

Date: 27 May 2024  
Time: 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.  
Location: Council Chambers – Meeting Room

Attendance: Jackie Oblak, Committee Chair  
Mike Jones, Committee Member  
Wayne Olson, Ward One Councillor  
Ryan Taylor, Committee Member  
Sydney Van Leeuwen, Administrative Assistant  
Gimuel Ledesma, Engineering Technologist  
Jason Marr, Director of Public Works  
Shannon Larocque, Senior Planner  
Barbara Wiens, Director of Community Planning & Development

Regrets: Natalie Seniuk, Committee Member  
Mike Hoch, Committee Member

---

### **1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum**

Noting that quorum was present, Chair Jackie Oblak called the meeting to order at approximately 10:03 a.m.

### **2. Land Recognition Statement**

Jackie Oblak recited the land recognition statement.

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by:** Mike Jones  
**Seconded by:** Ryan Taylor

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the May 27, 2024, regular meeting of the Environmental and Climate Adaption Advisory Committee be adopted.**

**Carried**

#### **4. Approval of the April 22, 2024, Minutes**

**Moved by:** Mike Jones

**Seconded by:** Ryan Taylor

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes for the April 22, 2024, regular meeting of the Environmental and Climate Adaption Advisory Committee be approved.**

**Carried**

#### **5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

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

#### **6. Station Street Extension & MCC Hope Lands**

##### Station Street Extension

Forest Park Subdivision received draft plan approval last year, and part of that is the extension of the Station St. Road Allowance, which runs along side the Steve Bauer Trail.

There has been concerns with the public regarding tree removal. Barb spoke to the committee regarding the plans for tree removal and the plans to replant those trees removed.

Shannon displayed the drawings and spoke that the extension was pushed as far east as possible but there still requires trees to be removed to make way for the extension. Shannon showed a list of all trees that are to be removed with an ID number, location and species of tree. There is a plan to do revegetation in this area once developed, this would be done in a naturalized way. There are a variety of trees that the plan has recommended that be planted once complete.

Trees within the Steve Bauer trail will not be impacted, only the trees within the road allowance. There are plans to have a naturalized

creek/channel within this area that separates Kunda Park and Forest Park subdivisions.

Committee members are concerned with naturalized channels and the purpose they may hold.

Barb ensured that the committee understood that the Provincially Significant Wetland behind the Forest Park subdivision that will not be developed. The Station Street Extension is only going to the subdivision, not continuing all the way to Merritt Road.

Jackie Oblak spoke with concern to the hydrology of the area and how it might change. Barb spoke that hydrology studies have been preformed to ensure that water is managed correctly. Jackie would like to have a further discussion on Climate Data and projection data for areas such as this.

Committee asked if they could be included in conversations prior to plans being finalized. Members would find it helpful to be able to do their own research prior to monthly meetings.

Mike asked to see the intersection plan for Port Robinson & Station St. Barb displayed the drawing/plans and spoke to them, how they are design and the significance of why it has been designed this way.

The entrance to the Steve Bauer trail is not affected with the implementation of the new Station St extension.

Jackie asked that the trees for replating be reconsidered, and specific species be added to the list. She provided feedback of what might be a better fit for replanting and perhaps which recommended species might not be ideal for this location.

Ryan asked that is it feasible to dig out and replant trees that are required to be removed for this extension. Jason spoke to this, and how it may not be feasible, but he did ensure that we do now have a policy in place where it is required that several trees are to be planted if one is removed.

There is one connection being made to the Steve Bauer trial, the connection will be where the Storm box is currently located. This location

was chosen due to the already open area here. This connection will be for a pedestrian path.

Committee requested that if the Steve Bauer is to be closed or impacted during construction, that the public be given advanced notice prior construction commencing.

#### MCC Hope Lane Lands

There is a report going to Council on May 29<sup>th</sup> for consideration that speaks to the survey results from public consultation. This land is approximately 1.7 acres of useable land. There were three preliminary plans, all parking lot, mixed use of residential and parking and all residential. This property is located between the MCC and Rice Rd.

On the west side of the MCC the Town remains to own land along the water course and there are plans in the future to have a naturalized park, this is pending design and Council approval.

#### Natural Asset Initiative

Planning is looking to host a Natural Asset Stakeholder session on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm-4:00pm. As stakeholders, planners are going to be inviting Committee members to attend the meeting. Barb mentioned that this is a Town wide asset plan not just one specific location. Barb hopes this will help the committee with future decisions and discussions. The NPCA was involved with providing data. It is a Town initiative, and it was funded 50% by the Town and 50% from the Greenbelt Foundation. Committee asked if they could receive the report prior to the meeting, Shannon spoke that she has asked for the report, but they are currently finalizing, but she hopes to have at least a summary. Pelham is the first municipality in Niagara to do this work.

## **7. Workplan Discussion – Items to Address**

Defer to June meeting.



## **8. Current Projects – Update from Staff**

### Storm Water Management Pond at Hwy 20

This project responsibility has now been shifted to the NPCA and they will be finalizing design by late summer/early fall 2024. The Town, Niagara Region and Trout Unlimited have all committed funds to this project. The design includes a step pool, to allow sediment and cooling to take place as the water moves downward. There is involvement from the community to assist with replanting and reinstatement after the project finishes.

The pond was designed to have outflow that matches predevelopment measurements. The pond is designed for 100-year storm events and is controlled. Jason spoke to the erosion concerns, there were studies completed by the Town and Niagara Region prior to development and that there has always been erosion. The hope is that this new pond, will eliminate further erosion.

The Town is not involved in the design of the SWM Pond. The Town is just a reviewing agent in the design process.

Jackie asked if there is a way that the committee could provide guidance to the residents of Pelham and how to avoid sediment being flushed into the SMW Ponds. Jason spoke that the Town is looking at Low Impact Development (LID), permeable surfacing, etc.

### Slope Stability

Centre Street north of Roland Rd there is a slope stability issue due to erosion. This location is directly next to the river.

Sulphur Springs Rd, there is a slope failure issue that is undergoing design.

### MECP New Legislation – CLI ECA Operations and Maintenance Manuals

The Town is currently working with a consultant to develop these manuals. There is now new responsibility on the municipality to report, control and approval all new storm water and sanitary work that are

additions or removals to our municipal system. This will include SMW ponds. The Town is currently working on a 10-capital forecast for our SMW Ponds.

#### Various Facilities Undergoing Updates in the Future

Fire Station 1

Tice Rd.

Fonthill Library Update

**Action:** Jason to present at later meeting the PW capital budget (July 2024)

## **9. Upcoming Items**

#### Niagara Transit Update – On Demand Services for Pelham

Councillor Olsen spoke to the recent decisions at the Niagara Region and how they have entered into a contract that involves consolidating funds, which is expected to lead to large savings. There are now 3 locations that Pelham on demand transit connects to in St Catharines, Brock University, St Catharines Transit and St. Catharines General Hospital. We are also connecting to 4 locations within Welland, Welland Hospital, Niagara College, Welland Terminal, and Seaway Mall.

There is a lot more efficiencies taking place. There are also 12 NRT vehicles parked at the MCC for easier access to Pelham residents. Residents are to use the NRT On Demand App for scheduling service. Hours of service 7:00a.m-11:00pm, Monday to Friday. Currently, there is no Saturday service.

Committee asked about our Flo EV chargers. Currently, the chargers are under contract and are under warranty. Once the warranty is up, it will be the responsibility of the Town. There is a new standard coming for electric vehicles for chargers, however this roll out will be in a few years.

By-laws

Possible consideration for new municipal by-laws, for example a Solar by-law, permeable surfaces bylaw or standards around specific environmental standards.

**10. Adjournment**

**Moved by:** Ryan Taylor

**Seconded by:** Mike Jones

**THAT this Regular Meeting of the Environmental and Climate Adaption Advisory Committee be adjourned at 11:40 a.m.**

**Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24, 2024.**

**Carried**

*Jackie Oblak*  
Jackie Oblak (Jun 26, 2024 09:12 EDT)

**Chair, Jackie Oblak**

*Sydney VanLeeuwen*  
**Administrative Assistant, Sydney Van Leeuwen**