



Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Place: Council Chambers, Zoom, streamed live to Facebook
Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2025
Presiding Officer: Deputy Mayor Carla Black
Councillors Present: Olivia Canning-Sweet, Brenton Colborne, Mayor Greg Henley, Padraic Moore, and Paul Jones
Councillor Regrets: Chrystal McNutt

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney – CAO, Ruthann Brookins (Manager of Finance), Stan McDougall – Admin Assistant / Recording Secretary, and Nick Purdy – Public Works Supervisor (via Zoom).

Presenters in attendance: Nil

Media in attendance: Mark Rushton - Hello Oxford/Radio for Hope Centre (via Zoom)

Gallery in attendance: Nil

1. Call to Order

At 6:00 PM, Deputy Mayor Carla Black called the meeting to order and welcomed Mark Rushton – Hello Oxford/Radio for Hope Centre in attendance in the Gallery.

2. Approval of Agenda - Pages 1 -2

Moved by Mayor Henley and seconded by Councillor Jones that the agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for Wednesday, April 9, 2025, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Presentation

3.1 **Cumberland Chamber of Commerce** - presenter Beth Peterkin, General Manager, Pages 3 – 12 – copy of the presentation

Deputy Mayor Black introduced Beth Peterkin, General Manager of the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce and thanked her for her presentation.

3.2 Cumberland Forestry Advisory Committee (CFAC) – presenter Ron Furlong, Secretary / Treasurer for CFAC, Pages 13 – 24 – copy of the presentation

Deputy Mayor Black introduced Ron Furlong, General Manager of the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce and thanked him for his presentation.

4. Approval of the Minutes – March 12, 2025, Pages 25 – 28



Deputy Mayor Carla Black, Chair, on April 9, 2025

5. Town Departments Reports

5.1 Public Works Department – presented by Nick Purdy, Public Works Supervisor via Zoom, Pages 29 – 31

5.2 Fire Department – presented by Bruce Rushton, Fire Chief, Pages 32 – 33 (Deputy Chief Kyle Purdy sent regrets).

5.3 Municipal Physical Activity Leader (MPAL) – presented by Councillor Canning-Sweet, Pages 34 – 37 (Marion Abbott, MPAL sent regrets).

5.4 Administration – presented by Linda Cloney
Pages 38 - 40 – **Administrative Assistant Report**
Pages 41 - 42 – **Revenue Officer**

Deputy Mayor Black thanked all town departments for their respective reports.

6. Council Committees and Boards Reports

6.1 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee – Councillor Canning-Sweet, Pages 43 – 46 – Approved January 15, 2025, Minutes

Councillor Canning presented that Emma Brown has accepted the position of Vice Chair for the committee. The committee has also made thorough revisions and updates to the Equity and Antiracism plan that had been adopted by the Council on March 26, 2025. The next steps for the committee will be to begin the implementation of the Equity, and Antiracism plan.

Councillor Moore also reviewed that April 9, 2025, is the International Day of Pink – Pink Shirt Day for Inclusion and Diversity to help eliminate bullying and discrimination in all forms.

6.2 All Saints Community Health Care Foundation Committee – Stan McDougall, Pages 47 - 48 – Approved January 14, 2025, Minutes

Stan presented that improvements are underway in Springhill with new beds, two stepper exercise machines and an ice and water machine for the rehabilitation ward. Stan has also volunteered to be on their nominating committee of the Foundation as well.

6.3 Northern Region Solid Waste Committee – Linda Cloney Pages 49 - 50 – Approved January 17, 2025, Minutes

Linda reviewed that a meeting was held on March 14 and Councillor McNutt had attended this meeting and Linda would present the report to Council. Of the items discussed at the meeting were the status of the EPR for Packaging, Paper Products and packaging like products (EPR for PPP).

Staff are actively involved in attending meetings for Circular Materials. Researching items for recycled materials that are being picked up from Fero. Staff will soon be presenting to the Council whether to opt-in or opt-out of the Circular Materials. Due to the difference in Oxford having a transfer station and not curb-side, this process will look different than the rest of the municipalities.

6.4 Regional Emergency Measures Organization Advisory Committee (REMO) – Linda Cloney, Verbal Report

A meeting was held at the Oxford Town Hall on March 19, 2025. Steven Wood, the Regional Emergency Management Coordinator discussed Oxford's flood planning. Steven has been working on a few other plans for other municipalities and will be assisting Oxford with its flood plan afterward.

Staff are currently signed for future training for evacuation plans and communications including operation "Nova Charlie", testing the new lines of communication.

6.5 Communities in Bloom Meeting – Deputy Mayor Black, Verbal Report

The committee met on March 24, 2025, and the committee is still seeking volunteers. Projects for this year included garden tours, replacement of garden boxes, sponsorship for flower baskets, painting rocks, "seedy-Saturday", transplant spot, teaching sessions for the community and entry into the Provincial program for Communities in Bloom is being applied for (noncompetitive) which includes networking and resources.

Mayor Henley discussed that an offer for sponsorship of two flower baskets in South Oxford has been brought forward.

Councillor Jones inquired if there was funding or a plan to restore some of the trees that used to line Main Street. Also, some planting around the Cenotaph to restore greenery would be welcomed. Discussion around where the trees could be placed.

Councillor Moore discussed that grants could be applied for when Main Street project is completed for green initiatives which may aid in the planting of more greenery along Main Street.

6.6 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting – Linda Cloney, Verbal Report

A working group session was held on March 31, 2025, to work on the report card and action item list on the progress of the Accessibility Plan, which will be

presented to the Council at a future meeting once email votes are gathered for approval to present.

7. Items of discussion and correspondence

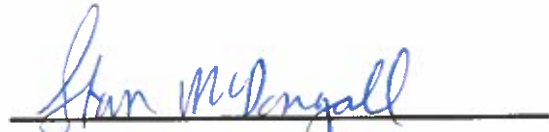
Nil

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.



Deputy Mayor Carla Black



Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant

05-14-2025

Date Approved

