



**Town of Aurora
Council
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

Council Members: Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)
Councillor Ron Weese
Councillor Rachel Gilliland
Councillor Wendy Gaertner
Councillor Michael Thompson
Councillor John Gallo

Members Absent: Councillor Harold Kim

Other Attendees: Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer
Patricia De Sario, Director, Corporate Services/Town Solicitor
Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services
Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services
Sara Tienkamp, Director, Operational Services
Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance
Michelle Outar, Acting Manager, Corporate Communications
Michael de Rond, Town Clerk
Emily Freitas, Council/Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Mrakas 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 Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Councillor Ron Weese declared a pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50. respecting item 8.3.2 - CMS24-039 - Facility Space Allocation for Aurora Sports Hall of Fame and Sport Aurora, due to involvement with both organizations, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion or vote on any question in respect to the matter.

5. Community Presentations

5.1 Tamas Hertel, Service Planning Manager, York Region Transit; Re: 2025 York Region Transit Annual Plan

Tamas Hertel, Service Planning Manager, York Region Transit, presented an overview of the York Region Transit (YRT) Annual. The presentation included the annual transit initiatives process, the improvements of YRT routes in the Town, and the implementation of the province's One Fare Program. YRT also conducted a public consultation program to provide information and gather feedback from resident, which included requests to improve connections to Aurora GO Station and to establish a bus route for students travelling from the Aurora Heights area. The presentation

further indicated proposed service changes that will take place in 2025 to restructure school routes due to the new Dr. G.W. Williams High School, and concluded by highlighting projects to enhance the transit network in the Town including e-buses and improving the fare system.

Council consented to permit an additional five minutes for the presentation.

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the presentation be received for information.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

5.2 Stephen Forsey, Sport Aurora; Re: Sport Celebration Month 2024

Stephen Forsey, Sport Aurora, presented an overview of activities hosted by Sport Aurora this year and the lead up to Sport Celebration Month 2024, highlighting the proclamation made to highlight the community's athletic achievements, honouring student athletes at Sport Aurora's 2024 School Athletes of the Year at Town Park and hosting the All Sport One Day Program to provide opportunities for young women to participate in different sport activities. They concluded by noting that Sport Aurora will be hosting their annual Volunteer Recognition Event to celebrate 28 nominations from different sport organizations on Sunday, October 27, 2024.

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the presentation be received for information.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

6. Delegations

None.

7. Consent Agenda

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

That the Consent Agenda, items 7.1 to 7.7 inclusive, be approved.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

7.1 Council Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2024

1. That the Council Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.2 Special Meeting of Council Minutes of October 1, 2024

1. That the Special Meeting of Council Minutes of October 1, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.3 Council Public Planning Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2024

1. That the Council Public Planning Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.4 Council Closed Session Minutes of September 17, 2024 (confidential attachment)

1. That the Council Closed Session Minutes of September 17, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.5 Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2024

1. That the Council Closed Session Public Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7.6 Central York Fire Services Joint Council Committee Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2024

1. That the Central York Fire Services Joint Council Committee Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

7.7 Central York Fire Services Joint Council Committee Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024

1. That the Central York Fire Services Joint Council Committee Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of October 1, 2024

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of October 1, 2024, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-item 8.8.3, which was discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

8.1 Consent Agenda

8.1.1 Memorandum from Councillor Thompson; Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of July 26, 2024

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of July 26, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.2 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

8.2.1 Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2024

1. That the Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.2.2 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2024

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.2.3 Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2024

1. That the Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.2.4 Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024

1. That the Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.2.5 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2024

1. That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

8.3 Community Services Committee Agenda

8.3.1 CMS24-038 - Mapping Recreation for Persons with Disabilities – Final Plan Presentation

1. That Report No. CMS24-038 be received; and
2. That Council endorse the recommendations contained in the attached Mapping Recreation for Persons with Disabilities Plan 2024-2029.

Carried

8.3.2 CMS24-039 - Facility Space Allocation for Aurora Sports Hall of Fame and Sport Aurora

1. That Report No. CMS24-039 be received; and
2. That Council approve the request from the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame for expansion; and
3. That Council approve allocating space in the Aurora Family Leisure Complex for Sport Aurora.

Carried

8.4 Corporate Services Committee Agenda

8.4.1 CS24-024 - Central York Fire Services - Cost Recovery Program Enhancement

1. That Report No. CS24-024 be received for information.

Carried

8.4.2 CS24-023 - 2025 Council and Committee Meeting Schedule

1. That Report No. CS24-023 be received; and
2. That a bylaw to amend section 20(f)(i) of the Procedure Bylaw No. 6228-19, as amended, be enacted at a future Council meeting to change the Public Planning meeting day from the second Tuesday of the month to the third Tuesday; and
3. That Council request the Mayor, in accordance with the powers under section 284.8 of the Municipal Act, 2001, to amend the Committee of the Whole meeting date from the first Tuesday of the month to the second Tuesday; and
4. That the 2025 Meeting Schedule (Attachment No. 1) be approved; and
5. That the Town Clerk be authorized to make amendments to the Council and Committee meeting calendar as required.

Carried

8.5 Finance and Information Technology Committee Agenda

8.5.1 FIN24-044 - 2025-26 Rates and Fees Update with Bylaw

1. That Report No. FIN24-044 be received; and
2. That a by-law be enacted to set the 2025 and 2026 Fees and Charges for applications, permits, use of Town property, the sale of documents and for the prescribed service charges for administrative matters itemized on the attached schedules.

Carried

8.5.2 FIN24-045 - Further Bill 185 Development Charges Bylaw Amendments

1. That Report No. FIN24-045 be received; and
2. That no further public meetings are required under section 12 of the Development Charges Act, 1997; and

3. That the proposed amending Development Charges By-law be enacted October 22, 2024.

Carried

8.6 Administration Committee Agenda

None.

8.7 Operational Services Committee Agenda

None.

8.8 Planning and Development Services Committee Agenda

8.8.1 PDS24-089 - Automated Speed Enforcement Pilot Program and Community Safety Zones

1. That Report No. PDS24-089 be received; and
2. That a by-law to amend Parking By-law No. 4574-04.T be enacted to designate schools that front onto Town roads as Community Safety Zones; and
3. That staff be authorized to implement an Automated Speed Enforcement Pilot program and report back to Council with a detailed implementation plan.

Carried

8.8.2 PDS24-099 - Request for Increased Capital Budget Authority for Capital Project SO0079 – Water and Wastewater Master Plan

1. That Report No. PDS24-099 be received; and
2. That the total approved budget authority for Capital Project No. SO0079 be increased to \$414,800 representing an increase of \$114,800; and
3. That the proposed budget authority increase of \$114,800 for Project No. SO0079 be funded by \$57,400 from both water and wastewater development charges.

Carried

8.8.3 PDS24-105 - Proposed Amendments to Parking Bylaw 4574-04.T – Various Locations in the Town’s Downtown Area

Main motion

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Weese

1. That Report No. PDS24-105 be received; and
2. That a by-law to amend Parking Bylaw No. 4574-04.T be enacted to increase the on-street parking allowance from 3 hours to 4 hours in various areas outlined in the report.

Amendment

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Weese

3. That staff report back, at the November 26, 2024 Council meeting, regarding potentially changing parking restrictions on Yonge street in the Business Improvement Area from one hour to two hours.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

Main motion as amended

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Weese

1. That Report No. PDS24-105 be received; and
2. That a by-law to amend Parking Bylaw No. 4574-04.T be enacted to increase the on-street parking allowance from 3 hours to 4 hours in various areas outlined in the report; **and**
3. **That staff report back, at the November 26, 2024 Council meeting, regarding potentially changing parking restrictions on**

Yonge street in the Business Improvement Area from one hour to two hours.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

8.8.4 PDS24-106 - Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review Work Plan

1. That Report No. PDS24-106 be received for information.

Carried

8.8.5 PDS24-107 - Doors Open 2025 Registration

1. That Report No. PDS24-107 be received; and
2. That staff be directed to participate in the Doors Open event in 2025 in collaboration with the Ontario Heritage Trust.

Carried

8.9 Member Motions

8.9.1 Councillor Thompson; Re: Interchange at Highway 404 and St. John's Sideroad

Whereas the York Region Transportation Master Plan, approved by York Region Council in September of 2022 identified a need for an interchange to be built at Highway 404 and St. John's Sideroad by 2051; and

Whereas the Region will be updating the 2022 Transportation Master Plan every 5 years during its planning horizon, with the next update occurring in 2027; and

Whereas our Official Plan forecasts Aurora's population will be 79,600 residents and 38,300 jobs by 2041 and 85,800 residents and 41,600 jobs by 2051; and

Whereas additionally, neighbouring municipalities of Newmarket and Whitchurch-Stouffville are expected to grow cumulatively to

over 221,500 people and 86,400 jobs to 2051, with the Region's total population also expected to be over 2 million people and approximately 1 million jobs over the same horizon; and

Whereas the Region's Municipal Comprehensive Review and Land Needs Assessment for the 2022 Regional Official Plan identified Aurora as having the greatest share of Major Office jobs over the planning horizon of any Northern Six York Region municipalities; and

Whereas Aurora's Employment Area along the 404 Corridor is over 2 kilometres long and is anticipated to generate over 6,000 new jobs, yet it currently is forced to rely on only one existing interchange at the south end, along Wellington Street East; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario has mandated significant local growth as part of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, and has defined Provincial Interests under the Planning Act that include providing employment opportunities and protecting the financial and economic well-being of the Province and its municipalities; and

Whereas the proposed St. John's Sideroad interchange has been built into the planning framework of the Town for nearly two decades, including as a planned element in the 2010 Aurora 2C Secondary Plan, the 2010 Official Plan, and the Town's current 2024 Official Plan; and

Whereas Council recently endorsed the Municipal Housing Target pledge of 8,000 residential units by 2031; and

Whereas traffic congestion is a growing concern for all Aurora residents and has an impact, socially, environmentally and economically, on the Town, neighbouring municipalities, and the Region at large;

1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That staff provide the Region with Traffic and Household data and projections that supports the need for the interchange at St. John's and Highway 404; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora meet with the Region of York to express the need for the interchange at Highway 404 and St. John's to be constructed prior to 2035 and indicate to them that our preference would be that the interchange be built in the short term.

Carried

8.10 Regional Report

8.10.1 York Regional Council Highlights of September 19, 2024

1. That the York Regional Council Highlights of September 19, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

9. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion (Regular Agenda)

9.1 FIN24-046 - Interim Forecast Update – as of August 31, 2024

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

1. That Report No. FIN24-046 be received for information.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

10. New Business

Councillor Gallo inquired about the status of the men's transitional shelter and expressed urgency to select a location to begin the project. Staff provided a response that they are in contact with York Region who are responsible for moving the project forward.

Councillor Gaertner expressed concerns regarding the size of the voting display shown during meetings in the Council Chambers, and Staff agreed to follow up.

Councillor Gilliland inquired about on-street parking on Murray Drive near Aurora High School and requested for bylaw services to monitor the street to ensure safety of pedestrians and drivers.

Councillor Gilliland inquired about the possibility of introducing a payment plan for residents that do not qualify for the Windrow Removal Pilot Program, and staff provided a response and agreed to follow up with Council.

Councillor Weese announced that the Aurora Legion will begin selling poppies on Friday, October 25, 2024 for Remembrance Day.

Councillor Weese inquired about the Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Pilot Program and when it will come into effect, and Staff agreed to follow up with Council regarding the exact dates.

11. By-laws

11.1 By-law Number 6644-24 - Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 6592-24, as amended, to establish development charges for the Town of Aurora.

(Committee of the Whole Report No. FIN24-045, Oct 1, 2024)

11.2 By-law Number 6645-24 - Being a By-law to amend By-law Number 4574-04.T, as amended, to regulate parking and traffic in the Town of Aurora (Restricted Parking Maximum Period – Victoria Street,

Mosley Street, Church Street, Metcalfe Street, Wells Street and Harrison Avenue).

(Committee of the Whole Report No. PDS24-105, Oct 1, 2024)

11.3 By-law Number 6646-24 - Being a By-law to exempt Part of Block 1 on Plan 65M-4743 from part-lot control (File No. PLC-2024-03).

11.4 By-law Number 6647-24 - Being a By-law to appoint a Fire Chief for Central York Fire Services.

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Thompson

That the By-laws, items 11.1 to 11.4 inclusive, be enacted.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

12. Closed Session

None.

13. Confirming By-law

13.1 By-law Number 6648-24 Being a By-law to confirm actions by Council resulting from a Council meeting on October 22, 2024

Moved by Councillor Gallo

Seconded by Councillor Gilliland

That the confirming by-law be enacted.

Carried

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gaertner

Seconded by Councillor Weese

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Carried

Tom Mrakas, Mayor

Michael de Rond, Town Clerk