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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Chapman, Chair
Councillor Pickles, Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 9:34 AM
Councillor Collier*
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Neal*
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Wotten
Regional Chair Henry
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Schummer* attended for part of the meeting
*** denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair*, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Chief Administrative Office – Legal Services
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
A. Chung, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
H. Finlay, Manager, Transit on Demand (TOD)
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism
C. Goodchild, Director of Planning
B. Holmes*, General Manager, Transit
S. Jibb, Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
G. Mcfarlane, Program Specialist, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning
K. Ryan*, Senior Solicitor, Chief Administrative Office – Legal Services
J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
N. Taylor*, Commissioner of Finance

L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
* **denotes staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(12) That the minutes of the regular Planning & Economic Development
Committee meeting held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

5.1 Stacey Jibb, Manager, Agriculture & Rural Economic Development, and Glen Macfarlane, Economic Development Specialist re: Growing North Durham Plan Annual Activity Report (#2024-EDT-4) [Item 8.2 b.]

Stacey Jibb, Manager, Agriculture & Rural Economic Development, and Glen Macfarlane, Economic Development Specialist provided a PowerPoint presentation with respect to the Growing North Durham Plan Annual Activity Report.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Background
- Plan Overview
- Plan Implementation
 - People
 - Places
 - Prosperity

S. Jibb and G. Macfarlane responded to questions from the Committee with regards to the potential benefits for the agri-food and agricultural sector in the Region as a result of the partnership with Durham College and the National Research Council; how businesses are selected to receive a welcome wagon; how home-based businesses are identified and whether they would receive a welcome wagon; potential sources that can be utilized to identify new businesses; what is included in the welcome wagon; what has been learned through key performance indicators (KPI) from the previous year; how a Business

Improvement Association (BIA) differs from this program; whether farmers ever received a return on tariffs applied on fertilizer; whether there is support across the country for the removal of the carbon tax as it relates to agricultural products and fuel for farmers; whether standardizing the business retention program includes a change to the approach in business visitations.

6. Delegations

6.1 Peter Taylor, President, Friends of Second Marsh (In-Person Attendance) re: Friends of Second Marsh and Love the Marsh! Progress Update

Peter Taylor, President, Friends of Second Marsh, appeared before the Committee in-person and provided a PowerPoint presentation with respect to Friends of Second Marsh and Love the Marsh! Progress Update.

Highlights of the delegation included:

- We Celebrate
- The Second Marsh is Designated
- Friends of Second Marsh
- Let's Dephrag the Marsh!
- Before and After Treatment
- Partnerships
- Love the Marsh!
- Durham Environment and Climate Forum
- Ghost Road Bush Area
- The Future
- An Invitation

P. Taylor responded to questions from the Committee.

Chair Chapman stated that there is a waterfront clean-up event taking place at the Marsh on April 27, 2024, and welcomed members of the Committee to attend.

7. Planning

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

7.2 Reports

There were no Planning Reports to be considered.

8. Economic Development

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

8.2 Reports

A) 2023 North Durham Building Business Forum (2024-EDT-3)

Report #2024-EDT-3 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(13) That Report #2024-EDT-3 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Growing North Durham Plan Annual Activity Report (2024-EDT-4)

Report #2024-EDT-4 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(14) That Report #2024-EDT-4 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

C) Durham Region 2023 Ontario Parasport Games Final Report and Legacy Fund (2024-EDT-5)

Report #2024-EDT-5 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(15) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the Durham Region 2023 Ontario Parasport Games Legacy Fund of \$145,579 be distributed as follows:
 - i) Durham Community Foundation "Durham Region Adaptive Sport & Recreation Legacy Fund": \$112,000;
 - ii) Adaptive Sport Festival: \$30,000;
 - iii) Community Tree and Shrub Planting: \$3,579; and
- B) That, prior to the distribution of funds to any agency receiving funding from the 2023 Ontario Parasport Games Legacy Fund, the Region enter into an Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding which prescribes appropriate reporting requirements, and which are otherwise in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner of Finance.

CARRIED

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

9.1 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee

A) Resolution regarding Backyard Chickens within Urban and Rural Settlement Areas

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(16) That we recommend to Council:

That as the introduction of chickens within urban and rural settlement areas (which includes towns, villages and hamlets) can result in the potential spread of Avian Influenza and other diseases to livestock in the Region, particularly poultry farms;

And that backyard chickens attract pests and predators, resulting in conflicts between predatory animals and chickens, and additional vectors for spreading disease;

Therefore be it resolved that Durham Regional Council be advised that the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) does not support permitting chickens being kept in urban settlement areas and rural settlement areas (which includes towns, villages and hamlets); and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the area municipalities for information.

CARRIED

10. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

11. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Shahid, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(17) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

V. Walker, Committee Clerk