. Parker Carousel Building Enclosure project;

AND THAT any additional funding received through grants or fundraising for the C.W. Parker Carousel Building Enclosure project be used to reduce the contribution from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund;

AND THAT Administration proceed with final project planning and procurement to facilitate construction in 2025;

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

CARRIED

### **9.3 Enhanced Encampment Response - A Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay**

At the October 7, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting, Report 384-2024 City Manager's Office - Strategic Initiatives & Engagement) was presented as a First Report to allow Committee of the Whole and the general public time to consider the implications of the report before its recommendations are considered by Committee of the Whole on October 21, 2024.

Report 384-2024 City Manager's Office - Strategic Initiatives & Engagement recommending the approval of the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan (the Plan), as outlined in this report, re-presented.

Memorandum dated October 15, 2024 from Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen providing additional information related to letters received in support of the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan as outlined in this report, and financial implications.

Memorandum dated October 15, 2024 from Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen requesting an opportunity to re-present an overview of the ten-part Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan as an enhanced encampment response.

Memorandum dated October 17, 2024 from Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen providing additional letters received in support of the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan as outlined in this report.

Memorandum dated October 21, 2024 from Councillor Mark Bentz providing a Motion to approve the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan and Temporary Village in principle, and to refer Reports 384-2024 and 395-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement back to Administration and the Inter-governmental Affairs Committee to advocate, build partnerships and secure funding from other levels of government, for Council's consideration. Distributed separately Monday, October 21, 2024.

Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

At the request of the Chair, Councillor Brian Hamilton assumed the Chair during the discussion of this item.

Councillor Andrew Foulds resumed the Chair.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etrene

WITH RESPECT to Report 384-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we recommend that the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan (the Plan) as outlined in this report be approved;

AND THAT implementation of the Plan requiring approval or additional financial resources be brought back to Council as required;

AND THAT Administration provide progress updates to City Council as needed;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to the Honourable Sean Fraser - Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, and the Honourable Paul Calandra - Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to Marie-Josée Houle, Federal Housing Advocate;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, MP Superior North and Indigenous Services Minister, MP Marcus Powlowski, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP Lise Vaugeois;

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

**Request for Referral - Report 384-2024 and 395-2024**

MOVED BY: Councillor Mark Bentz

SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to Reports 384-2024 and 395-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we approve the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan and Temporary Village in principle;

AND THAT both reports be referred to Administration and the Inter-governmental Affairs Committee to advocate, build partnerships and secure funding from other levels of government for the temporary village concept;

AND THAT Administration report back when they have exhausted all sources of external funding options;

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

At the decision of the Chair, the Referral Motion, as contained within the Memorandum dated October 21, 2024 from Councillor Mark Bentz, was deferred until after the presentation associated with Report 395-2024 (City Manager's Office -

Strategy & Engagement).

### **Temporary Village Initiatives - Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan**

Report 395-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement providing a recommendation, in response to the growing issue of unsheltered homelessness and encampments, the City of Thunder Bay is recommending a stopgap measure – a Temporary Village (the Village). This initiative is one part of the City's ten-part *Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay*, which upholds the dignity and human rights of individuals living in encampments while addressing public health and safety concerns, for Council's consideration, distributed separately on Thursday, October 17, 2024.

Director - Strategy & Engagement Cynthia Olsen and Policy & Research Analyst Rilee Willianen, appeared before Committee, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

### **11:00 p.m. Resolution**

MOVED BY: Councillor Mark Bentz  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Rajni Agarwal

THAT the hour being 11:00 p.m., we continue with the business at hand.

CARRIED

### **Request for Referral - Report 384-2024 and 395-2024**

MOVED BY: Councillor Mark Bentz  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to Reports 384-2024 and 395-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we approve the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan and Temporary Village in principle;

AND THAT both reports be referred to Administration and the Inter-governmental Affairs Committee to advocate, build partnerships and secure funding from other levels of government for the temporary village concept;

AND THAT Administration report back when they have exhausted all sources of external funding options;

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

**12:00 a.m. Resolution**

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

SECONDED BY: Mayor Ken Boshcoff

THAT the hour being 12:00 a.m., we continue with the business at hand.

CARRIED

**Request for Referral - Report 384-2024 and 395-2024**

MOVED BY: Councillor Mark Bentz

SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to Reports 384-2024 and 395-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we approve the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan and Temporary Village in principle;

AND THAT both reports be referred to Administration and the Inter-governmental Affairs Committee to advocate, build partnerships and secure funding from other levels of government for the temporary village concept;

AND THAT Administration report back when they have exhausted all sources of external funding options;

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

LOST

**Enhanced Encampment Response - A Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay**

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni

WITH RESPECT to Report 384-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we recommend that the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan (the Plan) as outlined in this report be approved;

AND THAT implementation of the Plan requiring approval or additional financial resources be brought back to Council as required;

AND THAT Administration provide progress updates to City Council as needed;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to the Honourable Sean Fraser - Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, and the Honourable Paul Calandra - Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to Marie-Josée Houle, Federal Housing Advocate;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, MP Superior North and Indigenous Services Minister, MP Marcus Powlowski, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP Lise Vaugeois;

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

CARRIED

### **Temporary Village Initiatives - Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan**

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton

WITH RESPECT to Report 395-2024 (City Manager's Office – Strategic Initiatives & Engagement), we recommend that the Temporary Village Initiative as outlined in this report be approved with a maximum budget for infrastructure and construction of \$5.0 million, conditional on final site approval by City Council;

AND THAT the Temporary Village Initiative be financed up to \$5.0 million from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund;

AND THAT any external funding or cost recovery related to the capital cost of the project, reduce the contribution from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Fund;

AND THAT Administration include up to \$1.5 million in the 2025 tax-supported operating budget to fund an operator for the Temporary Village Initiative;

AND THAT Administration conducts further analysis and time-limited consultations on the two proposed site locations and report back to Council with a recommended location and updated cost estimates;

AND THAT should any costs exceed municipal contribution maximums, Administration will report back to seek further direction;

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

CARRIED

**10. Petitions and Communications**

**10.1 Boulevard Garden and Maintenance By-law**

Memorandum from Director - Strategic Initiatives Cynthia Olsen dated October 10, 2024 requesting to defer the re-presentation of Report 349-2024-City Manager's Office - Strategic Initiatives & Engagement Boulevard Garden and Maintenance By-Law from October 28, 2024, to November 25, 2024. The report was presented to Committee of the Whole as a First Report on September 23, 2024.

MOVED BY: Councillor Greg Johnsen

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etrene

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Cynthia Olsen, Director – Strategy & Engagement dated October 10, 2024, we recommend that the report back date for R 349-2024 Boulevard Garden and Maintenance By-Law be deferred from October 28, 2024 to November 25, 2024;

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

CARRIED

**11. Outstanding Items**

**11.1 Outstanding List - Planning Services**

Memorandum from Director - Legislative Services & City Clerk Krista Power dated October 8, 2024, containing the Planning Services Outstanding List, for information.

**12. New Business**

**12.1 Establishment of Committee of the Whole - Closed Session - Monday, October 28, 2024**

The following resolution was presented for Council's consideration:

MOVED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

SECONDED BY: Councillor Dominic Pasqualino

THAT a Committee of the Whole - Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Monday, October 28, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in order to receive information pursuant to the Municipal Act (Section 239 (2)) relative to:

- (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
- (c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
- (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board;
- (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

CARRIED

### **13. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 a.m.