



The Regional Municipality of Durham

COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

February 7, 2020

Information Reports

2020-INFO-8 Commissioner of Finance – re: Economic Update at January 2020

Early Release Reports

There are no Early Release Reports

Staff Correspondence

There is no Staff Correspondence

Durham Municipalities Correspondence

1. **City of Pickering** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 27, 2020, regarding Envision Durham – Housing Policy Planning Discussion Paper
2. **City of Pickering** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 27, 2020, supporting the commencement of the decommissioning process and dismantling of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (PNGS) as expeditiously as possible

Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

1. **Town of Orangeville** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 13, 2020, regarding Environmental Awareness and Action
2. **Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 20, 2020, supporting the important role Conservation Authorities provide to municipalities in delivering watershed management programs
3. **Township of Madoc** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on December 4, 2019, supporting the Town of Spring Water resolution regarding Joint and Several Liability Consultation
4. **Town of Collingwood** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 20, 2020, regarding Conservation Authorities

Miscellaneous Correspondence

1. **Rainy River District Municipal Association** – re: Resolution passed at their meeting held on January 25, 2020, to Address Fair and Equitable Property Taxation Revenue on Railway Right-of-Ways Collected by Municipalities in Ontario
2. **Land Over Landings** - Submitting additional data as requested by Mayor Collier following a delegation at the Regional Council meeting held on January 29, 2020 pertaining to the Region's Climate Change Emergency Declaration
3. **Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services** – re: Ontario's next Poverty Reduction Strategy is now live on [Ontario.ca/povertysurvey](https://ontario.ca/povertysurvey) and will be available online until March 30, 2020

Advisory Committee Minutes

1. 9-1-1 Management Board minutes – **January 16, 2020**
2. Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) minutes – **January 16, 2020**

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca, if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised by Wednesday noon the week prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

Notice regarding collection, use and disclosure of personal information:

Written information (either paper or electronic) that you send to Durham Regional Council or Committees, including home address, phone numbers and email addresses, will become part of the public record. If you have any questions about the collection of information, please contact the Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services.



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Finance
Report: #2020-INFO-8
Date: February 7, 2020

Subject:

Economic Update at January 2020

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The Regional Finance Department monitors economic conditions on an ongoing basis and prepares periodic summary reports to Regional Council. The following is a brief summary of some economic conditions that could have implications for both Regional expenditures and revenues.

2. Federal Economic Conditions

2.1 The Canadian economy experienced a slight expansion in the third quarter of 2019 as real GDP grew by 0.3 per cent. This represents an annualized GDP growth rate of 1.3 per cent. In comparison, real GDP growth was 0.9 per cent in the second quarter of 2019 and 0.2 per cent in the first quarter.

2.2 Third quarter GDP growth was largely attributed to increases in both household consumption and business investment. These two components, in addition to government consumption, represent final domestic demand, which grew by 0.8 per cent in the third quarter of 2019.

Household Consumption

2.3 Household consumption increased by 0.4 per cent in the third quarter of 2019. This increase was largely due to a 4.9 per cent increase in the purchase of new trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles.

2.4 The rise in household consumption was likely a result of rising employment

compensation. Wages and salaries, across all sectors, increased 1.3 per cent during the third quarter of 2019. This was driven mainly by the service producing industry, which saw wages and salaries increase 1.5 per cent. Alternatively, goods producing industries saw wages and salaries increase by 0.8 per cent.

- 2.5 The overall increase in wages and salaries allowed Canadians to increase their savings ability. The household savings rate, which is the percentage of disposable income put away for savings, increased from 3.0 per cent in the second quarter of 2019, to 3.2 per cent in the third quarter. Household disposable income also increased by 0.9 per cent in the third quarter.
- 2.6 The ability of Canadians to increase both savings rates and disposable income can be largely attributed to the stability in the labour market. The annual unemployment rate for 2019 was 5.7 per cent, which is slightly lower than the 5.8 per cent unemployment rate for 2018.
- 2.7 Employment continues to remain stable as the Canadian employment rate increased from 61.6 per cent in 2018 to 62.0 per cent in 2019. The labour force participation rate also increased from 65.4 per cent in 2018 to 65.7 per cent in 2019.
- 2.8 Despite the wage and savings growth experienced over the third quarter of 2019, Canadians' personal debt-to-disposable income ratio increased from 175.63 to 176.23. This means that for one dollar of disposable income, Canadians carry \$1.76 of debt. Credit cards and mortgages represent the majority of Canadian debt obligations, as the ratio of consumer credit and mortgage liabilities to disposable income sits at 164.94.

Business Investment

- 2.9 Business investment grew by 2.6 per cent in the third quarter of 2019. This marks the highest growth in business investment since the fourth quarter of 2017. Total business investment includes construction of residential and non-residential structures, spending on machinery and equipment, and spending on intellectual property products (such as research and development).
- 2.10 Business investment in non-residential structures grew 2.7 per cent in the third quarter, while investment in machinery and equipment grew 1.7 per cent and intellectual property investment grew 1.5 per cent. These forms of non-residential investment measure the degree of business expansion, which provides an early indicator of future economic activity.
- 2.11 Interest rates are a significant factor affecting the amount of business investment as large capital expansions require the borrowing of funds. The most important interest rate in Canada is the Policy Rate, which is influenced by the Bank of Canada through its monetary policy decisions. The Bank of Canada target for the Policy Rate remained unchanged throughout 2019, remaining at 1.75 per cent. The policy rate dictates all other interest rates in the economy.

- 2.12 Inflation is another factor that influences business investment decisions as it affects the amount businesses pay for products and affects the amount of real interest paid on loans. Total inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), was 2.2 per cent in December 2019. Throughout 2019, the total inflation rate has ranged between 1.4 per cent and 2.4 per cent, which is within the Bank of Canada inflation control target of 1 to 3 per cent.

Imports and Exports

- 2.13 After strong export growth of 3.1 per cent in the second quarter of 2019, export volumes declined by 0.4 per cent in the third quarter. Import volumes remained unchanged in the third quarter of 2019 after declining by 0.9 per cent in the second quarter.
- 2.14 The terms of trade, which is the ratio of the price of exports to the price of imports, declined by 0.9 per cent in the third quarter of 2019. Specifically, export prices declined by 1.5 per cent, while import prices declined by only 0.7 per cent. The main driver of the decline in export prices was the 10.9 per cent decrease in the price of exported crude oil and bitumen.
- 2.15 Despite the decline in exports, the price of the Canadian dollar remained relatively unchanged throughout the third quarter, with one Canadian dollar currently selling for \$0.77 in U.S dollars (as of January 2, 2020). A low Canadian dollar decreases the cost to purchase Canadian goods abroad and generally supports an export environment.

3. Provincial Economic Conditions

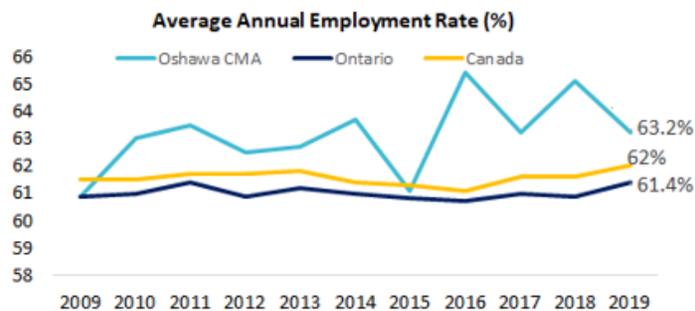
- 3.1 The Ontario economy saw real GDP growth of 0.6 per cent in the third quarter of 2019. This follows a growth rate of 0.8 per cent during the second quarter of 2019. Household consumption increased by 0.9 per cent, business investment increased by 3.2 per cent, and final domestic demand increased by 1.1 per cent.
- 3.2 Wages and salaries increased by 1.5 per cent which is slightly higher rate than the national level. This contributed to an increase in disposable income of 1.3 per cent.
- 3.3 Ontario is also benefiting from a stable labour market. The unemployment rate for 2019 was 5.6 per cent, which is slightly lower than the national rate of 5.7 per cent. However, the labour force participation rate (65.1 per cent) and the employment rate (61.4 per cent) in Ontario were also slightly lower than the national levels.
- 3.4 Business investment in Ontario grew at a slightly higher rate than Canada, as Ontario saw a 3.2 per cent increase in the third quarter. Despite this increase, Ontario saw a 1.2 per cent decline in machinery and equipment investment. Investment in non-residential structures increased 2.7 per cent and investment in intellectual property products increased 1.6 per cent.

- 3.5 Despite the decline in exports at the national level, Ontario experienced a 1.0 per cent increase in exports during third quarter of 2019. Ontario also saw a 0.5 per cent increase in imports over the same time frame. Thus Ontario's trade balance was \$2.9 billion, the first positive trade balance since the fourth quarter of 2016.

4. Local Economic Conditions

Employment

- 4.1 Local unemployment remains below the provincial and national averages. The unemployment rate for the Oshawa Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 5.6 per cent in December 2019 (three-month moving average). The annual unemployment rate for the Oshawa CMA was 5.4 per cent in 2019, which is slightly higher than the 5.1 per cent unemployment rate for 2018.
- 4.2 The average labour force participation rate declined to 66.8 per cent in 2019 from 68.6 per cent in 2018 but remains higher than the provincial and national averages. The employment rate also decreased to 63.2 per cent in 2019 from 65.1 per cent in 2018.
- 4.3 The Conference Board of Canada forecasts that job losses due to the end of GM vehicle assembly will exceed job growth in all other industries in 2020. This suggests a 1.9 per cent reduction to forecast employment in 2020. However, the Conference Board anticipates the employment decline will be short-lived and employment is forecast to increase at an average of 1.6 per cent per year to 2023.



- 4.4 Employment in the local economy continues to shift from goods-producing industries to service-producing industries. Good-producing industries currently represent 20 per cent of total local employment, whereas service-producing represent 80 per cent.

Housing

- 4.5 The average resale price of a home in Durham Region was \$640,269 in December 2019, which is a 9 per cent increase over the \$587,200 average resale price for December 2018. The average annual weighted resale price for 2019 was \$611,342 for Durham Region, compared to \$593,902 for 2018.

- 4.6 House prices remain relatively low in Durham Region when compared to adjacent municipalities. The table below compares the average annual resale price of homes within the Greater Toronto Area.

Average Annual Volume-Weighted Home Sale Price

Region	2019 (\$)
Durham Region	611,342
York Region	936,773
Peel Region	754,171
Halton Region	867,048
City of Toronto	883,520
GTA Volume-Weighted Mean	819,319

- 4.7 Durham continues to experience housing units sales growth. There were a total of 10,634 housing units sold in 2019 compared to 8,941 in 2018. New home listings also increased by 2 per cent in 2019, with 18,656 new listings compared to 18,233 for 2018.
- 4.8 Rental vacancy rates in Durham were 2.5 per cent as of October 2019 and remain healthier than the 1.5 per cent average for the rest of the GTA. Average rental prices in Durham increased by 1.6 per cent over the twelve-month period of October 2018 to October 2019 as compared to 6.8 per cent for the rest of the GTA where historically low vacancy rates continue to drive high rental growth rates.

General Motors Operations in Oshawa

- 4.9 General Motors has announced an investment of \$170 million in the Oshawa plant to transition the facility from manufacturing vehicles to stamping, sub-assembly and autonomous vehicle testing has retained 300 of 2,600 union jobs at the plant.
- 4.10 Construction on the autonomous vehicle track began in October 2019 and is expected to be complete by spring 2020. Production of the last vehicle at the Oshawa plant was in December 2019.
- 4.11 In October 2019, a jobs Action Centre for Oshawa was opened to give impacted GM employees local, targeted training and support to help them get back into the workforce.

5. Global Economic Risks

- 5.1 Many of the key economic risks of 2019 appear to be cooling off or heading towards resolution. These include BREXIT, the U.S-China trade dispute, and the uncertainty around the proposed Canada-U.S-Mexico free trade deal. Despite this reality, a number of economic risks remain for 2020.
- 5.2 Although the trade dispute between the U.S and China appears to be cooling off, nationalist sentiment continues to grow across the globe. This poses a risk to

international trade as nationalism tends to shift support away from open markets. According to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the last three quarters of 2019 saw a 2.9 per cent decline in total world merchandise trade. As an export-driven economy this presents a risk for Ontario.

- 5.3 High public debt levels remain an issue in Canada and across the globe. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) public debt is expected to reach 90 per cent of GDP across the G20 countries in 2019. This is the highest level on record and is expected to reach 95 per cent by 2024.
- 5.4 The 2020 Global Risks report published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) cites climate change as one of the biggest risks to the economy over the next decade. Rising temperatures across the globe are leading to more severe weather events, such as wildfires and severe flooding. According to the WEF, the worldwide economic impact and damage from natural disasters totaled \$165 billion (U.S dollars) in 2018. They also estimate that climate related economic damage could reach up to 10 per cent of GDP in the U.S by the end of the century.
- 5.5 Although it is difficult to quantify the global economic impacts of the coronavirus at this time, some estimates suggest that the Chinese economy could experience a 2 per cent decline in economic growth during the first quarter of 2020. China has also begun an economic stimulus program by injecting 1.7 trillion yuan (\$242.74 billion USD) into the economy.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer

Sent By Email

January 30, 2020

Ralph Walton
Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
clerks@durham.ca

Subject: Re: Envision Durham – Housing Policy Planning Discussion Paper
Corr. 03-20
File: A-1400-001-20

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a meeting held on January 27, 2020 and adopted the following resolution:

1. That Corr. 03-20, dated December 20, 2019, from the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding the Envision Durham – Housing Policy Planning Discussion Paper be received;
2. That City Staff be directed, through the CAO, to review the Envision Durham – Housing Policy Planning Discussion Paper within the context of the previously directed creation of a City of Pickering Draft Affordable Housing Strategy and report back to the April 27, 2020 Council meeting; and,
3. That Councillor Brenner and Councillor Butt be appointed to work with City Staff on this review.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660 extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:rp

Copy: Chief Administrative Officer

Sent By Email

January 30, 2020

The Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines
Minister of Indigenous Affairs
greg.rickford@pc.ola.org

Subject: Re: Decommissioning of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station
Notice of Motion
File: A-1400-001-20

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a meeting held on January 27, 2020 and adopted the following resolution:

The Council of the Corporation for the City of Pickering:

1. Supports the commencement of the decommissioning process and dismantling of the PNGS as expeditiously as possible in line with the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency "Decommissioning of Nuclear Power Plants, Research Reactors and Other Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities";
2. Directs City of Pickering Economic Development and Public Affairs Staff, through the CAO, to commence work with OPG and other partners on creating and promoting Pickering as a Centre of Excellence for the Decommissioning of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station; and,
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister of Energy, all Durham Region Municipalities, all Durham Region MPPs and MPs and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660 extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel

City Clerk

SC:rp

Copy: Ryan Turnbull, Member of Parliament, Whitby
Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament, Oshawa
The Hon. Mark Holland, Member of Parliament, Ajax
The Hon. Erin O'Toole, Member of Parliament, Durham
Jennifer O'Connell, Member of Parliament, Pickering-Uxbridge
Jamie Schmale, Member of Parliament, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Member of Provincial Parliament, Pickering—Uxbridge
Lorne Coe, Member of Provincial Parliament, Whitby
Jennifer K. French, Member of Provincial Parliament, Oshawa
Lindsey Park, Member of Provincial Parliament, Durham
The Hon. Rod Phillips, Member of Provincial Parliament, Ajax
~~The Hon. Laurie Scott, Member of Provincial Parliament, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock~~
Rumina Velshi, President & CEO, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
Ken Hartwick, President & CEO, Ontario Power Generation
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Durham
Nicole Cooper, Clerk, Town of Ajax
Becky Jamieson, Clerk, Township of Brock
Anne Greentree, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa
John Paul Newman, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Township of Scugog
Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Christopher Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby

Chief Administrative Officer

Cc: mbarlow@regionofwaterloo.ca; olga.smith@waterloo.ca; info@wawa.cc; clerk@welland.ca; gkosch@wellesley.ca; donnab@wellington.ca; township@wellington-north.com; deputyclerk@westelgin.net; mturner@westgrey.com; reception@westlincoln.com; info@westnipissing.ca; info@westperth.com; info@villageofwestport.ca; info@whitby.ca; isabel.leung@townofws.ca; info@whiteriver.ca; info@whitstone.ca; info@whitewaterregion.ca; info@wilmot.ca; clerks@citywindsor.ca; tgarcia@wollaston.ca; info@cityofwoodstock.ca; woolwich.mail@woolwich.ca; accessyork@york.ca; admin@zorra.on.ca; gsandhu@adjtos.ca; Clerks@simcoe.ca; kpearl@adjtos.ca

Subject: Strathroy-Caradoc Regular Council Meeting January 20, 2020 - Approval of Resolution LTVC - Watershed Management Programs

Please be advised the following resolution sent to member municipalities of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, was presented for consideration by Council at their regular meeting of Monday, January 20, 2020 and approved as follows:

Moved by Councillors Brennan and Kennes:

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities have been protecting people and conserving and restoring watersheds with local communities for over 50 years; and

WHEREAS Municipalities must work together to ensure resilient and healthy watersheds for residents, and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities will be important partners in concrete and cost-effective initiatives to address climate change,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc supports the important role Conservation Authorities provide to local communities in delivering watershed management programs; and that this resolution be circulated to Municipalities, Conservation Authorities and the Provincial Government (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks), in Ontario. **Carried.**

Kind Regards,

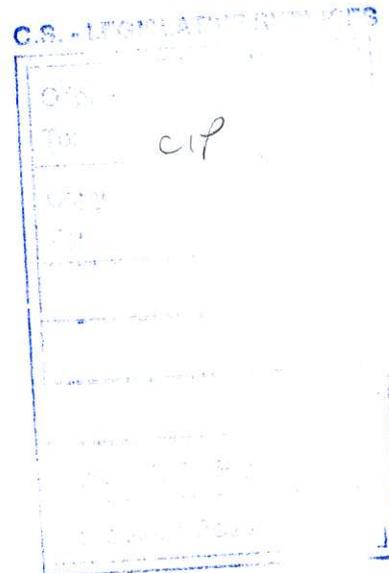
Ruth

Ruth Alcainho
Deputy Clerk/Insurance Co-Ordinator
Legal & Legislative Services
Tel: 519-245-1105 Ext 237
Fax: 519-245-6353
Email: ralcainho@strathroy-caradoc.ca



Legal & Legislative Services
Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
52 Frank Street | Strathroy, ON | N7G 2R4

Visit us online at www.strathroy-caradoc.ca



CIP 5.3



The Corporation of the Township of Madoc

15651 Highway 62, P.O. Box 503, Madoc, Ontario K0K 2K0

www.madoc.ca

613-473-2677

Fax: 613-473-5580

January 27, 2020

Re: Joint and Several Liability Consultation – Town of Amherstburg Support

At its meeting of December 4th, 2019, Madoc Township Council passed the following resolution.

Motion # 19-579

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Rollins

Seconded by: Councillor Smith

That Council directs the Clerk/Planning Coordinator to write a letter supporting the Town of Spring Water resolution regarding Joint and Several Liability Consultation

-Carried-

cc:

Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO)

Ontario Municipalities

C.S. - LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Original	
To:	CIP
Copy	
To:	
C.C. S.C.C. File	
Take Appr. Action	

September 26, 2019

Ministry of the Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building
720 Bay Street, 11th Floor
Toronto ON, M7A 2S9

Re: Joint and Several Liability Consultation

Please be advised that in response to your letter dated July 12, 2019, the Township of Springwater provides the following comments in regards to Joint and Several Liability.

1. Please describe the nature of the problem as you see it?

In response to the Province's request for consultation, the Township has a significant issue with Joint and Several Liability (JSL) and the impact it has on the municipality.

a. No Requirement of Proof

JSL is a tool that is used by the legal industry without any discretion to the point that this municipality feels that its use is negligent and in fact unethical. Most law suits that municipalities see are frivolous and vexations as lawyers cast their nets wide and attempt to use shotgun justice for their clients that are more than often the sole cause of a claim. A statement of claim does not require any proof that there is fault. A plaintiff only has to state who they think is involved and a significant amount of court time is spent determining who should be a party to the legal claim.

b. No Consequence for Being Wrongly Identified in a Statement of Claim

To add to this, there is no consequence that lawyers and their clients face for submitting a claim against a municipality when it is clear that a municipality is not involved. Municipalities incur significant administrative costs in managing these claims and the municipalities and their insurers pay significant costs to go through a lengthy process to prove that a claim was made in error (intentionally) only to find that a judge sees no reason to compensate a municipality for cost for incorrectly being named in a lawsuit by a plaintiff. Municipalities are seen as having deep pockets by the legal industry as well as the judicial system that makes decisions on these claims. Proof of innocence is often furnished to the plaintiff and lawyer by a municipality immediately upon notification of a pending legal action of statement of claim. This information is ignored by the plaintiff's lawyer. A plaintiff and their lawyer should have to reimburse a municipality for

all administrative and legal costs when the municipality is cleared of liability. Judges rarely compensate municipalities for being wrongly named in a legal action.

A recent example from 2019 occurred when a statement of claim was made against the Township of Springwater for an accident on a County Road (not the jurisdiction of Springwater). After legal and administrative costs totaling more than \$5,000, Springwater was dismissed from the claim. Unfortunately no costs were assigned to the plaintiff for wrongly naming Springwater in the statement of claim. The current system is broken and Springwater tax payers are left paying the bill.

2. *What are the problems that you need addressed to benefit your community?*

a. Ethical Standard of Due Diligence Required Before Submitting a Legal Action

Lawyer's representing plaintiff's should be required to submit documentation that provides significant research into why a claim is being made and a municipality is being named in a law suit. The claim should clearly prove authority and responsibility. The current practice of naming every party under the sun in a legal claim is negligent and unethical.

b. Frivolous and Vexatious Suits are Costing Taxpayers

The Township of Springwater is seeing a significant waste of administrative time and cost in managing legal claims against the municipality that are predominantly frivolous and vexatious due to JSL. Over the last seven years, the municipality has had 55 claims made against the municipality. These claims range from trips/falls resulting in broken eyeglasses to cases that unfortunately involve loss of life. The Township has no problem dealing with claims that the municipality is responsible for; however the Township does have a problem dealing with claims it does not have any responsibility for. Of the 55 claims against the municipality, 42 of these claims are frivolous and vexatious. Claims that the municipality has no responsibility for. Over the past 7 years, Springwater has paid more than \$100,000 on these frivolous and vexatious claims as they work themselves through the legal process. Many of these files are still open. This does not include additional costs paid by Springwater's insurance company that are beyond the municipality's deductible.

c. Negligent Legal Actions (Beyond Frivolous and Vexatious)

The Township of Springwater is currently named in 4 legal actions and an additional legal action (recently abandoned) for claims that occurred in another municipality (no where near Springwater). The Township is currently named in 3 claims that occurred in the Township of Clearview west of Stayner and one claim in the Township of Brock that have nothing to do with the Township. Springwater was named in a claim that occurred

in Wasaga Beach that was abandoned recently. All of these claims cost the Springwater taxpayer in administrative and legal costs as they work their way through the process.

d. Triage System for Claims

Before a claim makes it to a court date, the file should be triaged. It is at this stage that negligent of frivolous and vexatious claims will be filtered or thrown out. This process will trigger the reimbursement of costs to municipalities by unethical law firms.

e. Law Society of Ontario Charges

Lawyers that use JSL in an unethical way should be charged by the Law Society of Ontario. If a lawyer names a municipality in a legal action that should not be named, these lawyers should be suspended and potentially lose their license to practice law. There is a significant commonality when comparing frivolous and vexatious claims and the law firms/lawyers that submit them. The current code of ethics of the Law Society of Ontario should be updated by the Province to reprimand lawyers and law firms that negligently use JSL. The Province of Ontario should be involved in creating a new Code of Ethics for Ontario's legal industry.

3. *Is it increased premiums? Rising deductibles?*

A recent survey by CAO's in Simcoe County shows that insurance premiums are going up between 10% at the lowest to 59% being the highest in 2019. The Township of Springwater experienced a 10.8% increase in its 2019 insurance renewal. The area that typically sees an annual increase is related to the Municipal General Liability and Excess Liability lines of the business. The municipality was advised by its insurance broker that "over the past several years, insurance companies' appetite for Municipal Insurance has remained fairly stable. Insurance rates across all lines have seen only modest increases intended to simply keep pace with inflation and the rising cost of claims. Larger rate increases have been reserved for those accounts experiencing adverse claims development; either in frequency or severity (or both). However, starting in June 2018, the insurance market as a whole has shown clear signs of "hardening". Insurance companies for all sectors are putting stricter rules in place regarding the amount and breadth of coverage they will provide, and to which clients. Since the overall insurance supply is being reduced, the demand for insurer capacity is increasing, and as such, prices are elevating."

The table below provides at a high level (includes all lines of coverage) the Township's annual insurance premiums over the past five years.

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
\$234,942	\$247,262	\$254,388	\$274,936	\$304,688

The Township continues to consult with its insurance broker in an effort to ensure that Springwater's constituents are receiving the best value for their tax dollar; however, the rising costs of insurance are not sustainable over the long run. Staff and its insurance broker have looked at increasing our deductibles in an effort to reduce the overall premium; however this has led to minimal reductions in the overall annual premium to the Township.

4. Being unfairly named in lawsuits?

As detailed above, Springwater continues to be unfairly named in legal actions. Issues here range from a complete absence of research by legal firms on causality to the municipality being named in legal action in completely separate jurisdictions (other municipalities).

5. Feeling you cannot offer certain services because of liability risks?

More recently, with the advice of the Township's insurance broker, the Township has changed the way in which it delivers some of its recreational programs/services, especially as it relates to children's programs/activities. For example, the Township in partnership with its Community Recreation Associations will host a number of community based events throughout the year, which includes children's activities. In order to allow inflatable Bouncy castles at community events, the Township now requires the service provider to indemnify the Township and to also provide staff to monitor the safety of participants while in the inflatable Bouncy castle. Some vendors are reluctant to take on this risk.

Thank you for allowing the Township to participate in this consultation. We are open to further dialogue should you feel it necessary.

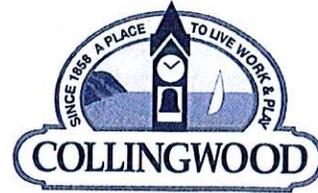
Yours truly,



Jeff Schmidt, CPA, CGA, B.A.S.
Chief Administrative Officer

Cc: Ontario Municipalities

TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD



Becky Dahl, Deputy Clerk

97 Hurontario St. P.O. Box 157

Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z5

Tel: (705) 445-1030 Ex. 3230

Fax: (705) 445-2448

Email: bdahl@collingwood.ca

January 21, 2020

The Honourable Jeff Yurek
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Re: Conservation Authorities

On behalf of the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Collingwood, I write to advise you of the following recommendation approved at its meeting held on January 20, 2020 for your consideration:

WHEREAS the Town of Collingwood has recently declared a Climate Emergency;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Collingwood has committed to nine core principles of sustainability;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Collingwood is a beneficiary of the upstream environmental remediation work done by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA);

AND WHEREAS the Town of Collingwood is a member of the NVCA, with representation on its Board of Directors;

AND WHEREAS under the direction of the Board of Directors, the NVCA provides programs and services addressing local priorities to the residents of Collingwood and its other member municipalities, including inclusive outdoor education and recreation, water quality monitoring, preservation of species at risk as well as protecting life and property through a variety of measures;

AND WHEREAS the NVCA provides the Town of Collingwood with expert advice on the environmental impact of land use planning proposals and that the Municipality does not have staff with comparable expertise or experience;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks provides approximately one percent of the budget for programs and services currently delivered by the NVCA;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Collingwood supports Conservation Authority regulations under Bill 108 being completed in consultation with municipalities, the NVCA and Conservation Ontario;

AND THAT the Town of Collingwood supports continuation of the critical programs and services included in the mandate of Conservation Authorities;

AND THAT during the fulsome review and consultations the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks continue to allow local municipalities' designated representatives

to determine which programs will be delivered and mandatory, along with the use of a Board-directed fair municipal levy as per current Regulation;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Jim Wilson, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Conservation Ontario, all Ontario municipalities, and the County of Simcoe.

Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-445-1030 ext. 3230 or clerk@collingwood.ca .

Yours truly,

~~TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD~~



Becky Dahl
Deputy Clerk, Clerk Services

c.c. Premier Doug Ford
Jim Wilson, MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Conservation Ontario
County of Simcoe
Ontario municipalities

Fort Frances
Atikokan
Alberton
La Vallee
Emo

RAINY RIVER DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER
P.O. BOX 4
BARWICK, ONTARIO
P0W 1A0

Rainy River
Dawson
Lake of the Woods
Morley
Chapple

Phone: (807) 487-2354 Email: chapple@tbaytel.net

January 28, 2020

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Doug Ford, Premier:

Re: **Resolution to Address Fair and Equitable Property Taxation Revenue on Railway Right-of-Ways Collected by Municipalities in Ontario**

At the recent meeting of the Rainy River District Municipal Association on Saturday, January 25, 2020, the following resolution was approved:

“WHEREAS in 2018 the Province of Ontario adjusted the tax rate for acreage for railway right-a-ways throughout Ontario which specifically impacted Rainy River, Kenora and Thunder Bay districts in a positive fashion; and

WHEREAS in other provinces and jurisdictions the railway companies remit a more equitable share of taxes to their local tax base by using a per tonne-mile concept; and

WHEREAS rail traffic continues to increase and the train length has more than doubled, which results in rail traffic congestion, increased wait times, noise pollution and unknown environmental concerns; and **WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario should review fees based on inflation and current conditions on an annual basis to ensure that Ontario does not continue to fall further behind in their approach to railway property taxation; and

WHEREAS fair and equitable taxation revenue on railway property will reduce the financial pressure on the Province to provide financial support to municipalities going forward;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Rainy River District Municipal Association call upon the Minister of Finance of the Province of Ontario to undertake ongoing consideration of municipal taxation for railroad right-of-way properties based on a per tonne-mile concept; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Rainy River District Municipal Association send this resolution to every Municipal Council within the Province of Ontario seeking their support, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance of Ontario, Local MPPs, Local MPs, NOMA, ROMA AND AMO."

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Peggy Johnson,
Secretary Treasurer
Rainy River District Municipal Association

c.c. (via email)
Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance
Hon. G. Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines,
Minister of Indigenous Affairs
Marcus Powlowski, MP Thunder Bay-Rainy River
NOMA
AMO
ROMA



4560 Sideline 22, R.R. #5, Claremont ON L1Y 1A2 / landoverlanding@gmail.com / 905-649-2433

3 February 2020

Dear Mayor Collier,

On behalf of the Land Over Landings research team, I am pleased to provide you with the additional data you requested following Sari Srieddine's delegation to the Regional Council meeting on January 29.

The delegation had to do with the Region's Climate Change Emergency Declaration, and you had a question related to the following paragraph of Sari's presentation:

The Declaration states that "climate change considerations will be embedded across all elements of Region business." Excellent! That commitment bodes well for the health of North Pickering, because the aerotropolis idea – if the federal government ever approved such a plan – would fail every test. North Pickering's farmland, on the other hand, would contribute in direct, crucial ways to the Region's mitigation and resiliency efforts.

You asked if we had data to back up the statement: "(in your words) *if this was put to the test it would fail every time.*" The tests in question would be those the Region applied in conformance with its commitment to view all Region business through the lens of climate change. Climate change considerations would extend to any infrastructure proposal, such as an airport, that could add new emissions to the Region's tally – and on the Federal Lands that would mean megatonnes of emissions where there are very few emissions today. As a councillor noted later in the meeting, Durham Region has relatively low emissions compared with jurisdictions such as Toronto and Hamilton. But as Mayor Mitchell pointed out, all emissions add to the global total. Durham Region's low numbers mean we are starting with a major advantage and less-onerous challenges; why would we knowingly squander that advantage by adding infrastructure that would increase our emissions to levels rivalling Hamilton's?

Those climate-related litmus tests were not specifically referring to indoor agricultural activities within the boundaries or confines of an airport. You were presumably referring to vertical farming when you asked for data backing up our assertions there. *A Future for the Lands*, the agricultural economics study commissioned by Land Over Landings, and released in 2018, did not cover vertical farms (your recollection was accurate). It didn't even cover greenhouses. As the consultants (both of them agricultural economists) said in their report:

Not included in this vision are a few types of agricultural production such as greenhouse vegetable production since there are existing clusters in other regions of the province (e.g., Leamington) that will have a competitive advantage over such production on the Subject Lands.

The consultants could see no secure future for large-scale greenhouse operations on the Lands, in large part (but not exclusively) because of the high energy demands of such operations, which would frustrate their

ability to compete. And indoor farms are even greater energy hogs than greenhouses. The consultants' thinking has been backed up by many other studies and by the experiences of many Canadian growers (some random samples: in Ontario, Mucci Farms, NatureFresh Farms, Mastronardi Farms, Bruce Tropical Produce; in Quebec, Les Serres Lefort, Les Serres Stéphane Bertrand...). The verticalfarming.com website, reporting on a study done for a firm in British Columbia, is a good source of details on the sector's inherent complexities, constraints, and risk factors.

There is also the study by Theurl et al.,¹ which was selected as an illustrative example by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for its *Special Report: Climate Change and Land* (2019). As you know, the Panel assesses the peer-reviewed, scientific, technical, and socio-economic data in thousands of journals and other published materials from around the world, and includes in its reports only those findings backed by broad or overwhelming consensus. The illustrative examples the Panel chooses to use carry the same weight of authority as the text around them. The IPCC referenced Theurl's study in the *Special Report's* Chapter 5: Food Security (p. 491), and noted:

[...] environmental benefits associated with local food can be offset by inefficient production systems with high emission intensity and resource needs [...]

Theurl's findings were behind the following comments in Sari's presentation:

Research shows that local vegetables grown in a greenhouse have GHG emissions **10 times higher** than those grown in a farm field. Even in cold weather months, the GHG emissions from indoor-grown vegetables remain **substantially higher** than those of their imported, field-grown counterparts.

Greenhouse/indoor growers face real hurdles in areas such as North Pickering. Not only would their produce likely be more expensive, *even against imports*, owing to higher production costs, but the operations' emissions would also be higher than those of field crops. The IPCC report's authors went on to say:

For example, vegetables produced in open fields can have much lower GHG emissions than locally produced vegetables from heated greenhouses (Theurl et al. 2014). Whether locally grown food has a lower carbon footprint depends on the on-farm emissions intensity as well as the transport emissions. In some cases, imported food may have a lower carbon footprint than locally grown food because some distant countries can produce food at much lower emissions intensity.

Land Over Landings is in the final stages of producing a research paper on the topic of indoor farming. We will make sure you receive a copy once it has been published.

We are pleased and relieved that the Climate Change Emergency Declaration passed unamended, and we truly thank you for voting for it.

Sincerely,



Pat Valentine, Communications Director
Land Over Landings

1. M.C. Theurl et al., "Contrasted greenhouse gas emissions from local versus long-range tomato production," *Agronomy for Sustainable Development*, 34(3), July 2013. Accessible at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/256503477_Contrasted_greenhouse_gas_emissions_from_local_versus_long-range_tomato_production

**Ministry of Children,
Community and Social
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Minister's Office

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127-2020-968

January 30, 2020

Dear Municipal Partner:

First, I want to take the opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year.

Further to the letter I sent you on December 16, 2019, I am pleased to notify you that our survey to inform the development of Ontario's next Poverty Reduction Strategy is now live on Ontario.ca/povertysurvey and will be available online until March 30, 2020.

Our government believes that the people of Ontario are the province's greatest asset and when the people of Ontario succeed, our economy and province succeed. It is our shared responsibility to create the best conditions for people to reach their potential. We need and we want to listen to municipalities, Indigenous partners, members of the community, service providers, employers, and local partners to find new and innovative ways to support people during challenging times and create the conditions that will help them build a better life.

To support the development of our new Poverty Reduction Strategy, we are asking residents of Ontario to take 30 minutes and answer our survey as we seek new ideas on how we can:

- Encourage job creation and connect people to employment
- Provide people with the right supports and services
- Lower the cost of living and make life more affordable.

As part of a new strategy, we will set a target for poverty reduction and identify indicators to measure progress to ensure we are achieving results.

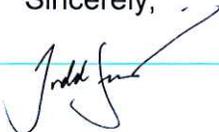
The survey can be accessed at Ontario.ca/povertysurvey. Please feel free to share the survey link with your community members and colleagues.

.../cont'd

In addition, we are also welcoming written submissions that can be sent by e-mail to prso@ontario.ca or by mail to Poverty Reduction Strategy, 3rd Floor, 315 Front Street West, Toronto ON, M7A 0B8. If there are any questions on how any personal information such as names and addresses that are included with a submission will be used, please contact: Manager, Strategic Policy Unit, MCCSS by e-mail at prso@ontario.ca or by telephone at (647) 308-9963.

I encourage you to share information about this consultation, including the survey link, with service providers, Indigenous partners and businesses in your community. I look forward to receiving input from Ontario residents as we work together to make a difference in reducing poverty in the province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Smith", with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Todd Smith
Minister

**Ministère des Services à
l'enfance et des Services
sociaux et
communautaires**

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127-2020-968

30 janvier 2020

Madame,

Monsieur,

D'abord, je veux profiter de l'occasion pour vous souhaiter une bonne année.

À la suite à la lettre que je vous ai envoyée le 16 décembre 2019, j'ai le plaisir de vous informer que notre sondage visant à contribuer à l'élaboration de la prochaine Stratégie ontarienne de réduction de la pauvreté est maintenant en ligne à l'adresse Ontario.ca/sondagepauvreté et sera disponible en ligne jusqu'au 30 mars 2020.

Notre gouvernement croit que la population de l'Ontario est le plus grand atout de la province et que si elle réussit, notre économie et notre province réussissent. Nous avons la responsabilité commune de créer les meilleures conditions pour que les gens puissent réaliser leur potentiel. Nous devons et voulons écouter les municipalités, les partenaires autochtones, les membres de la communauté, les fournisseurs de services, les employeurs et les partenaires locaux pour trouver des moyens nouveaux et novateurs de soutenir les gens pendant les périodes difficiles et de créer les conditions qui les aideront à se bâtir une vie meilleure.

Pour appuyer l'élaboration de notre nouvelle Stratégie de réduction de la pauvreté, nous demandons aux résidents de l'Ontario de prendre 30 minutes pour répondre à notre sondage puisque nous cherchons des idées novatrices sur la façon :

- de favoriser la création d'emplois et de mettre les gens en contact avec l'emploi;
- d'offrir aux gens le soutien et les services appropriés;
- d'abaisser le coût de la vie et de rendre la vie plus abordable.

.../suite

Dans le cadre de la nouvelle stratégie, nous fixerons une cible pour réduire la pauvreté et définirons des indicateurs pour mesurer les progrès afin de nous assurer que nous obtenons des résultats.

Le sondage est disponible à l'adresse Ontario.ca/sondagepauvreté. N'hésitez pas à partager le lien du sondage avec les membres de votre communauté et vos collègues.

De plus, il est aussi possible de transmettre des observations écrites par courriel à prso@ontario.ca ou par la poste à Stratégie de réduction de la pauvreté, 3^e étage, 315, rue Front Ouest, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 0B8. Si vous avez des questions sur l'utilisation des renseignements personnels, tels que les noms et adresses, qui accompagnent les observations, veuillez communiquer avec nous : Gestionnaire, Unité des politiques stratégiques, MDESC, par courriel à prso@ontario.ca ou par téléphone au (647) 308-9963.

Je vous invite à transmettre l'information sur cette consultation, y compris le lien du sondage, aux fournisseurs de services, aux partenaires autochtones et aux entreprises de votre communauté. Je suis impatient de recevoir les commentaires des résidents de l'Ontario alors que nous travaillons ensemble pour faire une différence en vue de réduire la pauvreté dans la province.

Cordialement,



Todd Smith
Ministre

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

9-1-1 MANAGEMENT BOARD

January 16, 2020

A regular meeting of the 9-1-1 Management Board was held at Region of Durham Paramedic Services, 4040 Anderson Street, Whitby, Ontario, at 9:30 A.M.

Present: J. Galipeau, Durham Regional Police (Chair)
T. Cheseboro, Region of Durham Paramedic Services
L. Kellett, Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre, Ministry of Health – Emergency Health Program Management & Delivery Branch
M. Simpson, Director of Financial Planning and Purchasing, Durham Region, left the meeting at 11:35 AM
J. Wichman, Communications/9-1-1 Technical Manager

Absent: B. Drew, Durham Regional Council
G. Weir, Clarington Emergency & Fire Services

Staff

Present: L. Nash, 9-1-1 Communications Training Coordinator, Durham Regional Police
C. Gillis, Acting Superintendent, Durham Regional Police, left the meeting at 11:33 AM
J. Whittaker, Sergeant, Communications, Durham Regional Police
T. Fraser, Legislative Services Division – Corporate Services Department

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved by M. Simpson, Seconded by J. Wichman,

(1) That the minutes of the 9-1-1 Management Board meeting held on November 18, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Appointment of New Chair for 9-1-1 Management Board

T. Fraser advised that in accordance with the provisions contained in the 9-1-1 Joint Powers Agreement, it is required that a representative of either the Police or Fire Agencies, Chair on a rotating annual basis.

G. Weir will assume the Chair of the 9-1-1 Management Board as of the next meeting.

4. 9-1-1 Call Statistics

J. Wichman provided the 2019 statistics on calls transferred, 2019 estimated distribution by agency, and 9-1-1 call comparison for 2017, 2018 and 2019, as handouts. He advised that the overall volume of calls is increasing annually, and he provided a breakdown of calls transferred by agency for 2019.

J. Wichman responded to questions with respect to the tracking of non-emergency calls to 9-1-1; and the number of calls received as a result of the emergency alert regarding the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station.

5. Tweets from Durham Region 9-1-1

J. Wichman advised that the 9-1-1 Unit is considering the use of social media to share information with the public on the number of calls received monthly and for public awareness around issues such as wireless hang up calls. He also advised that they are considering whether to open their own twitter account.

Discussion ensued with respect to the social media policies of the Region of Durham and Durham Regional Police Service; and the best social media platform for communicating with the public. It was suggested that a meeting be held with Corporate Communications staff of the Region of Durham and Durham Regional Police Service to discuss next steps.

6. Communications

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. Refer to Item 5. Tweets from Durham Region 9-1-1 on page 2 of these minutes.

7. Approval of Region of Durham E9-1-1 P.E.R.S. Policy and Procedure Manual

J. Wichman provided a draft of the Region of Durham E9-1-1 P.E.R.S. Policy and Procedure Manual as a handout and he reviewed the proposed changes with members of the Board.

Discussion ensued with respect to the proposed changes in the Policy and Procedure Manual; the process for adding or altering procedures; updating the complaint taking policy related to the minimum staffing requirement; the 9-1-1 funding model; and next steps.

It was requested that an electronic copy of the draft Policy and Procedure Manual be circulated to members for review prior to the next 9-1-1 Management Board meeting. It was also suggested that changes requiring Regional Council approval be deferred until the Fall of 2020 to allow for further review of the complaint taking policy.

8. 9-1-1 Management Board 2020 Budget

M. Simpson provided a copy of the proposed 2020 Budget for the Emergency 9-1-1 Telephone System as a handout. She noted that the proposed budget increase is 11.52% and most is related to the annualization of the five new communicator positions approved in the 2019 budget.

J. Wichman provided an overview of the proposed 2020 program changes and he advised that the increase in capital assets is related to the implementation of next generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1). He also outlined future increases related to maintenance costs which will have an impact on the 2021 Budget.

Discussion ensued with respect to the use of the Capital Project Reserve; and whether any funding is provided from other levels of government or phone bills.

Moved by M. Simpson, Seconded by J. Wichman,
(2) That we recommend to the Finance & Administration Committee for consideration during budget deliberations:

That the 2020 9-1-1 Management Board Budget include the following items to be financed from the Region's Capital Project Reserve:

- \$285,000 for the purchase of Computer Telephony Integration System Equipment;
- \$240,000 for the purchase of Voice Recorder System;
- \$461,400 for the purchase of Private Branch Exchange for Phone System; and
- \$264,000 for the purchase of Servers/SANS.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Cheseboro, Seconded by L. Kellett,
(3) That the proposed 2020 9-1-1 budget be approved and that the proposed 2020 9-1-1 budget be forwarded to the Regional Finance Department for inclusion in the proposed 2020 Regional Business Plans and Budgets.

CARRIED

9. Other Departments - Comments/Concerns

a) Comments/Concerns – Regional Council

There were no comments.

b) Comments/Concerns – Durham Police

J. Wichman advised that they are continuing work towards the implementation of next generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) and that he will keep the board informed as the network is developed.

Discussion ensued with respect to upcoming changes to the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and the potential impact on staffing.

c) Comments/Concerns – Fire Departments

There were no comments.

d) Comments/Concerns – Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre

L. Kellett outlined some of the issues being experienced with the phone lines at the Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre.

e) Comments/Concerns – Durham Finance

M. Simpson advised that the proposed 2020 Regional Budget will include \$300,000 for the installation of signage on vacant rural properties for 9-1-1 purposes. She noted that the funding would be made available to local municipalities to install signage as needed.

f) Comments/Concerns – Region of Durham Paramedic Services

There were no comments.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the 9-1-1 Management Board will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at the Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Meeting Room 1-E.

12. Adjournment

Moved by L. Kellett, Seconded by T. Cheseboro,
(4) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 AM

J. Galipeau, Chair

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 16, 2020

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:05 PM.

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
S. Clearwater, Whitby
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair
R. Dickinson, Brock
C. Duffy, Post-Secondary Member
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair
D. Sallans, Member at Large
B. Shipp, Member at Large
M. Thompson, Ajax
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby, attended the meeting at 8:00 PM

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering
K. Murray, Member at Large
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
D. Upadhyay, Youth Member

Also
Present: Councillor John Neal

Staff
Present: C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy Planning & Special Studies, Planning & Economic Development Department
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the agenda be altered to hear Item 5. A) Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site, and Item 5. B) Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Contaminates Deposited on Rural Lands, next.

CARRIED

5. Delegations

A) Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site

Allen Frank, Durham Resident, appeared before the Committee regarding Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site. A. Frank provided a handout to Committee that will be retained in Legislative Services.

A. Frank stated that he is appearing before the DEAC to voice concerns about the health and dumping practices of the landfill site on the property between Ritson Road and Wilson Road, north of Columbus Road, in the City of Oshawa.

A. Frank stated that himself, along with other residents, asked the following questions to City of Oshawa staff, as well as Durham Region staff:

- Has there been studies before the dumping began?
- What is the content of the material being dumped?
- Is the material (or each truck) being monitored or inspected?

A. Frank further stated that they would like to see the following recommendations implemented:

- A thorough study of the area where dumping occurs;
- Studies must all be passed and completed before permits are issued to dump;
- And also, very important, the citizens must be informed about the source of the material being dumped;
- Strict monitoring of each truck as it is dumped;
- The monitor must be a citizen from where the landfill site is (preferably 2 monitors); and
- A hefty fine for any truck that has dumped material containing anything other than what was specified in the permit to dump and the permit being cancelled immediately.

A. Frank concluded that they would like a public meeting to be hosted and that the applicant be present with a copy of the permit he is seeking to attain.

B) Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Contaminates Deposited on Rural Lands

Clint Cole, Durham Resident, appeared before the Committee regarding contaminates deposited on rural lands.

C. Cole stated that he would like more scrutinized oversight over silos that are created between all levels of government. He stated that individual

municipalities are not sufficiently managing their fill by-laws, and that the material may be harmful human health and consequently to the watershed. He noted that fill is moving from multiple municipalities without the proper monitoring, and there should be more Regional oversight and closer scrutiny as opposed to the owner/operators self-monitoring.

C. Cole questioned if the Region has proper and adequate policies to protect groundwater.

C. Cole referenced Section 3: Scope of Activities, specifically Section 3.1 b) and 3.1 e) of the DEAC Terms of Reference and stated that it is within DEAC's scope to provide advice on such matters as the one presented today, and to provide advice on policy matters. He asked that DEAC look at the motion from the January 8, 2020 Works Committee meeting regarding "a regional fill policy".

C. Cole responded to questions from the Committee.

Discussion ensued with respect to contaminants being deposited in rural lands; Provincial Regulation 406 and the different types of sampling on the soil that is completed, and the protocols followed by a Qualified Person (QP); and whether the Ministry of Health should be involved in this process.

Staff explained how information flows through the DEAC and back to the Planning and Economic Development Department, and invited members of the public and the DEAC to provide comments on the Environment/Greenlands System Discussion Paper, as well as to follow the Envision Durham process.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recess for 5 minutes. The Committee recessed at 7:49 PM and reconvened at 7:52 PM.

C. Goodchild, Manager, Policies & Special Studies, Planning & Economic Development Department, referenced the Works Committee motion at the January 8, 2020 Works Committee meeting regarding the development of a Regional fill policy. She advised that staff will be meeting to discuss and determine next steps and noted that excess soil regulation work is on-going. She further noted that staff brought forward a site-alteration by-law model in 2012 for municipalities to use if they wished. C. Goodchild advised that she will let the staff working group know that DEAC would like the opportunity to provide comments on whatever comes out of the working group and the January 8, 2020 Works Committee motion.

A. Luqman advised that she would email the Committee three links to various newspaper articles that provide additional background information on this issue.

1. Election of Officers for 2020

Election of the DEAC Chair

S. Penak, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by B. Foxton,
That G. Carpentier be nominated for the position of Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by G. Layton,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Penak asked if G. Carpentier wished to stand. G. Carpentier indicated he wished to stand.

G. Carpentier was acclaimed to the position of Chair.

Election of the DEAC First and Second Vice-Chairs

S. Penak, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the positions of First and Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by R. Dickinson,
That J. Cuthbertson be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of
the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by G. Layton,
That K. Lui be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Penak asked if K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson wished to stand. K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson indicated they wished to stand.

K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson were acclaimed to the positions of First and Second Vice-Chair, respectively.

G. Carpentier assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the agenda be altered to hear Item 6. A) Jamie Davidson,
Acting Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage, Central
Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), re: CLOCA Draft
Watershed Plan Update, next.

CARRIED

6. Presentations

A) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) Draft Watershed Plan Update

Jamie Davidson, Acting Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage, CLOCA, appeared before the Committee to present an update on the Draft Watershed Plan.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA)
- 2012 Watershed Management Plans: Existing Conditions and Plan Development
 - Existing Conditions Reports
 - Watershed Management Plans
- Natural Heritage System (NHS)
- Action Plans
- Recommended Official Plan (OP) Policies
- Watershed Health Targets
- What's Changed in the Past 5 Years?
 - Legislation
 - Climate Change and Growth
 - Action Plans
- Updating the Plans: Planning, Evaluating, and Achieving Watershed Health
 - Planning for Watershed Health
 - New Watershed Plan Vision
 - Evaluating Watershed Health
 - Achieving Watershed Health
- Next Steps

J. Davidson responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether CLOCA monitors tree cover and whether that is reportable to upper levels of government; whether the impacts of landfill or clean fill are considered with respect to the health of watersheds; the monitoring of Ephemeral ponds and amphibian monitoring; whether CLOCA was approached by the City of Oshawa to complete any water processing at the fill site as mentioned by the two delegations earlier in the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by G. Layton, Seconded by R. Dickinson,
That the agenda for the January 16, 2020 DEAC meeting, as
presented, be approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
November 21, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

In regard to the delegation made by Highway for Heroes to the DEAC on
November 21, 2019, G. Carpentier updated the Committee that they can now
operate throughout the entire Hwy 401 corridor, as opposed to only operating
within 15 kms of the Hwy 401 and in specific areas.

5. Delegations

- A) Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. See page 2 of these minutes.

- B) Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Contaminates Deposited on Rural Lands

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. See pages 2 and 3 of these minutes.

6. Presentations

- A) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) Draft Watershed Plan Update

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. See page 5 of these minutes.

7. Items for Discussion/Input

A) Attendance at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Advisory Committee

A. Luqman advised that the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Advisory Committee is looking for a representative from DEAC.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by R. Dickinson,
That Susan Clearwater be appointed as the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee representative to the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Advisory Committee.
CARRIED

B) Update from Climate Change Resiliency Homeowner's Guide Subcommittee

J. Cuthbertson advised that the Climate Change Resiliency Homeowner's Guide Subcommittee met prior to the meeting. He advised that the members divided up a few different topics for a more in-depth look and welcome any comments from the other members of the Committee.

C) Update from Environmental Awards Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that the Environmental Awards Subcommittee met and established names for the two additional award categories after reviewing the background information. She noted there have been discussions about collaborating with the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change Committee which would potentially move the awards to the Fall of 2020. She stated that more details would be available once a workplan is finalized.

D) 2020 DEAC Workplan and Terms of Reference Update

Copies of the draft 2020 DEAC Workplan and draft Terms of Reference were provided as Attachments #3 and #4 to the Agenda.

The Committee agreed to the Workplan as presented and added that the Meeting Schedule dates will need to be updated to reflect the 2020 DEAC meetings.

Moved by G. Layton, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) recommends to the Planning & Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the Draft 2020 Workplan of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

With regards to the draft Terms of Reference, the committee agreed to the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference and proposed a further amendment as follows:

- Under Section 5. Membership Interest, 5.1, 8th line, that the following be struck out:
 - “will nominate a sufficient number of members at large who are bona fide farmers”

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC)
recommends to the Planning & Economic Development Committee
for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the DEAC Terms of Reference, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

8. For Information

A) Commissioner’s Report #2019-A-34 – Climate Change Update

A copy of Report #2019-A-34 of the Chief Administrative Officer was received as Attachment #5 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets referenced under Section 2.3 of Report #2019-A-34: Climate Change Update; whether the percentage gaps are too large; and the need for a better description of solid waste landfill referenced under Section 5.10 of the Notes Section of Table 3.

B) Durham Waste Management Annual 2018 Report

A copy of the Durham Waste Management Annual 2018 Report was received as Attachment #6 to the agenda.

C) Durham/York Energy from Waste Project Ambient Air Monitoring 2019, Third Quarterly Report

A copy of the Durham/York Energy from Waste Project Ambient Air Monitoring 2019, Third Quarterly Report, was received as Attachment #7 to the agenda.

D) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-90 – Monitoring of Growth Trends Report

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-90 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #8 to the agenda.

E) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-91 – Carruther's Creek Watershed Plan Update

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-91 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #9 to the agenda.

F) Durham/York Energy from Waste Project 2019 Odour Management and Mitigation Monitoring Report

A copy of the Durham/York Energy from Waste Project 2019 Odour Management and Mitigation Monitoring Report was received as Attachment #10 to the agenda.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by G. Layton,
That Information Items 7A) to 7F) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

9. Other Business

A) Newspaper article, re: Aquamation

S. Clearwater raised a concern regarding the process of Aquamation which is a process used for the disposal of human and pet remains using lye and heat. She referenced a newspaper article titled: Ontario agency trying to shut down Newcastle funeral operator's use of new body disposal method that appeared in the Toronto Star on December 16, 2019. She stated her concern that the effluent would go into the waste water, and then onto farmers fields. Discussion ensued regarding whether the low-heat method would destroy prions (transmissible pathogens) that could cause neurodegenerative disorders.

[Subsequent to the meeting A. Luqman emailed the newspaper article link to the Committee.]

10. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020 starting at 7:00 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

11. Adjournment

Moved by B. Foxton, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Penak, Committee Clerk