



GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP AGENDA

Friday, August 11th, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.
Municipal Office – Council Chambers – 217 Harper Road

Chair, Councillor Greg Hallam

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- i) **Minutes – June 9th, 2023 – *attached, page 4.***

Suggested Recommendation:

“THAT, the minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on June 9th, 2023 be approved as circulated.”

- 5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

None.

- 6. BUSINESS**

- i) **Climate Action Plan Update**
 - Draft Report Card Update - Planner
 - Website Content - Planner
 - Did You Know Series – Write Ups – All

ii) **Communications**

- Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update – Noelle Reeve
- Shoreline Clean Up
- Street lights that are all solar

7. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: September 15, 2023

9. DEFERRED ITEMS

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

- *None at this time*

10. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Friday, June 9, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Tay Valley Municipal Office – 217 Harper Road, Perth, Ontario
Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present: Councillor, Greg Hallam
Bob Argue
Jennifer Dickson
Douglas Barr
Gilbert Rossignol
Peter Nelson

Members Absent: Councillor, Angela Pierman
David Poch

Staff Present: Noelle Reeve, Planner
Allison Playfair, Building & Planning Administrative
Assistant/Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.
A quorum was present.

2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as printed.

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

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i) **Minutes – April 14th, 2023.**

The minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on April 14th, 2023, were approved as presented.

5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. BUSINESS

i) **Climate Action Plan Update.**

Waste Management Plan Update

The Planner updated the Working Group on the Waste Management Plan presentation to Council by the Public Works Manager. The report brought forward 13 items for consideration and Council choose 3 of 13 to be reviewed further.

The Township will be looking at shifting hours for the waste sites after seeing what the average times of use are and which days are the busiest at the 3 waste sites. The Township is considering purchasing land across the road to move the operation of the waste site there to allow for more space for the garbage disposal area. Having operations and waste disposal on the same site is limiting the years the site can be used for.

After the review of the waste sites a report will be brought back to Council for discussion.

Composting Options for the Township – Waste Blitz and Giveaways

The Planner explained to the Working Group that one of the top 3 considerations of the Waste Management Plan was to improve composting at the waste sites and the CAO would like feedback from the Working Group.

The Township is looking at having staff at the waste sites with plastic composters for sale at cost and under the sink buckets to be given away as well as information on why composting is important and how to do it.

The Working Group suggested that while creating a brochure to explain the process of composting at the waste site and how to make your own composter could be useful, without an actual composting program with a ½ FTE operating along the lines of the County's previous support program with Master Composters to assist residents, achieving a serious increase in composting was unlikely.

The Chair recognized N. Button, who suggested to consult the Re Use Center about any new hours.

The Planner will set up a meeting with Climate Network Lanark (as they have focused on compost in their recent programming) and the Public Works Manager to discuss a compost program.

Another consideration is that Perth has approval to accept other township's composting materials.

Building Conditions Assessment Report

The Planner summarized from the last meeting that staff and Council were asked to use the climate lens when using the assessment. The Working Group discussed the attachment that Bob Argue provided on how the climate lens could inform building asset decisions. The Planner noted a very detailed asset management plan is currently being developed by the Treasurer and Public Works Manager that will list what assets need to be repaired or replaced and when. This will help with decision making to reduce fossil fuel usage by the Township.

The Planner advised the Working Group that for the August Council agenda the Working Group can report on its activities in 2022 and the climate change report card which will be circulated to the Working Group for comment.

Electric Vehicle Life Cycle Analysis

The Working Group discussed the fact that multiple business case analyses demonstrate that Electric Vehicles are less expensive over their life cycle compared to Internal Combustion Engine Vehicles. In response to a question about when the CBO vehicle would be retendered, the Planner explained its repair had been authorized. In response to a further question, the Planner reported she had been told the cost was almost \$9,000. The Planner was told the CBO vehicle now has a life expectancy of 5 years to continue to emit Greenhouse Gases.

The Working Group requested that the Treasurer write a report for Council on the principle of Total Cost accounting so that decisions based on low up-front costs but high lifetime costs not be repeated for any purchase (not just

Electric Vehicles) that would cost residents of Tay Valley Township more in the end.

Advocate for Stronger Green House Gas Reduction Targets and Actions at the Federal, Provincial and County Levels of Government

This item on the agenda was taken directly from the Climate Action Plan. Staff are looking for suggestions from the Working Group on this topic. Working Group members suggested making a Ministers' delegation at ROMA about phasing out fossil fuels by importing more hydro-energy from Quebec and allowing net metering.

The group suggested there were many petitions Council could sign for example, there is a petition by the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) to label all fossil fuels with a health warning (in the same way alcohol and cigarettes are labelled) because climate change has such a negative impact on health.

Develop Ongoing Communications Strategy that Informs and Motivates Organizations

- Website – The CAO noticed that the webpage for Climate Change has not been updated since it was first published a few years ago and suggested that the Working Group members provide some content to freshen up the website. The Working Group will write some content for the Website.
- Did You Know? Series

The Planner explained that the Township has a Did You Know? Series of updates that are sent out in the news feeds about items about the Township to inform the community of what the Township provides. The Working Group members will bring back to the next meeting 1- 5 Did You Know? suggestions of good Climate Change actions residents are doing in our Township to recognize their efforts and inspire other residents to do the same.

ii) **Communications**

Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update.

The Planner provided the Working Group an update on the Lanark County Climate Change Committee meeting. The County has proposed a Climate Action Plan and will seek feedback from residents and lower tier Councils. The Working Group will promote the County's Climate Action Plan consultation.

- Should Tay Valley Declare a Climate Emergency?

The Planner explained to the Working Group that the CAO/Clerk would like to ensure that when Declaring a Climate Emergency that it does not trigger the emergency provisions under the legislation including the requirement for the CCG (Community Control Group for emergencies with the Fire Chief, Reeve, etc.) to meet. The Working Group discussed in detail all the information on other towns and cities that have declared climate emergencies as an information awareness declaration. The CCG looks at risks associated with climate change (e.g., wildfires, heat events, flooding already as part of its Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment process).

The Working Group discussed the definition of emergency versus urgency and agreed that the emergency was the correct word to use. Examples of other town's declarations will be shown to the CAO. The current wildfire situation underlines the need to treat the situation as a climate emergency so that decisions about fossil fuel use are seen in that context. These decisions by Council are not something to put off. Time is running out to make the necessary changes.

The Working Group recommended that the declaration of a Climate Emergency be included in the Working Group update to Council in August.

National Building Code Update Energy Efficiency - Doug Barr

The Planner explained the process of items going to Council. A report of the Green Energy Working Group will go to Council in August for its Annual Report under the Terms of Reference. The report will include information on how to bring Green Development Standards to Tay Valley.

Invitation to Sundance Artisan Festival

The Working Group discussed the invitation to have a table at the Sundance Artisans Festival and decided to respectfully decline the invitation because many visitors are from outside of the Township. It will look at other possible venues to promote Climate Change in the community (e.g., the Maberly Fair).

7. NEW AND OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: August 11, 2023

- Website Content
- Did you Know? Series Write Ups
- Shoreline Clean Up
- Streetlights that are all solar

9. DEFERRED ITEMS

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

- ***Climate Action Plan Update***

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Working Group adjourned at 3:50 p.m.