Community Services Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 01, 2023
Time: 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Members Present:

Councillors
Ward 2 - Councillor Fabio Costante
Ward 3 - Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Ward 4 - Councillor Mark McKenzie
Ward 5 - Councillor Ed Sleiman (Chairperson)
Ward 6 - Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

PARTICIPATING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Human & Health Services
Ray Mensour, Commissioner, Community Services
Kirk Whittal, Executive Director Housing & Children Services
Jen Knights, Executive Director Recreation & Culture
Tanya Antoniw, Executive Director Employment & Social Services
Jason Moore, Senior Manager, Communications
Robertson, Craig, Licence Commissioner
Alena Sleziak, Manager, Customer Contact Centre
Michelle Staadegaard, Manager, Culture & Events
Linda Higgins, Manager Intergovernmental Funding
Michael Chantler, Manager Aquatics
Diane Quinn, Manager, Employment & Training Initiatives
Jennifer Tanner, Manager Homelessness & Housing Support
Diane Wilson, Manager, Affordable Housing
Kelly Goz, Manager Homelessness & Housing Support
Emilie Dunnigan, Manager Development Revenue & Financial Administration
Michelle Proulx, Coordinator Housing Administration & Development

Doran Anzolin, Executive Initiatives Coordinator
Yemi Adeyeye City Forester and Manager of Forestry & Natural Areas
Stephen Lynn, Manager Social Policy & Planning
Sumar Jasey, Emergency Planning Officer
Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair calls the meeting of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None disclosed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of the Community Services Standing Committee meeting minutes held October 4, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

THAT the minutes of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee meeting held October 4, 2023 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 273/2023

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None requested.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

6.1. 2022 Annual Report of the 10 Year Housing & Homelessness Plan - Master Plan - City Wide

Kelly Goz, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support and Michelle Proulx, Coordinator, Housing Administration & Development

Kelly Goz, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support & Michelle Proulx, Coordinator, Housing Administration & Development appear before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled "2022 Annual Report of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan- Master Plan-City of Windsor" and provide a brief overview of the work undertaken, the progress achieved thus far, to outline the goals of the organization, to highlight benefits allocated to eligible residents and the programs and initiatives undertaken to help end homelessness; and provide details regarding the 2022 Annual Report on the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan including Guideline Principles; Goal 1 – Sustain and Expand Social and Affordable Housing Supply; Regeneration and Identification of Capital needs Repair & Renewal; Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) & Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI); Social Services Relief Fund; Windsor Essex Housing Benefit (WEHB) & Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB); Goal 2 – Sustain and Expand Housing that is Linked with Supports; Goal 3 – Ending Homelessness; Homelessness & Housing Help Hub (H4); Essex County Homelessness Hub (ECH2); Downtown Mission – Day Program; Goal 6 – Foster Successfully Tenancies through Community Collaboration; Goal 7 – Monitor, Report and Evaluate; and Looking Ahead.

Rukshini Ponniah-Goulin, Executive Director, Downtown Mission of Windsor

Rukshini Ponniah-Goulin, Executive Director, Downtown Mission of Windsor appears before the Community Services Standing Committee via Zoom regarding the administrative report entitled "2022 Annual Report of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan- Master Plan-City of Windsor" and is available for questions.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires in regards to the (Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) and whether the data from other cities is available to review and compare. Ms. Goz indicates that the data is not open source, however they work closely with other communities that use the same system to discuss trends.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether there is anything that council can do to help with housing. Andrew Daher, Commissioner, Human & Health Services appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled "2022 Annual Report of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan- Master Plan-City of Windsor" and indicates that there is a need for more funding and available housing with supports in order to get the homeless housed and maintain that housing. Ms. Goz indicates that advocacy between provincial ministries and the need to change their mandates to align with the target population so that their dollars are targeted specifically to those experiencing homelessness or those at risk, is required.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires whether there is any type of collaboration that can take place with other communities to develop a master plan provincially to allocate these funds more appropriately or is that a provincial job. Ms. Goz indicates that the City of Windsor has worked with

a number of Southwest Ontario communities, they meet regularly to discuss the trends, challenges, implemented programs and to learn from each other. Administration is also looking at more innovative approaches to secure funding regionally.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires as we move forward, are we advocating that the HIFIS data be made available provincially. Ms. Goz indicates that they have advocated with the government of Canada to make it available, because it is still in its infancy stage, there are provincial, territorial and federal privacy issues that the Government of Canada has been looking into.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires whether we were able to get the data regionally for comparison, how would that impact the funding granted to the area. Ms. Goz indicates that in addition to the HIFIS data, they need to review all the data and determine what the return on investment is, how they are making a change in other sectors and if they have supports for these people.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the number of people on the waitlist who are seeking affordable housing. Mr. Daher indicates that there are currently about 7700 people seeking affordable housing.

Councillor Fabio Costante indicates that the number was around 5500 a few years ago and inquires as to the number of people experiencing homelessness. Mr. Daher indicates that the number experiencing homelessness as of December 2022 was 549.

Councillor Fabio Costante comments that the number doesn't necessarily mean that all of those 549 are living on the streets, but do not have stable housing, correct? Ms. Goz confirms the statement is correct.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about the number of units built last year. Administration indicates that since 2019 the City have created about 178 units and last year about 35.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires whether the City can somehow project the next 5 years to determine how much housing we will need. Ms. Goz indicates that the City of Windsor is awaiting a response from the Province to undertake the next 5 year review of the 10 year housing and homelessness plan. This review will help administration to highlight other strategies for providing housing besides building new units, such as rent subsidy in order to have more affordable housing options in order to exit homelessness.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about how the City is doing related to the regional housing affordability process. Administration indicates that they are in the final stages of securing the consultant and will be bringing a report to council by the end of the year to seek approval to hire in order to move forward. In early 2024 the consultant will be hired to look at a number of possible strategies.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires whether the County is on board to build more affordable housing. Administration indicates that the County is committed and want to move forward to provide affordable housing.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires whether there is capacity and space at the Downtown Mission to house more people. Ms. Ponniah-Goulin indicates that the shelters are at capacity or very close to capacity nightly. In preparation for winter, they are able to allow 25-30 additional individuals to come in throughout the winter thanks to the City of Windsor's support.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires whether it is typical to have more vacancy during the summer months and to be at capacity in the winter months. Ms. Ponniah-Goulin responds that it is typical to have a lower number of individuals in shelter during the summer months, however this past summer, they have seen an increase. October going into November they should not be at capacity, but they are. She adds, having housing units with support available so that individuals can exit shelter opening up space for others to come into shelter so that they are off the streets. They would then try to help them move forward in their lives and offer emergency shelter for those in need short term.

Councillor Fabio Costante inquires about a court decision that prohibits the municipality to remove individuals from encampments on public property to request that they go to shelter if the shelters are at capacity. Administration responds that they are continually working on a protocol that defines how and why they can encourage individuals to go to shelter and the complications that exist around the appropriateness of shelter including the needs of the individuals, i.e. couples shelter, individuals with pets, capacity, etc. Expanding capacity by providing warming rooms had a lot of success.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires about complaints that there are many individuals who can't be housed, refuse to be housed, or require additional supports and whether there are enough people and professionals to address these individuals and can additional training be provided to deal with these situations. Ms. Goz indicates that they are investigating training programs that are available and have found opportunities and are investing in online training modules, bringing in outside trainers, recommending that partner agencies subscribe to provincial or national advocacy bodies to expand their knowledge and skillset. Administration does require more support from the healthcare system for especially difficult cases.

Ms. Ponniah-Goulin indicates that the ongoing support from the City and shelter partners is what makes the Downtown Mission possible. They are requesting assistance to advocate with higher levels of government for additional support. Health and mental health are needed for many of the individuals accessing the shelters lately. Some individuals that come into shelter are a higher risk that pose threats to others in shelter, staff, etc. They need to figure out where they can be housed where they can be supported fully in a safe environment.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino inquires about how long it typically takes before you can see results with those individuals. Ms. Ponniah-Goulin indicates that when someone is given the option to be housed, they take it. If they aren't kept in housing, they are sent to hospital for physical or mental

health needs before ending up back in shelter or on the streets. The Community needs to find a better way to support those individuals.

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSSC 209**
THAT this report from the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services regarding the 2022 Annual Report on the Home Together: Windsor Essex 10 year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan **BE RECEIVED**; and further,

THAT the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services, or their authorized designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to make the necessary submissions in a form and format required under the *Housing Services Act, 2011* related to the Windsor Essex 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan for the duration of the plan.
Carried.

Report Number: S 134/2023
Clerk's File: GH/11710

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

7.1. Minutes of the Committee of Management for Huron Lodge of its meeting held September 11, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSSC 210**
THAT the minutes of the Committee of Management for Huron Lodge meeting held September 11, 2023 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 276/2023

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.3. Response to CQ 19-2023 – Sandpoint Beach Concession - Ward 7

Borden Yewchyn, Owner, Big Daddy's Food Service

Borden Yewchyn, Owner, Big Daddy's Food Service appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled "Response to CQ 19-2023 – Sandpoint Beach Concession - Ward 7" to advocate for the master plan for the area and concludes

by suggesting that the amenities proposed will attract many visitors which will boost profits for area businesses as well.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires how many years Mr. Yewchyn has been in business at Sandpoint Beach. Mr. Yewchyn indicates that he has been there for 32 years.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires whether he is amenable to setting up on the water side of the road and from a safety perspective would it be a better setup. Mr. Yewchyn responds that he is very open to the possibility and thinks that serving people on the water side is much better.

Councillor Mark McKenzie inquires how would administration deal with the area where the delegate usually sets up if he moves across the street. Ray Mensour, Commissioner, Community Services appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report entitled "Response to CQ 19-2023 – Sandpoint Beach Concession - Ward 7" and indicates that the permit will continue to be issued to the delegate at the existing location and would award the procurement for the space on the water side.

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Decision Number: **CSSC 213**

I. THAT the report of the Executive Director of Recreation and Culture dated October 13, 2023, entitled "Response to CQ 19-2023 – Sandpoint Beach Concession- Ward 7" **BE RECEIVED** for information; and further,

II. THAT Administration **BE DIRECTED** to proceed with Option 2, being a mobile vendor opportunity; and further,

III. THAT Council **PRE-APPROVE** and **AWARD** any procurement(s) necessary that are related to the Sandpoint Beach Concession project, provided that the procurement(s) are within approved budget amounts, pursuant to the Purchasing By-Law 93-2012 and amendments thereto; satisfactory in financial content to Commissioner, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer, in legal form to the Commissioner, Legal & Legislative Services; and in technical content to the Executive Director of Recreation & Culture; and,

IV. THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and the City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to take any such action required to effect the recommendation noted herein and sign any required documentation for the Sandpoint Beach Concession project, satisfactory in financial content to Commissioner, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer, in legal form to the Commissioner, Legal & Legislative Services; and in technical content to the Executive Director of Recreation & Culture; and,

V. THAT the Purchasing Manager **BE AUTHORIZED** to issue Purchase Orders as may be required to effect the recommendation noted herein, subject to all specification being

satisfactory in financial content to Commissioner, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer, and in technical content to the Executive Director of Recreation & Culture; and further,

VI. THAT administration **BE DIRECTED** to permit Borden Yewchyn the opportunity to operate in accordance with the Sand Point Beach Concession project in the new space subject to obtaining a permit in accordance with Parks By-law 131-2019 and appropriate licencing in accordance with the Business Licensing By-law 395-2004.

Carried.

Report Number: S 130/2023
Clerk's File: SR2023

8.1. Contract Approval – Windsor Regional Employment Network – City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSSC 211**
THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Executive Director of Employment and Social Services, on behalf of the Human and Health Services Department, as Service Provider, to enter any agreement or related amendment, with The Corporation of the City of Windsor (the "City"), as Service System Manager ("SSM"), for funding related to the provision of Employment Ontario Employment Services within Windsor-Essex County, in form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, in financial content to the City Treasurer, and in content to the Manager of Employment & Training Initiatives; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Executive Director of Employment and Social Services or designate, on behalf of the Human and Health Services Department, as Service Provider, to sign and submit all other documents, memoranda, business plans, attestations, and reports required from the City, as SSM, relating to the provision of Employment Ontario Employment Services within Windsor-Essex County, subject to approval of financial content by the City Treasurer as applicable; and further,

THAT the Commissioner of Human and Health Services, or designate, on behalf of the City, as SSM, **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute, sign, amend, and terminate agreements with Service Providers, agencies and/or employers relating to the provision of Employment Ontario Employment Services within Windsor-Essex County, provided such agreements are satisfactory in form to the City Solicitor, technical content to the Executive Director of Employment and Social Services, and financial content by the City Treasurer. For agreements in excess of $1,000,000, that in addition to Commissioner of Human and Health Services, the Chief Administrative Officer **BE REQUIRED** to sign as secondary authority.
Carried.

Report Number: C 152/2023
Clerk's File: GP/10258

8.2. Motorola Premier One CSR Software and Hosting Agreement 2024-2028 City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Mark McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac

Decision Number: **CSSC 212**
THAT City Council **SUPPORT** entering into a five-year renewal agreement with Motorola Solutions Canada for the hosting and support of Premier One CSR Software at a 2024 annual cost of $328,092 plus applicable taxes with annual increases of 3% to be funded from the 311 operating budget; and further,

THAT the City Treasurer/CFO **BE DIRECTED** to consider the additional costs for this agreement as a contractual adjustment in each of the subsequent five-year renewal period for purposes of future operating budget development; and,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Chief Administrative Officer and the City Clerk to sign the required agreement subject to satisfactory review as to form by the City Solicitor, as to technical content by the Chief Information Officer/Executive Director of Information Technology and as to financial content by the Chief Financial officer/City Treasurer.
Carried.

Report Number: S 132/2023
Clerk's File: MC/12263

8.4. Response to CQ 2-2023 – Moving the Location of Bright Lights - Ward 3

Councillor Renaldo Agostino comments about the administrative report related to moving the location of bright lights to the downtown and states that it is not possible to do as the infrastructure does not support it.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac inquires whether there is an opportunity to initiate Christmas markets on the riverfront. Administration indicates that there is opportunity for vendors to sell goods at Bright Lights at Jackson Park and can explore the opportunity to extend some of those vendors in the future.

Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac indicates that they have invested heavily in our waterfront and asks administration about the possibility of initiating an anchor market on the water which can connect the waterfront to Jackson Park. Administration indicates that they can initiate a survey with the vendors to gauge interest for future Bright Lights events.

Moved by: Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Seconded by: Councillor Fabio Costante

Decision Number: **CSSC 214**
THAT the report of the Executive Initiative Coordinator dated October 13, 2023, entitled, "Report CQ 2-2023 - Moving the Location of Bright Lights" **BE RECEIVED** for information; and further,

THAT administration **BE REQUESTED** to report back on the possibility of a year round seasonal lighting in the downtown area from Riverside Dr. to Jackson Park including details related to infrastructure requirements and costs and the possibility of partial funding through the Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Area (DWBIA); and,

THAT administration **BE REQUESTED** to investigate the opportunity of utilizing the trails on the riverfront for potential seasonal vendors and artists year round.
Carried.

Report Number: S 133/2023
Clerk's File: SR/14567

8.5. Response to CQ 28-2023 – Risks of Oak Wilt on the City's Tree Population – City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Mark McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSSC 215**
THAT the report of the City Forester and Manager of Forestry & Natural Areas dated October 13, 2023 etitled "Response to CQ 28-2023 – Risks of Oak Wilt on the City's Tree Population" **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

Report Number: S 131/2023
Clerk's File: SRT2023

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee is adjourned at 10:21 o'clock a.m. The next meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee will take place on December 6, 2023
Carried.

Councillor Sleiman (Chairperson)

Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services