

City of Pembroke Council Meeting

Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
September 3, 2019
7:50 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Present:

Mayor LeMay
Deputy Mayor Gervais
Councillor Abdallah
Councillor Jacyno
Councillor Lafreniere
Councillor Plummer
Councillor Reavie

Also Present:

Terry Lapierre, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Heidi Martin, Recording Secretary

Mayor LeMay called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:50 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer or Reflection

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

Deputy Mayor Gervais declared a pecuniary interest in regards to agenda item 5d. 2019-50 – Sydenham Street Road Closure and Transfer of Land as the office of Sheppard & Gervais is involved in the matter.

4. Minutes

- i. Approve minutes from Council
 - a. August 13, 2019

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer
Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council of August 13, 2019 be approved as circulated.

Carried

- ii. Adopt minutes from Committees
 - a. Combined Committee – August 13, 2019

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Abdallah
Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the minutes of the Combined Committee meeting of August 13, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

- iii. Receive minutes from Boards & Committees
 - Accessibility Advisory Committee – April 26, 2019

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Reavie

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

That the April 26, 2019 minutes from the Accessibility Advisory Committee be received.

Carried

5. By-Laws

- a. 2019-47 – Amend By-law 2010-57 – Rezoning of 364 Carmody Street
Councillor Lafreniere requested a recorded vote.

Motion

Moved by Councillor Reavie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gervais

That By-law 2019-47, a By-law to amend By-law 2010-57 of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, being a By-law to regulate the use of lands and the character, location and use of buildings and structures in the City of Pembroke be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Yea: Mayor LeMay, Deputy Mayor Gervais, Councillor Plummer, Councillor Jacyno, Councillor Reavie

Nea: Councillor Lafreniere, Councillor Abdallah

Carried

- b. 2019-48 – Animal Control Agreement

Motion

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That By-law 2019-48, a By-law to authorize entering into an agreement for the provision of animal control services in the City of Pembroke be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

- c. 2019-49 – Encroachment Agreement – Parking at 444 Norman Street

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That By-law 2019-49, a By-law to allow the encroachment of parked vehicles on public lands on the unopened portion of Normal Street in the City of Pembroke be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

Deputy Mayor Gervais left the table due to his perceived pecuniary interest.

d. 2019-50 – Sydenham Street Road Closure and Transfer of Land

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That By-law 2019-50, a By-law to provide for the stopping up and closing of an unopened portion of Sydenham Street in the City of Pembroke be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation

Carried

Deputy Mayor Gervais returned to the table.

e. 2019-51 – Amend Parking By-law (Parking Lot – Christie Street & Pembroke Street)

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Reavie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gervais

That By-law 2019-51, a By-law to amend By-law 2005-55, as amended, being a By-law to regulate and control parking of vehicles in the City of Pembroke be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

f. 2019-52 – Appoint Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gervais

Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That By-law 2019-52, A By-law to appoint Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers for the City of Pembroke be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and signed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried**6. Motions**

a. Resolution 018 – Legal Aid Cuts

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Reavie

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

Whereas the Renfrew County Legal Clinic (the “Clinic”) has delivered services in Renfrew County for over 30 years to low income clients and the service numbers continue to go up annually; and

Whereas the Clinic assists area residents who cannot afford legal assistance due to financial hardship – including those on social assistance, pensioners, the unemployed, or those with low income; and

Whereas the Clinic is committed to upholding the rights of the most vulnerable people of Renfrew County on issues that are most critical to them – including Canada Pension Plan, Ontario Disability Support Program, Workplace Safety and Insurance, Ontario Works, Landlord and Tenant, Criminal Injuries Compensation, powers of attorney, wills, human rights, consumer and debt issues, administrative legal issues and many other areas that impact low-income people; and

Whereas the Clinic provides public legal education sessions, duty counsel services at the Landlord Tenant Board hearings and support to groups on issues such as domestic violence and homelessness in Renfrew County; and

Whereas like other community legal clinics across the province, the Clinic carries out this work through funding provided by Legal Aid Ontario (“LAO”); and

Whereas the provincial government’s 2019 budget cut funding to LAO by \$133 million – which is 30% of its budget – retroactive to April 1, 2019; and

Whereas budget cuts could result in the closure of the Renfrew County Legal Clinic as a rural community service provider and will result in a loss of legal services to low income residents in our community; and

Whereas the cut to the LAO budget has already had a direct negative impact on the Clinic and the services they provide, and in the near future, it will have a devastating impact on the Clinic’s ability to continue to provide legal services to our community’s most vulnerable citizens; and

Whereas the absence of these services will have adverse social and economic consequences for the City of Pembroke and surrounding communities as well – resulting from increased reliance on municipal services such as mental health services, hospitals and public housing, increased demand on our local court from unrepresented people appearing without legal assistance, and increased reliance on social assistance administration resulting from people being denied appropriate supports; and

Whereas the City of Pembroke believes all levels of government should provide fair, economically-sound, and evidence-based programs and supports to help low-income residents, vulnerable people, and other equity-seeking individuals escape poverty, precarious housing, and systemic disadvantage, and realize their full potential by living healthy and safe lives.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke calls upon the Premier and the Attorney General to confirm that funding for community legal clinics will not be decreased; and

Further urges the province to restore funding to these critical services and ensure that all the residents of the City of Pembroke have access to a fair and equitable justice system, regardless of their incomes; and

Further that a copy of this resolution be sent to the MPP for Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke, the Attorney General, the LAO Board, the Premier and the County of Renfrew.

Carried

b. Resolution 019 – Community Improvement Plan – 71 Pembroke Street West

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

Be It Resolved That the Corporation of the City of Pembroke approve the application from Sleepwell Property Management of 71 Pembroke Street West under the Community Improvement Plan’s Downtown Heritage Façade Improvement Grant. The applicant must comply with grant guidelines and will have 18 months to complete all work and submit receipts in order to receive the grant.

This application for 71 Pembroke St. W. is approved for up to \$5,000 under the Community Improvement Plan.

a. Motion to Reconsider

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Abdallah

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Gervais

That Council reconsider a motion passed at the July 16, 2019 Combined Committee of Council meeting which read as follows:

To run a pilot project for free parking at meters on Pembroke Street West in the Downtown Corridor between Mackay Street and Hincks Street and the associated side streets for a period of 6 months, beginning November 1, 2019; and

That the first two hours will be free to park at the meters and 25 cents per 30 minutes afterwards with a 3-hour limit; and

That a public relations campaign be run by the City in conjunction with the PBIA during the 6-month pilot project; and

That staff record any issues, their solutions and customer feedback and

That staff provide a report to Committee upon completion of the pilot project allowing Committee to make a decision to keep the program in operation, stop it, or proceed further with free parking downtown by gradually removing the meters.

Carried

b. Motion

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Reavie

To establish a downtown parking pilot project for free parking at meters on Pembroke Street West in the Downtown corridor between Mackay Street and Hincks Street and the associated side streets, excluding Renfrew Street, for a period of 6 months, from January 1 to June 30, 2020; and

That the first two hours will be free to park at the meters; and

That a public relations campaign be run by the City in conjunction with the PBIA during the 6-month pilot project; and

That staff record any issues, their solutions and customer feedback; and

That staff provide a report to Committee upon completion of the pilot project allowing Committee to make a decision to keep the program in Operation, stop it, or proceed further with free parking Downtown by gradually removing the meters.

Carried

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor LeMay indicated that he attended the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference from August 18 – 21, 2019 and stated that the program was of value as he was able to have meetings with various Ministries to express the City's needs.

On August 26th, Mayor LeMay attended the Algonquin College Dean's Luncheon where he, on behalf of Council, welcomed Dr. Keltie Jones, the new Dean of the Pembroke Campus, and Claude Brulé, the new President of Algonquin College.

On August 28th, Mayor LeMay attended the County's Health Services and Social Services – Provincial Modernization Ad Hoc Committee meeting to review the proposed changes by the Province to Paramedic services, Long-Term Care, Public Health and Social Services.

8. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motions.

9. Councillor Updates

Councillor Reavie indicated that the Accessibility Advisory Committee recently met and completed a tour of the PMC. She noted that many of the previously noted accessibility barriers were repaired however new barriers were also noticed.

Councillor Jacyno indicated that he recently attended a sold-out Multicultural Festival hosted by the Pembroke Public Library.

10. Closed Session

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That this meeting become a closed meeting to discuss a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

Carried

11. Business Arising from Closed Session

Mayor LeMay indicated that there was nothing to report from the closed session and there were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

12. Confirming By-law

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gervais

Seconded by Councillor Reavie

That By-law 16-2019 to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council of September 3, 2019 be adopted and passed; and

Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

13. Adjournment

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Abdallah

That the September 3, 2019 regular meeting of Council adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Carried

Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

Mayor