
Date: 22 April 2024
Time: 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.
Location: Council Chambers – Meeting Room

Attendance: Jackie Oblak, Committee Chair
Mike Jones, Committee Member
Michael Hoch, Committee Member
Wayne Olson, Ward One Councillor
Natalie Seniuk, Committee Member
Ryan Taylor, Committee Member
Sydney Van Leeuwen, Administrative Assistant
Gimuel Ledesma, Engineering Technologist

Regrets: Jason Marr, Director of Public Works

1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

Noting that quorum was present, Chair Jackie Oblak called the meeting to order at approximately 9:57 a.m.

2. Land Recognition Statement

Jackie Oblak recited the land recognition statement.

3. Approval of Agenda

THAT the agenda be amended to:

**Add Fire Chief, Bob Lymburner Discussing Emergency
Preparedness & Updates within the Fire/By-Law Department**

Add Upcoming Capital Projects

Add Update on Solar Panels for the MCC

Add Hope Lands Across from the MCC

Add Communities in Bloom Update

Add Video from Pelham Path

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the April 22, 2024, regular meeting of the Environmental and Climate Adaption Advisory Committee be adopted, as amended.

Moved by: Mike Jones

Seconded by: Natalie Senwik

Carried

4. Approval of the March 25, 2024, Minutes

Moved by: Natalie Senwick

Seconded by: Mike Jones

Carried

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no pecuniary interests disclosed by any of the members present.

6. Fire Chief, Bob Lymburner Discussing Emergency Preparedness & Updates within the Fire/By-Law Department

Fire Station 1: There are currently two options for the new Fire Station 1, restoration, or replacement. Staff is waiting on architectural drawings and then staff will write a report that will be presented to Council.

Chief Lymburner would like to reach out to the Accessibility Committee and see what their input for the new fire station would be. Chief reflected that there is significant cost associated with building from an environmentally friendly perspective.

Emergency Preparedness/Response:

The Town of Pelham has an emergency management plan/program that is approved by the Province of Ontario and Council. Emergency Operations Centre is Fire Station 1 then Fire Station 2. The Town has an Emergency Management Committee of 5 staff members within the Town, Chief Lymburner, Barb Wiens, Leah Letford, Ryan Cook and David Cribbs.

Chief Lymburner provided the committee with the Town of Pelham 24-hour guide and a brochure of tips and tricks.

Hazardous Risk Assessment (HRA) – Wind is the biggest concern within the Town of Pelham. We are actively seeing more 100-year windstorms as years go on. This assessment is reviewed yearly and submitted to Council. Storm frequency is greater, and severity is getting worse as well. There is a tree inventory done year, Hydro One and NEPI and they do yearly inspections as well. There are ways to report dangerous trees or concerns to the Town of Pelham website. The Towns Communication Department does actively report and post on social media to make the residents aware of weather events.

Hazardous Spills – Within Pelham there are 2 major pipelines, and 1 rail system. In a case of emergency, the Town would evacuate and close roads. It would be the companies that supply the products that are responsible, and they would take care of the clean up process and return it to the original state. These pipeline/rails are federal, and they would have emergency plans, but they would not have boots on the ground to clean up.

Committee would like to focus on things that directly related to each department and staff.

Committee would like to bring each department in to discuss what they are doing.

7. Upcoming Capital Projects

Councillor Olsen spoke to the Station Street Storm Water Pond, this is projected to be completed this year. This storm pond is located at the headwaters of the 12-mile creek, there are Trout that need clear/clean water that allows them to breed and sustain life. The pond needs to be restored and cleaned out. There are multiple agencies involved and will have a green approach/perspective. The goals are to eliminate the cloudy waters and help the trout reproduce.

8. Solar Panels for the MCC

Councillor Olsen spoke to the mentioned approach to have solar panels installed on the MCC. This initiated from the change over to LED streetlights. Solar Panels have become significantly lighter and the MCC roof can sustain the weight. The initial expense would be paid by in 8 years, once paid back there would be an annual savings of \$300,000.

9. Hope Lands Across from the MCC

The projected use of the lands is likely to be a parking lot. There is a lot more people that use the MCC then what was originally projected, and the demand for parking is great. There is currently a survey that is to be closed soon regarding the survey results.

Use of Permeable Surfaces – Committee would like to see staff consider using permeable surfaces if their area is to be a parking lot.

10. Communities in Bloom Update

Staff initiative to participate in this. There is a group that comes through Town and evaluates the beauty of the flower beds, residential and the group then awards the Town. The colour for 2024 is Orange.

11. Video From Pelham Path

Committee watched a video that was of students of The Green Heron Educational Centre voicing their concerns around climate and how residents can help make a difference within our community.

12. Earth Day Celebrations Discussion

Steve Bauer Trail Annual Clean up – about 80% of the trail was cleaned up.

PATH Earth Day Event – there was about 100 people that came out to the event. Students were out assisting and are an inspiration to many.

There was a lot of educational information shared during the presentations over the weekend. Committee members found presentations eye-opening.

Motion to Extend the Meeting by 15 Minutes:**Mover:** Mike Jones**Second:** Natalie Senwick**Carried****13. Town of Pelham – Current Project – Update from Staff**

Station Street Storm Pond – NPCA, Staff and Contractor met week of April 18 to discuss next steps.

Timber Creek Storm Pond – Restoration coming this fall.

CLI-ECA Operations Manuals – Retained a consultant to help staff with the development of these manuals.

Road Rehab – Walkers, the Town uses recycled materials and alternatives (Fiber mat) to traditional materials. Look into potential of more eco friendly road material in a wetland or high exposure environment.

14. Other Items

Council Update for Workplan Presentation: Jackie presented the Committee Workplan during the April 17, 2024, Regular Council Meeting. This was brought to Council for information. There was both caution and interest from the Mayor and Council.

The Niagara Region has applied to be a UNESCO Geopark. The agency from Paris, France will be in Niagara this summer to review. Councillor Olsen is on the board and will keep the ECAAC updated. The entire Niagara Region would be a Geopark and will advocate for safe and ecofriendly tourism. If approved, it will be the 1st Geopark in Ontario and the 7th in Canada.

Motion to have the UNSECO Geopark Update as a standing item:

Mover: Natalie Senwick

Seconder: Mike Jones

Carried

Pelham Farmers Market is starting back up on May 2nd, 2024.

15. Adjournment

Moved by: Natalie Senwick

Seconded by: Ryan Taylor

**THAT this Regular Meeting of the Environmental and Climate
Adaption Advisory Committee be adjourned at 11:45 a.m.**

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 27, 2024.

Carried

Jackie A Oblak

Jackie A Oblak (Jun 3, 2024 15:52 EDT)

Chair, Jackie Oblak

Sydney Van Leeuwen

Administrative Assistant, Sydney Van Leeuwen