



GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Friday, September 24th, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Conference Call

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

Chair, Councillor Rob Rainer
Bob Argue
Jennifer Dickson
Douglas Barr

Members Absent:

Deputy Reeve Barrie Crampton
David Poch
Peter Nelson

Staff Present:

Noelle Reeve, Planner
Allison Playfair, Planning Administrative Assistant,
Recording Secretary

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 – August 20th, 2021

The minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on August 20th, 2021, were approved as presented.

5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. BUSINESS

i) Climate Action Plan – Update Noelle Reeve, Planner.

- Waste Management Audit – Survey

The Planner advised the Working Group that the Public Works Manager requested feedback from the Green Energy Climate Change Working Group on the Township's Waste Management Master Plan project. The Planner suggested members submit any feedback directly to the Public Works Manager, Sean Ervin.

The project is a joint project with Lanark Highlands funded by the province focusing on achieving efficiencies. A report will be presented to Council with recommendations how to improve waste management and be more efficient.

The Planner also noted that the Township will also be conducting a waste audit over the next year, once in the fall, winter, spring and summer. This project is also funded through a grant and will feed into the Waste Management Master Plan.

- Light Spark project update

The Planner updated the Working Group on the Light Spark project that is funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to reduce energy usage from heating and cooling homes. Clear Air Partnership of Ontario has requested information on how residents heat their homes in the Township and then will create an interactive visual model of the Township's residences to help residents understand the costs and GHG emissions associated with their current heating and cooling systems are and what other heating and cooling options there are for their home and what the costs would be to improve their homes.

With this information, the Township would provide residents who apply, with a low interest loan to purchase new equipment to improve energy

efficiency, and reduce costs and GHG emissions. The Township has already provided information from Hydro and Enbridge and will provide information from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation on the size and age of homes in the area.

The Planner noted that Light Spark is hoping to launch the visual module mid-winter or early spring.

The Planner advised the Working Group that the Township has begun budget discussions and the Climate Lens that was included in the Climate Action Plan will be used. She also noted that the Township is looking at replacing the Chief Building Official's vehicle with a hybrid in 2022 and asked the Working Group for their opinion on the benefits of a hybrid versus a fully electric vehicle. The Working Group responded that waiting an extra year to purchase a fully electric vehicle in 2023 would be more beneficial than purchasing a hybrid at this time. They also asked if the Township was considering a Level 2 electric charger for its parking lot.

Jennifer Dickson left at 10:33 a.m. due to technical difficulties.

The Planner explained that quorum had been lost. As per the Procedural By-Law, the Green Energy Climate Change Working Group is recessed and will wait for 15 minutes to see if quorum is regained.

Jennifer Dickson arrived at 10:37 a.m.

Chair, Councillor Rob Rainer noted quorum had been regained and resumed the meeting.

ii) **Communications**

- Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update – Climate Network Lanark Survey

B. Argue, the appointed member of the Lanark County Climate Change Committee, provided an update to the Committee and noted a meeting was held on Monday, September 20th and commented on the agenda items. He noted Lanark County Council removed Part 1 and 2 of the Working Plan that concerned all survey and public consultation. The committee wants to implement actions not undertake consultation on attitudes.

He also noted the Lanark County Climate Change Committee has requested that the members submit a list of action ideas before its next meeting. B. Argue asked the Working Group members to provide him with any items they would like suggested.

The Working Group asked how to help support B. Argue's submissions.

The Planner noted that the Lanark County Climate Change survey was attached to the agenda to be sure the members are aware of the survey. The Working Group requested a separate email be sent to them with the survey link information.

The Working Group expressed concern that education on Climate Change awareness is important and suggested council members in all municipalities should have talks with the younger generation to promote a positive mindset for youth in the future.

B. Argue informed the Working Group that Lanark County Council passed the phase out of Natural Gas motion that the Township Council voted against.

Councilor Rob Rainer mentioned to the Working Group that the Official Plan is being reviewed and that the Provincial Policy Statement now requires Climate Change to be incorporated in the update. He suggested that the Official Plan consultant, Forbes Symon from JP2G, be invited to the next meeting to discuss the Official Plan and give the Working Group an opportunity to have any questions answered and suggestions proposed.

7. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

i) Teleconference versus Video Conference Meetings

The Working Group will continue using GoToMeeting video conference but has requested a second option to call into the meeting if connections are lost so as not to not lose quorum.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: October 22, 2021

- Invite Official Plan Consultant, Forbes Symon to speak at the next meeting.

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 11:10 a.m.


Chair


Secretary