

From: [Jess Street](#)
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Subject: Mayor Shaun Collier driving while speaking on zoom during today"s Council meeting
Date: December 17, 2025 6:25:00 PM
Attachments: [Collier driving in meetiung](#)

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Dear Chairman John Henry and Members of Durham Regional Council:

I am writing to you out of a deep concern for something that I witnessed as a member of the audience today. This occurred while Durham Regional Council debated the 2026 operating and budget.

During the course of the meeting the Chairman, John Henry, recognized and allowed a member of council to speak while that person was seemingly in control of and operating a vehicle on the roads in Durham Region.

While that person was speaking during their five minute allotted time, they were looking at the phone, not the road. The Regional Councillor appeared to be touching their phone or the holder, making adjustments. This may or may not be contrary to the highway traffic act, but i believe it is contrary to common sense and community safety.

As a person who has friends and family members who have been affected by distracted and drunk drivers, I found it deeply offensive and deeply concerning that the Chair recognized the individual and didn't interrupt them. Secondly, shame on all of you on council for not rising on a point of order or a point of privilege to ask the Chair to rule the speaker out of order for his own safety and stopped his inappropriate conduct.

I am a mother of two teenagers who are on the road everyday. I am so glad they did not pass the councillor while he was on the road and on his phone.

For those of you who did not see it, I am providing you with a screen grab of the individual member who was driving while participating in the meeting.

I'm not sure what the appropriate action is for you to take, but I wanted to let you know that many in the community found this deeply offensive extremely risky for the individual and all the other people all the other motorist on the road.

This does not set a good example for the young people in our community or anyone else for that matter.

I think taxpayers would appreciate a more consistent behaviour not a "One rule for me and one rule for thee" approach.

Please tell me you will all do better.

Sincerely,

Jessica Street
Whitby Resident

PS. Please include this in your next council meeting for all members of council and the public to see.