

Strathcona Community Council
Annual General Meeting
On Zoom

November 21, 2022

Meeting Minutes
(Draft)

Present On Zoom: Jason Morse, Michael-Allan Marion, Barb Williams, Denise Minardi, Chris Erl, Ian Borsuk, Joshua Allen, Jennifer Dawson, Rosemary Baptista, Wilma Rossi, Chris qOsborn, Jennifer Kinneman, Brian Hovsepian, Aurelia Shaw, Dawn Graham, Julia Gott, Alana Mayer, Lennox Toppin, Dominic Sorbara, Colleen McGray, David Keane, Jenny Vengris, Barbara Ledger, David McLaughlin, Brenda Broer, Laura Burnett, Kenneth Sherman, Elizabeth Parker, Terry MacDougall, Kathy Wolsey.

Guests: Councillor Maureen Wilson, Stephanie Hilson, Hamilton Police Sgt. Asim Butt.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm with Chris Erl in the Chair.

2. Land Acknowledgement:

The Chair read the following acknowledgement:

We take this time to recognize that Strathcona is situated upon the traditional territory of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Mississauga and Haudenosaunee. The land is shared between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishinaabe, as acknowledged in the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt. That Wampum uses the symbolism of a dish to represent that the people are to share the resources of the land, and take only what they need.

3. Agenda:

Motion: Moved by Denise Minardi, seconded by Ian Borsuk, that the agenda for the 2022 Annual General Meeting be approved.

Carried.

4. Crime Manager's Presentation:

In a statistical report, Hamilton Police Sgt. Asim Butt told the gathering that crime was generally down in the past year compared with 2021. That included a smaller number of break and enters responded to by 16 officers. There were 11 during the summer months.

More officers are needed to address a safety factor, he said, adding this is not a problem unique to Hamilton.

In the category of auto theft 11 cars were stolen.

There were a total 21 thefts from auto over the year, five robberies, and three incidents of theft over \$5,000.

There were a total 102 occurrences.

That included a spike in September and October. There were 13 occurrences in September, and 14 in October.

He spoke about new programs such as Home Alone, which resulted in a 23 per cent reduction in occurrences.

He also reported on Project MOM , Madness On Main, in which officers issued 21 tickets for speeding and other driving infractions.

He also spoke about Project Impact which concentrated enforcement resources on collisions at two bad intersections: Main and Dundurn Street, which was expanded to King and Dundurn; and Main and Wellington.

At the Dundurn intersections, police issued 58 tickets. At Main/Wellington officers issued 11 tickets.

“I believe it’s a design issue,” he said of the Dundurn intersections.

He further spoke about Project Gears, in which perpetrators use bicycles while committing crimes. Several people were arrested, with many already wanted by police. Some bicycles already reported stolen were recovered in the process.

Sgt. Butt responded to a question about motorists driving without mufflers.

Anyone with more questions can enquire by emailing abutt@hamiltonpolice.on.ca.

5. Updates from Councillor Wilson:

Coun. Wilson reported on sought changes to York Boulevard to make it more environmentally friendly, greener and safer. She said financing of proposed upgrades is no longer coupled with the LRT project. York Boulevard was meant for one user — motorists, she said and money must be spent on upgrades to address problems at Dundurn/York, as well as slip lanes, which were designed for motorists, not pedestrians.

She also talked about upgrades to splash pads and an ongoing archeological survey at that location.

Strathcona Dundurn and Locke intersections will have upgrades to raise them to slow down traffic. Raised crosswalks will be coming on Locke Street North in 2023 or early 2024

Also coming is the conversion of Queen Street from one-way to two-way , extended to King.

Coun. Wilson responded to a question on the city budget process.

She also said the city is behind on infrastructure overhauls and public health initiatives.

“We have been bleeding our infrastructure and not investing in it for years,” she said.

She also said a shortage of workers will inevitably result in cost and tax increases.

In responding to a question from Rosemary Baptista, she said roads “are not good” in the lower city.

She responded to questions from Ian Borsuk about a delay in installation of bicycle lanes and road resurfacing.

David McLaughlin said he would pay more in taxes if the city would shovel the sidewalks.

Coun. Wilson said for the first time shovelling sidewalks on transit streets is on the agenda. She called it “a monumental change.”

David Keane asked about installing more e-charging stations.

Coun. Wilson said Hamilton is behind other cities but is trying to catch up.

7. President’s Year-End Report:

Jason Morse reported in depth on the past year’s installation of the Executive’s committee system, made-up of four committees: Governance, Events, Policy and Advocacy, and Communications.

Motion: Moved by Jason Morse, seconded by Ian Borsuk, that the President’s Report be approved.

Carried.

8. Treasurer’s Report:

Chris Erl said the SCC held a successful Screen On the Green event and actually made a modest amount of money.

The balance in the current account stands at \$1,301.77

Motion: Moved by Chris Erl, seconded by Michael-Allan Marion, that the Treasurer’s Report be approved.

Carried.

9. Committee Reports:

Policy and Advocacy — Jason Morse and Chris Erl reported on a streets safety survey, a walk-along York Boulevard morning with Executive and city staff, and a Ward 1 all-candidates debate.

“We are one of the last neighbourhood community associations that lasted through the COVID-19 Pandemic,” he said.

The Chair called for a vote to accept the committee Reports.

Carried.

10. Election of Executive Members:

The following candidates for officer positions were acclaimed:

President: Chris Erl

Vice-President: Ian Borsuk

Treasurer/Financial Officer: Denise Minardi

Secretary: Michael-Allan Marion

The following candidates for Executive Members-At-Large were acclaimed:

Jen Dawson

Rosemary Baptista

Jason Morse

Brian Hovsepian

Dominic Sorbara

Barb Williams

Joshua Allen

12. Strathcona Community Pantry:

Jenny Vengris made a well-received presentation on the establishment and operation of the Strathcona Community Pantry.

13. Adjournment:

Motion: Moved by Denise Minardi, seconded by Jason Morse that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm