

ST. JOHN'S

Minutes of Committee of the Whole - City Council

Council Chambers, 4th Floor, City Hall

September 4, 2019, 9:30 a.m.

Present: Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary
Councillor Maggie Burton
Councillor Dave Lane
Councillor Sandy Hickman
Councillor Debbie Hanlon
Councillor Deanne Stapleton
Councillor Jamie Korab
Councillor Ian Froude
Councillor Wally Collins

Regrets: Mayor Danny Breen
Councillor Hope Jamieson

Staff: Kevin Breen, City Manager
Derek Coffey, Deputy City Manager of Finance & Administration
Tanya Haywood, Deputy City Manager of Community Services
Jason Sinyard, Deputy City Manager of Planning, Engineering & Regulatory Services
Lynnann Winsor, Deputy City Manager of Public Works
Cheryl Mullett, City Solicitor
Elaine Henley, City Clerk
Ken O'Brien, Chief Municipal Planner
Karen Chafe, Supervisor - Office of the City Clerk
Shanna Fitzgerald, Legislative Assistant

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

2.1 **Agenda of September 4, 2019**

Moved By Councillor Hanlon
Seconded By Councillor Stapleton

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Adoption of the Minutes

3.1 Committee of the Whole Minutes for August 21, 2019

Moved By Councillor Lane
Seconded By Councillor Hickman

That the Committee of the Whole minutes dated August 21, 2019 be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Presentations/Delegations

4.1 Heritage NL - Jerry Dick

Jerry Dick of Heritage NL was in attendance to provide an overview of the impacts of development on the heritage fabric of the historic commercial core of St. John's and to discuss potential options for fostering new development within designated heritage areas that respect the heritage character of these areas. He conducted a power point presentation in this regard.

He stated that since the 1960's more than half of the 19th century commercial heritage fabric has been lost in the downtown area. Photographic examples were outlined. The following proposed recommendations were outlined by Mr. Dick:

- Allow new development to be of this time;
- Respect existing historic building fabric and context - require designers to submit their contextual analysis;
- Ensure all new developments downtown offer something to the street/pedestrians;

- Early public stakeholders consultation;
- Ensure long-term sustainability/quality of building materials;
- Place greater emphasis on accommodating pedestrians downtown.

The following points were outlined by Council:

- Council agreed that public engagement is critically important, acknowledging the challenges of architects in reconciling the constraints placed upon them by developers.
- It was felt that public engagement, if offered at the beginning of the process, would better facilitate effective resolution. The City has a significant role to play in this regard.
- Vehicular traffic has had a severe impact on the evolution of cities since World War II, almost to the detriment of active transportation and walkable cities.
- Good urban design incorporates walkability and the disregard of such is an issue that merits more attention.
- The suggestion was made that there should be more charrette opportunities to tackle the questions of how available vacant land may be developed in a way that complements the community while at the same time being economically viable.
- The use of heritage friendly construction materials as alternates to brick, stone and wood are also areas that require further consideration.

Council thanked Mr. Dick for his presentation and agreed that staff provide a response to the proposed recommendations as outlined in the power point presentation.

Councillor Hanlon retired from the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Dick retired from meeting at 10:10 a.m.

5. Finance & Administration - Councillor Dave Lane

5.1 Information Note dated September 4, 2019 re: 2019 Quarter 2 (January 1 to June 30) Financial Update

Council considered as information the above cited information note.

6. Public Works & Sustainability - Councillor Ian Froude

7. **Community Services & Events - Councillor Jamie Korab**
8. **Housing - Councillor Hope Jamieson**
9. **Economic Development, Tourism & Culture - Sheilagh O'Leary**
10. **Governance & Strategic Priorities - Mayor Danny Breen**
- 10.1 **Decision Note dated August 28, 2019 re: Updated Retention Schedule for ATIPPA Files**

Moved By Councillor Korab

Seconded By Councillor Hickman

That Council approve the revised Retention Schedule for Records Management in relation to the retention of ATIPPA Files.

MOTION CARRIED

11. **Planning & Development - Councillor Maggie Burton**

- 11.1 **Built Heritage Experts Panel Report of August 14, 2019**

1. **Decision Note dated August 12, 2019 re: 119 Waterford Bridge Road**

Moved By Councillor Burton

Seconded By Councillor Hickman

That Council designate 119 Waterford Bridge Road as a Heritage Building.

MOTION CARRIED

12. **Transportation - Councillor Debbie Hanlon**

- 12.1 **Decision Note dated August 15, 2019 re: Churchill Square Illumination Upgrades**

Moved By Councillor Froude

Seconded By Councillor Hickman

That Council select Option 2 as outlined in the above cited decision note and as follows:

Option 2 - Base Technical Requirements with Specified Aesthetic Design - Tender

Issue a tender that outlines base technical requirements to meet specifications for new lighting in the square that also includes specific decorative aesthetic requirements. This approach could specify the aesthetic design of the lighting fixtures as an additional requirement. To do this, a clear description regarding the acceptable design is required as a tender for this lighting must be prescriptive.

There may be an opportunity to consider Churchill Square as part of the City's upcoming review of the most suitable option for decorative lighting aesthetics for the Downtown. The working group exploring the decorative design could include representation from Churchill Square stakeholders and the criteria developed could be used for lighting upgrades in these areas. However, street lighting requirements in the Downtown differ from the parking lot lighting requirements of Churchill Square. This would need to be considered so that recommended design aesthetics could be applicable or adaptable to suit both a street and a parking lot setting.

This process would require coordination between area stakeholders and could also include an opportunity for Council review engagement on the selected design criteria before it is included in an issued tender.

Advantages of this approach:

- Improved lighting levels in Churchill Square
- Improved aesthetic appeal
- Opportunity to choose decorative lighting criteria that incorporates new poles to provide space for banners or other design elements
- Potential for consistency between decorative lighting aesthetic in areas of the City
- Opportunity to review and engage on the selected lighting aesthetic design criteria

Disadvantages of this approach:

- Significantly increased cost
- Longer timelines for planning, review and implementation

- Greater construction impacts to existing infrastructure
- Potential impacts to maintenance/snow clearing operations
- Possible loss of a few parking spaces to accommodate new poles for light fixtures

MOTION CARRIED

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Mayor