

Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc

Special Meeting of Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 18, 2024

4:00 p.m.

Council Chamber

Strathroy-Caradoc Municipal Office

52 Frank Street

Strathroy, ON

Present: Mayor Colin Grantham
Deputy Mayor Mike McGuire
Councillor Frank Kennes
Councillor Steve Pelkman
Councillor Donna Pammer
Councillor Sandi Hipple
Councillor Greg Willsie
Councillor Brian Derbyshire

Absent with Notice: Councillor John Brennan

Also Present: Trisha McKibbin, Chief Administrative Officer
Jennifer Pereira, Deputy Clerk/Lottery Licensing Officer
(Recorder)
Brianna Hammer-Keidel, Director of Legal and Legislative
Services/Clerk
Bill Dakin, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer
Rob Lilbourne, Director of Community Services
Jennifer Huff, Director of Building and Planning
Doug Payne, Director of Human Resources

Others Present: Steve Beasley, Deputy Fire Chief
Chris Lareto, Strategy Corp
Julie Gonyou, Strategy Corp
Nabiha Chowdhury, Strategy Corp
Komal Ayub, Strategy Corp

1. Roll Call

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Call to Order/Approve Agenda

THAT: the July 18, 2024 Special Meeting of Council Agenda be approved as circulated.

4. Strategy Corp - Service Delivery Review Kick-Off

The Strategy Corp Team presents the project approach and schedule to Council.

Mayor Grantham asks how this will be presented to the residents. Julie Gonyou, Engagement Manager indicates that in terms of how the survey is distributed to the community, they will turn to staff to help with that and proposes a hybrid approach. Mayor Grantham adds if the local groups that wish to participate, will they be getting a one-on-one interview. Ms.Gonyou says that there is some flexibility with the stakeholder groups.

Councillor Willsie wonders if Strategy Corp will be looking at how duties are formed and if departments are siloed and if there are any efficiencies, also if the capital and operational budgets will be reviewed as well. Chris Loreto, Engagement Principal indicates that yes, they will be looking all departments and efficiencies, but the budget will be reviewed to the degree of efficiencies and how to improve or reallocate.

Councillor Pelkman wonders how they will be analyzing what the Municipality is not doing through this process. Me Loreto explains that with the interviews with members, staff and stakeholders it will assist in not only finding what is not being done, but perhaps what the municipality needs to stop doing.

Councillor Derbyshire asks if Strategy Corp could provide a simple explanation on the process for the public to understand why this review should be completed in order to encourage participation. Mr. Loreto explains that Council is doing this review because they want to understand how your residents can be better served so they can continue to be content with what is being provided.

Strategy Corp had some question to Council to better understand what objectives they have for this Service Delivery.

Deputy Mayor McGuire wonders if the municipality has the right technology versus in person mix in service delivery as well as how does the relationship with Middlesex County and are we taking advantage.

Councillor Pammer expresses that she wants to find efficiencies and are there areas that are being neglected and need to adjust resources.

Councillor Derbyshire would like to see our structure setup. The departments we need, people in the right role.

Councillor Pelkman indicates that for many years the municipality have run short of people, and he is not really interested in cutting but perhaps increase capacity with the staff we have. He also wants to make sure the very small/loud group in the community won't dominate the landscape and effect the policy too much.

Councillor Willsie wonders about the silo departments and if there is duplication of work over all departments. He also shares concerns with working from home.

Councillor Kennes wonders about technology when it relates to services and if there are any inefficiencies on for example paying your taxes.

Councillor Hipple would like to see efficiencies overall, as a growing municipality we need to be prepared for the future and need to ensure that services are being provided equally.

Mayor Grantham comments that the municipality is becoming urbanized quite quickly and that this is important to remember through this process. He indicates that the wants and needs from the citizens are changing.

5. Consideration of By-laws

5.1 By-law No. 72-24

Moved by Councillor Hipple

Seconded by Deputy Mayor McGuire

THAT: By-law 72-24 receive first, second and third and final reading.

Carried

6. Schedule of Meetings

7. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Pammer

Seconded by Deputy Mayor McGuire

THAT: the July 18, 2024 - Special Meeting of Council adjourn at 4:49 p.m.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk