



## GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

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Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
10:00 a.m.  
Conference Call

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### ATTENDANCE:

**Members Present:** Chair, Deputy Reeve Barrie Crampton  
Bob Argue  
Jennifer Dickson  
Douglas Barr

**Members Absent:** Councillor Rob Rainer  
David Poch  
Peter Nelson

**Staff Present:** Noelle Reeve, Planner  
Allison Playfair, Planning Administrative Assistant,  
Recording Secretary

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

A quorum was present.

The Chair overviewed the Teleconference Participation Etiquette that was outlined in the Agenda.

### 2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

### 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None at this time.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **i) Minutes – June 11th, 2021**

The minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, were approved as presented.

#### **5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

None.

#### **6. BUSINESS**

##### **i) Climate Change Action Plan – Update**

- Update on managers' training on Climate Lens – Budget 2022, Reports

The Planner advised the Working Group that the Public Works Manager, Acting CAO/Clerk, the Treasurer, and Administrative Assistant, met with Bob Argue in person with social distancing in place, to train staff on how to use the climate lens and when to consider climate change on reports to Council and in the budget process. The managers commented that they now felt confident in using the Climate Lens tool and the Acting CAO/Clerk will update Council that starting in September the reports will have a heading that will indicate the climate impact, if any. It was noted that some reports will have no impact.

The Planner also mentioned Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Foods and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) sent an email update and will be uploading to the cloud a Green House Gas Tool. The Planner will explore the tool and how it works. The magazine, Municipal World's, top article recently was on how municipalities can address Climate Change with reference to the International Panel on Climate Change's recent report identifying a code red situation for the world due to the impacts of Climate Change.

In response to a question, the Planner noted that budget discussions will not take place until Fall but the climate lens will be used.

- Update on Climate Change implications of the Official Plan

The Planner informed the Working Group that the first Public Meeting for the Official Plan (OP) was on August 17, 2021. As part to of the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement 2020, the Official Plan needs to address Climate Change and growth management. The Planner has been working with Nelson Rogers and Bob Leitch to gather information on these areas to include in the OP. The Township has also retained JP2G, Forbes Symons,

to work on the Township's Official Plan. Mr. Symons will be speaking with Council on September 21, 2021 about options and direction.

- **Adaptation Actions**

The Planner noted that the Climate Action Plan was for mitigation and there is new funding available for adaptation for Climate Change. The Planner asked if the Working Group had a priority for adaptation and noted some suggestions: retaining natural areas, planting trees, keep housing out of floodplains. The Planner also noted that Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority have not mapped all of Tay Valley's flood plains yet.

The Working Group had a discussion on different ideas. The Planner suggested to the Group that they email her some suggestions on what items the Working Group would like to include for Adaptation Actions funding.

Bob Argue mentioned that heat waves will continue to get worse in the future and businesses and homes will be adding air conditioning to stay cool. He noted this would be a good opportunity to promote alternative uses to natural gas such as heat pumps for heating and cooling in offices and homes.

Deputy Reeve Barrie Crampton advised the Working Group of a local adaptation at Lanark Lodge with funding for the older part of the Lodge to put in the heat pumps in the individual rooms.

ii) **Communications**

- **Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update – Chair**

Working Group member Bob Argue (who is also on the Lanark County Climate Change Committee) updated the Working Group. He advised that the County Committee was set up by the County, including Smiths Falls, to create a climate action plan. The inaugural meeting was held on June 21, 2021 and the members were introduced and generic targets were discussed. A push for stronger targets was made. The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 23, 2021. Mr. Argue will update the Working Group at the next meeting on the agenda topics.

- **Tay Valley Guide Article**

The Planner explained that the Township distributes a Tay Valley Guide to all residents every couple of years and a page has been set aside for Climate Change. The Working Group discussed items that could be included in the article. The Planner will speak with Councilor Rob Rainer to see if he would contribute to the article for the guide. Bob Argue offered to write about the pros and cons of home heating/cooling fuel sources. Other

suggestions were to write about electric vehicles, composting, carpooling, etc. The Working Group wondered if they could have more than one page in the guide and also suggested reaching out to Tesla to see if they would be interested in advertising to promote electric vehicles.

- Website Update

The Planner noted a copy of the Climate Change article that will be published in the Tay Valley Guide will also be included as a link on the website.

The Working Group noted that the Website is more user friendly.

- E-news fortnightly Energy/Climate Change Tips

Garry Welsh, Administrative Assistant, will write up biweekly actions on Climate Change actions for residents to take, starting in September.

## 7. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

### i) Teleconference versus Video Conference Meetings

The Planner explained the new visual GoToMeeting approach that Council has started to use and asked the Working Group which format would be preferred. The Working Group will try the new format and have a training session scheduled to be sure all members can participate.

## 8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: September 24, 2021

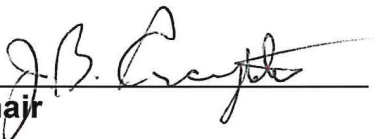
## 9. DEFERRED ITEMS

*\*The following items will be discussed at the next and/or future meeting:*

*None at this time.*

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

The Working Group adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

  
Chair

  
Secretary