



Town of Aurora
Finance Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Time: 5:45 p.m.
Location: Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)
Councillor Michael Thompson* (Vice Chair)
Councillor Ron Weese

Other Attendees: Councillor Rachel Gilliland*
Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer*
Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance
Jason Gaertner, Manager, Financial Management
Sandeep Dhillon, Advisor, Financial Management*
Tracy Evans, Advisor, Financial Management*
Palak Mehta, Council/Committee Coordinator

Attended electronically*

1. Call to Order

Council/Committee Coordinator, Palak Mehta called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

Mayor Mrakas assumed Chair at 5:49 p.m.

1.1 Appointment of the Committee Chair

Councillor Ron Weese nominated Mayor Tom Mrakas as the Chair.

Moved by Ron Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Tom Mrakas be elected as Chair for a two-year term (2023-2024) of the Finance Advisory Committee.

Carried

1.2 Appointment of the Committee Vice Chair

Councillor Ron Weese nominated Councillor Thompson as Vice Chair.

Moved by Ron Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Michael Thompson be appointed as Vice Chair for a two-year term (2023-2024) of the Finance Advisory Committee.

Carried

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Ron Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, be approved.

Carried

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

5. Receipt of the Minutes

None.

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 2023 Finance Advisory Committee Workplan

Staff provided an overview of the memo outlining the draft 2023 Finance Advisory Committee Workplan for the Committee's review and endorsement, and to ensure that Committee feedback is provided regarding subject areas and financial initiatives identified in the workplan as the Town's highest priorities.

The Committee discussed the Workplan, including additions, inquired about providing an opportunity through necessary resources to encourage partner groups of the Town of Aurora to adopt diversity, equity, and inclusion policies. Staff provided a response. The Committee further discussed how diversity, equity, and inclusion should be included as a condition of all future grant funding applications and agreements.

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Ron Weese

1. That the memorandum regarding the 2023 Finance Advisory Committee be received; and
2. That the Finance Advisory Committee comments regarding the 2023 Finance Advisory Committee Workplan be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7.2 Council Budget Principals Policy

Staff provided an overview of the Council Budget Principals Policy, and outlined the key principles to help guide the Town of Aurora in the development of operating and capital budgets. Staff advised the principles were reviewed while recognizing that additional principles may be proposed regarding the Asset Management Plan.

Moved by Ron Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That the memorandum regarding Council Budget Principles Policy be received; and
2. That the Finance Advisory Committee comments regarding the Council Budget Principles Policy be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

8. New Business

The Committee inquired about public engagement metrics and whether any targets were in place, what kind of engagement has happened regarding the budget in previous years, low public engagement reasons, as well as creative ways to boost public engagement. The Committee also inquired about the types of studies conducted, expenses surrounding studies, and costs or metrics surrounding managing staff time. Staff provided a response.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Ron Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the meeting be adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Carried