



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Minutes - Final General Committee

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

5:00 PM

Sir Robert Barrie Room / Virtual Meeting

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT For consideration by Barrie City Council on April 27, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lehman at 5:05 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 11 - Mayor, J. Lehman
Deputy Mayor, B. Ward
Councillor, C. Riepma
Councillor, K. Aylwin
Councillor, A. Kungl
Councillor, R. Thomson
Councillor, N. Harris
Councillor, G. Harvey
Councillor, J. Harris
Councillor, S. Morales
Councillor, M. McCann

STAFF:

Chief Administrative Officer, M. Prowse
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, W. Cooke
Director of Finance/Treasurer, C. Millar
Director of Information Technology, R. Nolan
Director of Legal Services, I. Peters
Executive Director of Access Barrie, R. James-Reid
Fire Chief, C. Mainprize
General Manager of Community and Corporate Services, D. McAlpine
General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, A. Miller.

Mayor Lehman welcomed members of the public to the City's virtual General Committee meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic physical distancing measures and the Order of Council restricting public gatherings to five people or less. He advised that members of General Committee are practicing physical distancing and that all of the Councillors and the Executive Management are participating via video conference. Mayor Lehman noted that the members of Executive Management Team and Chief Mainprize are not visible, but are available to answer any questions.

Mayor Lehman reviewed the protocol for the members of General Committee participating via video conference.

The General Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "A"

20-G-055

PRESENTATION CONCERNING A TASK FORCE UPDATE

Mayor Lehman provided an update on the work that has been done over the unprecedented days and weeks that both the business community and Barrie's residents have been dealing with and those difficult changes as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

Mayor Lehman discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- A summary of the immediate actions that were undertaken by the Emergency Control Group (ECT) and the Task Forces during the first days of the crisis;
- An overview of the community needs assessment that identified and provided protection to the City's vulnerable individuals that included the community needs, the vulnerable population (marginalized population, seniors, new Canadians, youth and people with disabilities) and the immediate priorities (access to information and resources, safe accommodations and food security);
- The composition of the Social Support Task Force designed to support the community by pushing out information and assisting in reaching out to agencies, organizations and the community;
- A summary of the Mayor's Office work to date and the tools used in finding the people in need;
- The active programs available to vulnerable individuals to support and connect with the community;
- The needs and priorities that have currently been identified to protect the City's economy;
- The composition of the Economic Task Force designed to take action in supporting and connecting with the business community;

- A summary of the information currently available to the business community that provides government updates to access support, member organizations providing webinars to educate and share information, online hubs and resource links and City initiatives to support businesses during the crisis;
- The efforts of the community and businesses rallying together during this difficult time; and
- Examples of how Barrie's incredible community is adapting to the changes and helping with the fight against COVID-19 happening in around the City.

In conclusion, Mayor Lehman thanked all the participating members of the Task Forces, the business community, social services, and members of Council.

Members of General Committee asked a number of questions to Mayor Lehman and received responses.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 2020-04-27.

20-G-056

PRESENTATION CONCERNING A COVID-19 UPDATE

M. Prowse, Chief Administrative Officer provided an update concerning the evolving situation of COVID-19. He advised that members of Council receive multiple updates throughout the day on the frequent activities happening in the City, the Province and the Country.

Mr. Prowse discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- An overview on the current status of the City's Emergency Control Group, the emergency declaration, the confirmed numbers and status of COVID-19 cases, the Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH) joining the Control Group, community transmission and the importance of physical distancing;
- The new Provincial orders and directions as of March 30, 2020;
- An update on City Services;
- The new actions to support community health including a COVID-19 enforcement line and an Emergency Order to enforce physical distancing to parks and other public places;
- A summary of Enforcement Services activities from March 16 to April 6, 2020;
- The new actions the City is taking to support the economy including engagement with local manufacturers, the arts community and the small business programs including discussions concerning impacts, opportunities, information and resources;
- An update on the Provincial order dated April 3, 2020 amending the list of essential work places, and the continuation of City's construction projects;
- The City staffing changes during the COVID-19 crisis;
- A summary of new communication initiatives;

- The City's projected financial impacts;
- The continuation of City Services including scheduled street sweeping and the Community Improvements Plan (CIP) uptakes;
- Information concerning free online programs offered by Talk is Free Theatre and the Caswell Community Choir; and
- The potential emerging matters for the City.

Members of Council asked a number of questions to City staff and received responses.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 2020-04-27.

The General Committee reports that upon adoption of the required procedural motion it met in closed session electronically at 6:30 p.m. to receive a Presentation concerning a confidential labour relations matter - COVID-19 Update.

Members of General Committee, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Executive-Director of Access Barrie, the General Manager of Community and Corporate Services, the General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, the City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, the Director of Finance/Treasurer, the Director of Legal Services, the Fire Chief, and the Director of Information Technology were in attendance for the portion of the meeting closed to the public. Members of the press and public were not present for this portion of the meeting.

SECTION "B"

20-G-057

PRESENTATION CONCERNING A CONFIDENTIAL LABOUR RELATIONS MATTER - COVID-19 UPDATE

That motion 20-G-057 of the General Committee Report dated April 8, 2020, being the confidential notes of a presentation concerning a confidential labour relations matter - COVID-19 Update, be received.

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 2020-04-27.

The General Committee reports upon adoption of a procedural motion, it met in public/open session at 7:19 p.m.

Mayor Lehman noted that the in-camera/closed session portion of the meeting was receive and discuss an update concerning a confidential labour relations matter – COVID-19 Update. Mayor Lehman stated that with the exception of the procedural matter to move into public/open session, votes were not taken during the portion of the meeting closed to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

CHAIRMAN