



## **Council Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**C#36-22**

**Wednesday, November 23, 2022, 9:30 a.m.**

**Council Chambers**

**225 East Beaver Creek Road**

**Richmond Hill, Ontario**

A Council meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond Hill was held on Wednesday, November 23, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers via videoconference.

Council Members present in Council Chambers:

Mayor West  
Regional and Local Councillor Chan  
Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola  
Councillor Davidson  
Councillor Thompson  
Councillor Liu  
Councillor Cui  
Councillor Cilevitz  
Councillor Shiu

Staff Members present in Council Chambers:

D. Joslin, Interim City Manager  
S. Adams, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services  
K. Kwan, Commissioner of Planning and Infrastructure  
T. Steele, Acting Commissioner of Community Services  
A. Dimilta, City Solicitor  
P. Masaro, Executive Director, Infrastructure and Engineering Services  
E. Houdi, Chief of Staff  
A. Ierullo, Director, Economic Development and Richmond Hill Centre  
G. Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer  
K. Graver, Manager, Strategic Communications  
A. Luk, Small Business Consultant  
N. Sabbat, Administrative Assistant Members of Council  
M. Yan, Administrative Assistant Members of Council

A. Zhu, Administrative Assistant Members of Council  
S. Huycke, City Clerk  
R. Ban, Deputy City Clerk  
K. Hurley, Council/Committee Coordinator  
C. Connolly, Legislative Services Assistant

Staff Members present via videoconference:

G. Galanis, Director, Development Planning  
N. Kalyvas, Director, Facility Management  
C. Treacy, Director, Human Resources

**1. Call to Order/National Anthem**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Mayor West transferred the Chair to Regional and Local Councillor Chan between:

- 10:01 a.m. and 10:08 a.m. during consideration of Item 13.2; and
- 10:21 a.m. and 10:53 a.m. during consideration of Items 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4 and 14.5.

**2. Public Forum (not to exceed 15 minutes)**

Farnaz Azizi on behalf of her husband Arsham Mojdekanloo, 44 Reaman Street, addressed Council regarding Municipal Code Chapter 306.1.1 (Animals - Trespassing) and the impact the by-law has on their ability to take in and care for rescue animals, and requested that the by-law be amended as it applies to cats.

Galina Gantman, 207 Baker Avenue, addressed Council regarding issues that are of importance to the residents of Richmond Hill for the new Term of Council including the clean-up of local streets and neighbourhoods; educating new residents with respect to municipal by-laws, including enforcement mechanisms; and the need for proper infrastructure to reflect the rapid growth within Richmond Hill.

**3. Council Announcements**

Mayor West extended a welcome to all Members of Council, particularly the newly elected Members, and acknowledged the wonderful Council Inaugural that was held on Monday night. Mayor West wished the Canadian Men's National Soccer Team good luck in their game later today and advised that there was opportunity for residents to watch the game at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts (RHCPA).

Regional and Local Councillor Chan expressed his thanks to the residents who participated in the municipal elections in October noting his commitment to the community, advised that he looked forward to working with his colleagues during the upcoming Term, and extended a warm welcome to the new Members of Council. Regional and Local Councillor Chan echoed the comments made by Mayor West and wished the Canadian Men's National Soccer Team good luck and extended an invitation to everyone to watch the game on the big screen at the RHCPA.

Councillor Davidson also expressed her thanks to the residents who participated in the municipal elections in October and for the residents of Ward 1 for voting her in as their Councillor. Councillor Davidson acknowledged the comments and issues raised by the resident who spoke during the Public Forum, and noted that she looked forward to working with everyone during the new Term of Council.

Councillor Cilevitz congratulated Members of Council following the municipal elections in October and extended a warm welcome to the newly elected Members. Councillor Cilevitz advised that on November 26th a rally organized by Environmental Defence Canada to oppose Bill 23 would be held at the Richmond Green Sports Centre and that all were welcome to participate. Councillor Cilevitz further advised that tomorrow evening a candlelight vigil would be held at the Markham Civic Centre "Bright the Night" in memory of those wounded and who lost their lives at Club Q in Colorado Springs. Councillor Cilevitz reminded everyone the importance of wearing a mask in public spaces and at public gatherings as we are faced with the challenges of a tridemic. Lastly, Councillor Cilevitz extended her thanks to the City Clerk and staff in the Clerk's Office and Event Services for the Inauguration ceremony held on Monday night.

#### **4. Introduction of Emergency/Time Sensitive Matters**

There were no emergency/time sensitive matters raised by Members of Council.

#### **5. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Chan

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the agenda be adopted as distributed by the Clerk with the following addition:

a) Memorandum from Stephen M.A. Huycke, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk, dated November 21, 2022, regarding York Region Council Decision, Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act 2022* - (Item 13.3).

Carried Unanimously

**6. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest by Members of Council under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

**7. Adoption of Previous Council Minutes**

**7.1 Special Council Meeting C#31-22 held September 7, 2022**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the minutes of Special Council Meeting C#31-22 held on September 7, 2022 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

**7.2 Council Public Meeting C#32-22 held September 7, 2022**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the minutes of Council Public Meeting C#32-22 held on September 7, 2022 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

**7.3 Special Council Meeting C#33-22 held September 13, 2022**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the minutes of Special Council Meeting C#33-22 held on September 13, 2022 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

**7.4 Council Meeting C#34-22 held September 14, 2022**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the minutes of Council Meeting C#34-22 held on September 14, 2022 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

**8. Identification of Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

Council consented to separate items 13.2, 13.3, 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4, 14.5 and 14.6 for discussion.

**9. Adoption of Remainder of Agenda Items**

On a motion of Councillor Liu, seconded by Councillor Cilevitz, Council adopted those items not identified for separate discussion.

**10. Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

**11. Presentations**

**11.1 Presentation by Mayor West of the William F. Bell Young Entrepreneur Award to Larry Li, founder of Larry's Lawn Mowing Service**

Mayor West welcomed everyone in attendance and highlighted the legacy left behind by former Richmond Hill Mayor William F. Bell. Mayor West provided background information about the William F. Bell Young Entrepreneur Award which was initiated by the City in 2006 to recognize successful young entrepreneurs taking part in the Ontario Summer Company program, and introduced Mayor Bell's daughter Julie Ihamaki, and his brother John Bell, who were both in attendance to present the award to this year's recipient.

Julie Ihamaki, on behalf of her family, advised that this year's award winner was Larry Li, a dedicated and hard-working student who created a lawn mowing company, Larry's Lawn Mowing Service. She highlighted the success of Larry's Lawn Mowing Service despite being faced with operational hurdles and noted how it expanded since its inception to include other students working for him to service the community.

Mayor West together with Julie and John, presented Larry Li, founder of Larry's Lawn Mowing Service, with the 2022 William F. Bell Young Entrepreneur Award and on behalf of himself, the Bell Family, Members of Council, and the Richmond Hill Small Business Enterprise Centre, extended congratulations to Larry on his participation in the Summer Company program and his successes.

**12. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

**13. Committee and Staff Reports**

**13.1 SRCM.22.06 - Delegated Authority Election Recess Accounting - Reference By-law 86-20 as amended by Bylaw 113-20 (September 15 to November 22, 2022)**

Moved by: Councillor Liu  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That staff report SRCM.22.06 regarding Delegated Authority Election Recess Accounting, be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

**13.2 SRCFS.22.028 - 2023 Council and Committee Meeting Schedule**

Moved by: Mayor West  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That the proposed 2023 Council and Committee meeting schedule as set out in Appendix 'A' to staff report SRCFS.22.028 be approved with the following changes beginning in March 2023:

- i. Council meetings be scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m.
- ii. Committee of the Whole meetings be scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on the Wednesday prior to a regular Council Meeting, with any necessary adjustments for holidays and March Break.
- iii. Council Public Meetings be changed to the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m.

b) To ensure that delegations are heard in a timely manner at Committee of the Whole and Council meetings, all registered delegations shall be heard at the same time prior to consideration of any Agenda Item that was identified for separate discussion.

c) That, notwithstanding paragraph 7.1.3(a) of the Procedure By-law, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council shall be:

Member of Council	Dates
Regional & Local Councillor Godwin Chan	March 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023
Regional & Local Councillor Joe DiPaola	August 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024
Ward 1 Councillor Carol Davidson	February 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024
Ward 2 Councillor Scott Thompson	August 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
Ward 3 Councillor Castro Liu	January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025
Ward 4 Councillor Simon Cui	July 1, 2025 to November 30, 2025
Ward 5 Councillor Karen Cilevitz	December 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026
Ward 6 Councillor Michael Shiu	May 1, 2026 to November 14, 2026

Carried Unanimously

**13.3 Memorandum from Stephen M.A. Huycke, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk, dated November 21, 2022, regarding York Region Council Decision, Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act 2022***

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Chan

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

WHEREAS on October 25, 2022, the Government of the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 23, the *More Homes Built Faster Act 2022*;

WHEREAS the purpose of the Act is to establish significant changes to the development approval process with the goal of facilitating the construction of 1.5 million new homes Province wide by 2031;

WHEREAS Bill 23 is the third in a series of steps recently initiated by the Government of Ontario to make changes to the Planning Act and other

legislation intended to streamline the development approval process and increase the supply of homes;

WHEREAS Bill 23 passed second reading and was referred to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy on October 31, 2022 with a deadline for comments on November 24, 2022;

WHEREAS Bill 23 amends a number of statutes including the *Planning Act*, the *Ontario Land Tribunal Act*, the *Development Charges Act*, the *Municipal Act*, the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and the *Heritage Act*;

WHEREAS Bill 23, if passed, would significantly impact on the growth pays for growth model and limit Richmond Hill's financial ability to provide infrastructure support to future developments without additional sources of funding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council endorses the decision of the York Regional Council dated November 10, 2022, in its entirety, to request the Province of Ontario to halt consideration of Bill 23 to enable opportunity for greater consultation with all stakeholders;

AND, a copy of this Council-approved resolution be sent forthwith to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Leader of the Opposition; the Leaders of the Liberal and Green Party; all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; the Clerk of the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy; the Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario; the Small Urban GTHA Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; and the Association of Municipalities Ontario.

Carried Unanimously

#### **14. Other Business**

##### **14.1 Member Motion - Mayor West - Municipal Campaign Contribution Rebate Program**

Moved by: Mayor West  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

Whereas, Campaign contributions made by citizens to any municipal candidate are not eligible for either a provincial or federal tax credit; and

Whereas, the lack of a tax credit for contributions may be considered as an impediment which limits the ability of municipal candidates to raise funds for their campaign; and

Whereas, an increasing number of municipalities, including Markham, Oakville, Toronto, and many others in Ontario, have developed Campaign Rebate programs designed to encourage citizens to donate to candidates of their choice during the municipal election; and

Whereas, the majority of the current municipal Campaign Rebate programs are established at the beginning of a municipal election cycle, to enable the required funding to be accumulated over a four year budgeting cycle; and

Whereas, various municipalities have adopted different program elements including different rebate levels, different criteria for candidates to apply for the program, different criteria for citizens to qualify for the rebate program, etc.; and

Whereas, it is recognized that there would be a requirement to ensure that appropriate systems and staffing would be in place to manage any such Contribution Rebate Program for Richmond Hill.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

a) That Staff be asked to report back to Budget Committee of the Whole on options to establish a Municipal Elections Campaign Contributions Rebate Program for municipal elections in Richmond Hill, starting with the 2026 Municipal Election; including:

- i. options on the structure of such a program, including recommendations and potential criteria for the various program elements (including, but not limited to, criteria to qualify for a rebate, and maximum rebate levels); and,
- ii. potential costs, potential funding sources and any additional information to assist Council in assessing the viability of the program.

Carried Unanimously

**14.2 Member Motion - Mayor West - Deputy Mayor and Alternate Deputy Mayor for the 2022 to 2026 Term**

Moved by: Mayor West  
Seconded by: Councillor Liu

Whereas, Section 4.2 of the Procedure By-law No. 74-12, as amended, (the “Procedure By-law”) provides that Council shall appoint a Deputy Mayor, and that the person so appointed shall normally be the Regional and Local Councillor who received the highest number of votes for that office in the last election as certified by the Clerk; and

Whereas, Section 4.3 of the Procedure By-law provides that Council may appoint one or more Members to be Acting Mayor for the Term of Council, to act during the absence or inability of both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor to act;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

- a) That the words “Acting Mayor” in Section 1.1, Section 4.2(c), Section 4.3 and Section 5.7.11 of the Procedure By-law No 74-12, as amended, be replaced with the words “Alternate Deputy Mayor”;
- b) That Regional and Local Councillor Godwin Chan be and is hereby appointed Deputy Mayor for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council; and
- c) That Regional and Local Councillor Joe DiPaola be and is hereby appointed Alternate Deputy Mayor for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council.

Carried Unanimously

**14.3 Member Motion - Mayor West - Appointment of Members of Council to Boards, Committees and Task Forces for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council**

Moved by: Mayor West  
Seconded by: Councillor Davidson

Whereas Richmond Hill Council has established various Boards, Committees and Task Forces, the membership of which includes Members of Council.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

- a) That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) Terms of Reference, Committee Composition, be amended to as follows:

“The membership of the Committee will be comprised as follows:  
(Note that under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*, 2005, the majority of the members appointed to the Committee must be individuals with disabilities):

- two (2) member of Council; and
- eleven (11) citizen members.”

b) That the Members of Council appointed as members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Ward 1 Councillor Carol Davidson; and
- ii. Ward 5 Councillor Karen Cilevitz.

c) That the Members of Council appointed as members of the Affordable Housing Strategy Implementation Committee (AHSIC) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Mayor David West (who shall be Chair of AHSIC), and
- ii. Regional and Local Councillor Joe DiPaola (who shall be Vice-chair of AHSIC).

d) That the Members of Council appointed as members of the Audit Committee for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Mayor West;
- ii. Regional and Local Councillor Joe DiPaola; and
- iii. Ward 2 Councillor Scott Thompson.

e) That Regional and Local Councillor Joe DiPaola be appointed Chair, and Mayor David West be appointed Vice-chair, of the Budget Committee of the Whole (BCW) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council.

f) That the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee Terms of Reference, Committee Composition, be amended to read as follows: “The membership of the Committee will be comprised of: Ward 5 Councillor, Ward 6 Councillor, one (1) additional Members of Council, and 2 community Representatives.

g) That the Members of Council appointed as members of the David Dunlap Observatory Park Project Steering Committee (DDOP) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Regional and Local Councillor Godwin Chan;

- ii. Ward 5 Councillor Karen Cilevitz; and
- iii. Ward 6 Councillor Michael Shiu.

h) That the Members of Council appointed as members of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Mayor David West;
- ii. Regional and Local Councillor Godwin Chan;
- iii. Ward 3 Councillor Castro Liu;
- iv. Ward 4 Councillor Simon Cui; and
- v. Ward 6 Councillor Michael Shiu.

i) That the Members of Council appointed as members of the Heritage Centre Advisory Committee (HCAC) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Mayor David West; and
- ii. Ward 4 Councillor Simon Cui.

j) That the Heritage Richmond Hill (HRH) Terms of Reference, Committee Composition, be amended to replace the words “the Mayor; one (1) additional member but not more than two (2) additional members of Council; as follows” with “Two (2) Members of Council”.

k) That the Members of Council appointed as members of Heritage Richmond Hill (HRH) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Ward 1 Councillor Carol Davidson; and
- ii. Ward 5 Councillor Karen Cilevitz.

l) That the Member of Council appointed as Council Liaison to be appointed as Council Liaison to the Richmond Hill Board of Trade for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be Ward 3 Councillor Castro Liu.

m) That the Members of Council appointed of the Richmond Hill Public Library Board (RHPBL) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Ward 1 Councillor Carol Davidson;
- ii. Ward 2 Councillor Scott Thompson; and
- iii. Ward 3 Councillor Castro Liu.

n) That the Members of Council appointed as Directors of the Village of Richmond Hill Business Improvement Area Board of Management (“BIA”) for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council be:

- i. Ward 2 Councillor Scott Thompson; and
- ii. Ward 4 Councillor Simon Cui.

Carried Unanimously

**14.4 Member Motion - Mayor West - Reinstate the Community and Cultural Grant Program**

Moved by: Mayor West

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

WHEREAS the Community and Cultural Grant Program was a recommendation of the 2011 Cultural Plan. In February 2015, Council approved the Community and Cultural Grant Program (amalgamated the Mayors Endowment Fund for the Arts and the City’s Community Grant Program) with an annual funding allocation of \$65,000.

WHEREAS the purpose of the program was to provide project funding to community and cultural organizations, as well as individual artists whose projects support a more vibrant Richmond Hill through the delivery of programs, services or activities.

WHEREAS applications were eligible to receive a grant to fund 50% of a project, up to a maximum of \$5000. Between 2016 and 2019, an average of \$2,200 was allocated to 87 applications.

WHEREAS on February 12, 2020, the previous Council voted not to approve issuing 2020 Community and Cultural Grants.

WHEREAS the arts and cultural community has suffered over the past three years in the absence of the Community and Cultural Grant Program.

WHEREAS support for arts and culture is vital to ensure our community remains rich and vibrant with a strong sense of belonging.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Staff be directed to include the Community and Cultural Grant Program in the 2023 Operating Budget.

Carried Unanimously

**14.5 Member Motion - Mayor West - Add Closed Session Agenda Item to the November 23, 2022 Council Meeting pertaining to the recruitment of a City Manager**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola  
Seconded by: Mayor West

That a Closed Session Agenda Item be added to the November 23, 2022 Council agenda to consider personal information about identifiable individuals, and labour relations or employee negotiations related to the recruitment of a City Manager (Sections 239(2)(b) and 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001).

Carried Unanimously

**14.6 Member Motion - Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola - Communications**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

WHEREAS the Liberal newspaper is distributed weekly to many homes in Richmond Hill;

WHEREAS the City of Richmond Hill has a long tradition of communicating city business through the use of a community bulletin page;

WHEREAS not all of our residents are able get information through the city's website;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Richmond Hill Council directs the appropriate city staff to report to budget committee with a plan to reinstate the use of a community bulletin page in the Liberal newspaper.

Carried Unanimously

**15. Emergency/Time Sensitive Matters**

There were no emergency/time sensitive matters.

**16. By-laws**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Chan  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the following By-laws be approved:

By-law 126-22 - A By-Law to Repeal By-law 95-13, as amended by By-law 66-18 (Being a By-law to authorize the Designation of 630 King Road (John Love House) under the Ontario Heritage Act)

By-law 127-22 - A By-Law to Repeal By-law 143-97, as amended by By-law 68-06, (Being a By-law to authorize the designation of the David Hislop House (Old Mill Farm) under the Ontario Heritage Act)

By-law 137-22 - A By-Law to levy for Taxes Prior to the Adoption of Budget Estimates

Carried Unanimously

**17. Closed Session**

**17.1 Resolution to Move into Closed Session and General Nature Thereof**

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz  
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

That Council move into closed session:

a) To consider personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees, with respect to Citizen Appointments to the Richmond Hill Public Library Board for the 2022 to 2026 Term of Council (Section 239(2)(b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*);

b) To consider personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees, and labour relations or employee negotiations, with respect to the recruitment of a City Manager (Section 239(2)(b) and 239(2)(d) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*).

Carried Unanimously

**17.2 Resolution to Reconvene in Open Session**

Council moved into closed and then returned to open session (11:06 a.m. to 12:02 p.m.).

**17.3 Adoption of Recommendations Arising from the Closed Session Meeting**

**17.3.1 SRCFS.22.032 - Citizen Appointments to the Richmond Hill Public Library Board - 2022 - 2026 Term of Council - (Item A)**

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Chan  
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That the following individuals be appointed to the Richmond Hill Public Library Board for the 2022 - 2026 Term of Council:

- i. Stephen Chait
- ii. Jason Cherniak
- iii. Sofia Ma
- iv. Sadra Nasserri
- v. Sugantha Raj
- vi. Mona Shahnazari

Carried Unanimously

The City Clerk advised that there were no recommendations to be made in open session for Closed Session Item B.

**18. By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council at this Meeting**

**18.1 By-law 145-22**

Moved by: Councillor Thompson  
Seconded by: Councillor Davidson

That By-law 145-22, A By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at this meeting, be passed.

Carried Unanimously

**19. Adjournment**

Moved by: Councillor Shiu  
Seconded by: Councillor Cui

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

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David West, Mayor

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Stephen M.A. Huycke, City Clerk