



ARNPRIOR

## Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

6:30 PM

Council Chambers – Town Hall

### Committee and Staff Attendance

#### Committee Members Present:

Chris Toner, Councillor  
Billy Denault, Councillor  
Natalie Deveau, Committee Member  
Barry Goodman, Committee Member  
Ben Shearer, Committee Member  
Ted Strike, Committee Member  
Alexia Young, Committee Member

#### Town Staff Present:

Robin Paquette, CAO  
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation  
John Steckly, GM, Operations  
Amy Dean, Environmental  
Engineering Officer  
Ryan Wall, Engineering Officer  
Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer,  
Facilities and Assets  
Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk  
Oliver Jacob, Client Services  
Coordinator

### 1. Call to Order

Robin Paquette, CAO, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed those present.

#### a) Introduction of Members

All committee members introduced themselves, shared their background and noted their vision for participation in the Town's Environmental Advisory Committee.

#### b) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Following a call for interest, the following motions to appoint committee presiding officers were entertained by the committee:

Resolution Number 001-24  
Moved by Barry Goodman  
Seconded by Ted Strike

**That** the Environmental Advisory Committee appoint Natalie Deveau to serve as its Committee Chair for the 2022-2026 term of Council or until their successor is appointed.

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 002-24  
Moved by Ted Strike  
Seconded by Billy Denault

**That** the Environmental Advisory Committee appoint Chris Toner to serve as its Committee Vice Chair for the 2022-2026 term of Council or until their successor is appointed.

Resolution Carried

## **2. Roll Call**

The roll was called, with all Members of the Committee being present.

## **3. Land Acknowledgment**

Chair Natalie Deveau asked everyone to take a moment to acknowledge and show respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land we operate on, by stating:

“I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we work and gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe People. This Algonquin Nation have lived on this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of the European settlers, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.”

## **4. Adoption of Agenda**

Resolution Number 003-24  
Moved by Chris Toner  
Seconded by Barry Goodman

**Be It Resolved That** the agenda for the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting dated Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

## **5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None

## **6. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

None

## **7. Presentations/ Delegations**

### **a) Environmental Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**

Oliver Jacob, Client Services Coordinator, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- Confirmation was provided that quorum for the Advisory Committee is set at 50% plus one of the total committee membership. With its current membership, that means that at least four (4) members out of seven (7) members must be present in order to transact business.
- The process to identify future agenda items was discussed and it was noted that committee members may send any agenda item suggestions through the Client Services Coordinator / Town Clerk for inclusion on future agendas.

#### **b) Environmental Advisory Committees**

Amy Dean, Environmental Engineering Officer, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- It was requested that the Town by-laws and policies outlined in the PowerPoint presentation be provided to the committee for their information.
- The results of the FoodCycler pilot project will be presented to the Environmental Advisory Committee when available following completion of the pilot.

#### **8. Matters Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business**

None

#### **9. Staff Reports**

None

#### **10. New Business**

##### **a) Roundtable Discussion**

Robin Paquette, CAO, shared that this item on the Agenda is an opportunity to share any questions, comments, thoughts and perspectives.

- Ideas for future opportunities were discussed including:
  - Consider reviewing the current leaf and yard waste collection schedule to consider increased frequency and the associated costs.
  - Increasing education on environmental topics will help to support the community to reduce their impacts on the community. Ideas included:
    - How to reduce yard waste

- How to create native pollinator gardens and support seasonal plantings that are supportive of native species
  - How to recycle appropriately (what can be recycled, how should it be separated, impacts of recycling, etc.)
- Consider advocacy related to the producer-led recycling collection model to ensure the inclusion of additional recyclable materials (i.e. Styrofoam).
- Consider implementing future clean-ups of community assets like parks and open spaces like Robert Simpson Park, the MacNamara Trail, and the Madawaska River. This can be included in Pitch-In Week and other community-led clean-ups. There will be a community-led clean-up event in partnership with Mallard's Milk Bar that will be held in the coming months. More information will be shared on the [Great Arnprior Trash Hunt event page](#) as it becomes available.
- Consider the implementation of a common webpage that brings all environmental initiatives under one platform (possibly through the Town's website). This could include resource consolidation and an events calendar to showcase what is planned in the community.
- Consider working alongside the MacNamara Field Naturalists Club for their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations to support their activities (i.e. social media post, remarks from Mayor McGee, etc.).
- Consider implementing a public survey through the Town's ZenCity community engagement platform to obtain data to set environmental priorities.
- Consider reviewing tree planting grants and other opportunities to support the growth of the tree canopy across the community (on public and private properties).
- Investigate the feasibility of a composter collection program ("Green Bins") and other composting alternatives through the refresh of the Integrated Waste Management Plan.
- Consider incorporating of active transportation into the Town's major planning policies (i.e. Official Plan, Zoning By-Law) and ongoing strategy work (i.e. Transportation Master Plan).
- Consider the implementation of bicycle paths / rack locations and working with the Ottawa Valley Cycling and Active Transportation Alliance (OVCATA) to support active transportation in the community.

- Consider reviewing the current Town policies with regard to the identification, treatment and removal of invasive species on public property.
- As the 2024 Budget has already been adopted by Council, researching ideas that may have financial implications for recommendation to Council through the 2025 budget deliberations in December 2024.
- It was agreed that it would be worthwhile to invite the Carleton Place Environmental Advisory Committee to present on their activities and how they approach their operations as a committee.
- Action items will be identified at each meeting and brought forward for review at the next scheduled meeting to review any actions taken between meetings.

## **11. Adjournment**

Resolution Number 004-24

Moved by Ted Strike

Seconded by Billy Denault

**That** the Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 8:07 PM.

Resolution Carried