



Council Meeting

Minutes

C#11-24

Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 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, May 8, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers via videoconference.

Council Members present in Council Chambers:

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

Council Member present via videoconference:

Mayor West

Staff Members present in Council Chambers:

D. Joslin, City Manager
S. Adams, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services
G. Galanis, Acting Commissioner of Planning and Building Services
P. Masaro, Commissioner of Infrastructure and Engineering Services
T. Steele, Commissioner of Community Services
A. Dimilta, City Solicitor
M. Flores, Director, Policy Planning
D. Giannetta, Acting Director, Development Planning
A. Ierullo, Director, Economic Development and Richmond Hill Centre
G. Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer

S. DeMaria, Manager, Development Planning - Site Plans
K. Graham, Acting Manager, Development Planning
B. DeFreitas, Senior Planner - Policy
S. Huycke, City Clerk
R. Ban, Deputy City Clerk
K. Hurley, Council/Committee Coordinator
C. Connolly, Legislative Services Assistant

Staff Members present via videoconference:

D. Guy, Director, Community Standards
L. De Jesus, Manager, Capital Infrastructure Programming and Project Management Office

1. Call to Order

As the Mayor was participating electronically in the meeting, in accordance with the City's Procedure By-law 125-23, the Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair.

The Deputy Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We are gathering on lands that have been home to First Nations Peoples from time immemorial. We acknowledge that what we now call Richmond Hill is on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Mississauga and Chippewa Nations of the Williams Treaty. We also recognize that we are on part of the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and the Huron Wendat.

We would also like to acknowledge all First Nation, Inuit and Métis peoples from across North America, also known as Turtle Island, who now reside in the City of Richmond Hill. We are committed to rebuilding constructive and cooperative relationships.

3. National Anthem

The National Anthem was played.

4. Public Forum (not exceeding fifteen minutes)

Aram Rajabpour, 49 Carrington Drive, addressed Council regarding safety concerns for pedestrians using the Major Mackenzie Bridge, noting the many students who use the Bridge from the nearby high school and the proposed development to the east which would increase pedestrian traffic, and requested that bollards be installed on each side of the road as a proactive safety measure.

5. Council Announcements

Councillor Cilevitz thanked the resident who addressed Council during the Public Forum advising of her support for the concerns that were identified, and noted that Major Mackenzie Drive was a Regional road and the Regional representatives on Council would be able to discuss this matter with him.

Councillor Cilevitz advised that May 5th to 11th was the 55th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week. She acknowledged Richmond Hill's City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk and Clerk's staff, and on behalf of Council and residents, extended thanks for all the work that they do for the municipality.

Councillor Cilevitz noted that this past Monday Yom HaShoah was observed and shared the significance of the Holocaust Remembrance Day and the vow "Never Again" in light of the terrorist attacks against Israel and the rise in antisemitism.

Councillor Cui advised that this Sunday was Mother's Day and wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day. He further noted that he was hosting a Mother's Day Lunch at the McConaghy Centre on Friday that residents were welcome to join.

Councillor Cui shared that the Ward 4 food drive that was held this past weekend was very successful and extended his thanks for the generous donations and efforts of residents to help those in need.

Councillor Cui advised that Saturday, May 11th was the annual Strides for Mackenzie Health community run/walk event being held at Canada's Wonderland and encouraged everyone to join.

Councillor Cui noted that the Richmond Hill Sports Awards ceremony was held last week and thanked City staff for organizing and supporting the event and extended congratulations to all the award recipients.

Councillor Davidson echoed the comments made by Councillor Cilevitz regarding the Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week and thanked the City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk and Clerk's staff for their help, and acknowledged the support that was given to new Members of Council since the beginning of the term.

Councillor Davidson advised that Saturday, May 11th was the annual Oak Ridges Lions Club Community Clean Up at the Academie de la Moraine Elementary School, and encouraged anyone that has time to come out and help.

Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola shared that in collaboration with York Regional Police, he was hosting a Senior Safety Seminar on Friday, May 10th at the Rouge Woods Community Centre and welcomed everyone to attend.

Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola congratulated Richmond Hill resident Taylor Pendrith on his first PGA Tour title after winning The CJ Cup Byron Nelson tournament this past weekend, and highlighted the success of the many athletes from Richmond Hill at the national and international level as seen last week at the Richmond Hill Sports Awards ceremony.

Mayor West also extended congratulations to Richmond Hill golfer Taylor Pendrith on winning his first PGA Tour title.

Mayor West highlighted a number of significant dates in the month of May including: World Migratory Bird Day (May 11, 2024), National Hospice Palliative Care Week (May 5 to 11, 2024), Melanoma Skin Cancer Awareness Month (May 2024), Canadian Mental Health Week (May 6 to 12, 2024) with a theme of “A Call to be Kind”, and National Youth Week (May 1 to 7, 2024).

Councillor Thompson advised of a number of events happening on Saturday, May 11th including the Richmond Hill Garden and Horticultural Society’s annual plant sale at the McConaghy Centre, 2024 Studio Tour in partnership with Doors Open Richmond Hill, and the L’Arche Daybreak’s Walk with Hope event.

Deputy Mayor Chan also noted that May 6th to 12th was Canadian Mental Health Week and highlighted the many programs in the York-Simcoe area that were offered to assist youth, families and caregivers.

Deputy Mayor Chan recognized the courageous men and women who work for Richmond Hill’s Fire and Emergency Services as May 5th to 11th was Emergency Preparedness Week with a theme of “Plan for Every Season” and noted that the educational brochures were being published in multiple languages.

Deputy Mayor Chan announced that today was the annual McHappy Day and shared that he and many of his Council colleagues would be volunteering to serve residents at different McDonald’s restaurants within Richmond Hill in support of the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

6. Introduction of Emergency/Time Sensitive Matters

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

7. Adoption of Agenda

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

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

- a) Public Forum by Aram Rajabpour, 49 Carrington Drive, regarding a request for bollards at the Major Mackenzie Bridge - (Item 4.1);
- b) Delegation by Maria Asper, 600 Alden Road, Markham, regarding the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications submitted by Elm 9700 Yonge LP for 9700 Yonge Street - (Item 14.1);
- c) Memorandum from Gus Galanis, Acting Commissioner of Planning and Building Services, dated May 8, 2024, regarding Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 - (Item 15.6).

Carried Unanimously

8. 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*.

9. Adoption of Previous Council Minutes

9.1 Council Meeting C#09-24 held April 24, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Davidson
Seconded by: Councillor Liu

That the minutes of Council Meeting C#09-24 held on April 24, 2024, be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

10. Identification of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Council consented to separate items 15.1 and 15.4.3 for discussion.

11. Adoption of the Remainder of Agenda Items

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

12. Public Hearing(s)

There were no public hearings.

13. Presentation(s)**13.1 Presentation by Suzanne Craig, Integrity Commissioner, regarding the Annual Report of the City's Integrity Commissioner - (refer to Item 15.1)**

Suzanne Craig, Integrity Commissioner, made a presentation to Council regarding the Annual Report of the City's Integrity Commissioner. She reviewed the purpose of the Code of Conduct and its key principles, advised of the role and duties of the Integrity Commissioner; and provided a summary of the activities that were carried out by her Office that included general Code of Conduct inquiries, formal complaints, informal complaints, as well as complaints and inquiries that were not within the jurisdiction of the Office. S. Craig concluded the presentation by summarizing the recommended revisions to the Code of Conduct for Council's consideration and receipt.

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz
Seconded by: Councillor Davidson

a) That the presentation by Suzanne Craig, Integrity Commissioner, regarding the Annual Report of the City's Integrity Commissioner, be received with thanks.

Carried Unanimously

14. Delegation(s)**14.1 Maria Asper, 600 Alden Road, Markham, regarding the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications submitted by Elm 9700 Yonge LP for 9700 Yonge Street - (refer to Item 15.4.3)**

Maria Asper, 600 Alden Road, Markham, and resident of May Avenue, spoke on behalf of herself and multiple residents of May Avenue regarding the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications submitted by Elm 9700 Yonge LP for 9700 Yonge Street. She advised of several concerns that they had with the proposed development because of the height and density, impact on area traffic flow and congestion, parking and street safety, and inquired about public transit usage and the validity of the traffic studies. She

further expressed their concerns regarding light pollution; the impact on the environment, schools, social and emergency services; and devaluation of their properties as a result of rental units. M. Asper requested copies of the traffic and parking studies that were conducted, and full disclosure on urban planning for Yonge Street.

15. Committee and Staff Reports

15.1 Annual Report of the City’s Integrity Commissioner, Suzanne Craig, dated May 1, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz
Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

- a) That the Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner, Suzanne Craig, dated May 1, 2024, be received;
- b) That the Council Code of Conduct (approved September 12, 2018), the Code of Conduct for Local Boards (approved April 12, 2023), and Integrity Commissioner Procedures (approved Sept 12, 2018) be repealed and replaced effective June 1, 2024, with the following:
 - i. the Code of Conduct for Council and Local Boards, attached as Attachment “A” to the Integrity Commissioner’s Annual Report dated May 1, 2024; and,
 - ii. Integrity Commissioner Procedure, attached as Attachment “B” to the Integrity Commissioner’s Annual Report dated May 1, 2024.

Carried Unanimously

15.2 Memorandum from Stephen M.A. Huycke, Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk, dated May 8, 2024, regarding the Annual Report of the City’s Integrity Commissioner, Suzanne Craig, dated May 1, 2024 - (refer to Item 15.1)

Moved by: Councillor Davidson
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

- a) That the memorandum of the City Clerk in respect to the Integrity Commissioner’s Annual Report dated May 1, 2024, be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

**15.3 Minutes - Capital Sustainability Steering Committee meeting
CSSC#02-24 held March 19, 2024**

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That the minutes of Capital Sustainability Steering Committee meeting CSSC#02-24 held March 19, 2024 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

15.4 Minutes - Committee of the Whole Meeting CW#07-24 held May 1, 2024

That the minutes of Committee of the Whole meeting CW#07-24 held May 1, 2024 be adopted as circulated and the following recommendations be approved:

15.4.1 SRIES.24.013 - Summary Report Q2 to Q4 2023, Municipal Infrastructure Assumptions under Delegated Authority - (CW Item 11.1)

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That Council receive staff report SRIES.24.013 regarding Summary Report Q2 to Q4 2023, Municipal Infrastructure Assumptions under Delegated Authority for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

15.4.2 SRIES.24.014 - Tri-Party Agreement between the City of Richmond Hill, Region of York, and City of Markham to fund the Highway 404 Mid-Block Crossing between 16th Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive - (CW Item 11.2)

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That staff report SRIES.24.014 regarding the Tri-Party Agreement between the City of Richmond Hill, Region of York, and City of Markham to fund the Highway 404 Mid-Block Crossing between 16th Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive, be received.

b) That the Mayor and the Clerk be authorized to execute a Tri-Party Agreement between the City of Richmond Hill, Region of York, and City of Markham to contribute 1/3 of the total project budget required to construct and deliver the Highway 404 Mid-Block Crossing situated between 16th Avenue and Major Makenzie Drive upon the written recommendation of the Commissioner of Infrastructure and Engineering Services.

Carried Unanimously

15.4.3 SRPBS.24.041 - Request for Approval - Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications - Elm 9700 Yonge LP - 9700 Yonge Street - City Files OPA-22-0006, ZBLA-22-0020 and SUB-22-0010 - (CW Item 11.3) - (By-law 60-24)

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz
Seconded by: Councillor Thompson

a) That the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and draft Plan of Subdivision applications submitted by Elm 9700 Yonge LP for lands known as Part of Lots 11 to 15, Plan 1923 (Municipal Address: 9700 Yonge Street, City Files OPA-22-0006, ZBLA-22-0020 and SUB-22-0010, be approved, subject to the following:

(i) that the Official Plan be amended to include site specific policies related to height and density on the subject lands as outlined in Staff Report SRPBS.24.041, and that the draft Official Plan Amendment attached as Appendix “B” be finalized and forwarded to a future meeting of Council for consideration and adoption;

(ii) that the subject lands be rezoned from Service Station (SS) Zone and General Commercial (GC1) Zone under By-law 2523, as amended, to Multiple Residential Ten (RM10) Zone and Open Space (OS) Zone under By-law 2523, as amended, with site specific development standards as outlined in Staff Report SRPBS.24.041;

(iii) that the amending Zoning By-law be brought forward to Council for consideration and enactment subject to the following:

(a) that the draft Zoning By-law attached as Appendix “C” be finalized and updated to address the comments in Staff Report SRPBS.24.041 to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Planning and Building Services;

(b) that a Site Plan application be submitted and substantially completed to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Planning and Building Services;

(iv) that pursuant to Section 34(17) of the Planning Act, Council deem that no further notice be required with respect to any necessary modifications to the draft Zoning By-law to implement the proposed development on the subject lands;

(v) that the draft Plan of Subdivision as depicted on Map 5 to Staff Report SRPBS.24.041 be draft approved subject to the conditions set out in Appendix “D” to this report;

(vi) that prior to draft approval being granted, the applicant pay the applicable processing fee in accordance with the City’s Tariff of Fees By-law 20-24; and,

b) That the authority to assign servicing allocation to the proposed development be delegated to the Commissioner of Planning and Building Services subject to the criteria in the City’s Interim Growth Management Strategy, and that the assigned servicing allocation be released in accordance with the provisions of By-law 109-11.

Carried Unanimously

15.4.4 Correspondence received regarding the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications submitted by Elm 9700 Yonge Street LP for 9700 Yonge Street - (CW Item 11.4)

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the correspondence regarding the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision Applications submitted by Elm 9700 Yonge Street LP for 9700 Yonge Street, be received as follows:

1. Maria and Pedro Asper, 8077 Islington Avenue, Suite 306.

Carried Unanimously

15.5 Memorandum from Anthony Ierullo, Director, Economic Development and Richmond Hill Centre, and Stephen M.A. Huycke, Director, Legislative Services/City Clerk, dated May 8, 2024, regarding United Nations Flag at Richmond Hill's Municipal Office

Moved by: Councillor Davidson
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That, in recognition of the United Nations University - Institute for Water, Environment and Health's ('UNU-IWEH') relocation to the City of Richmond Hill Municipal Offices (225 East Beaver Creek Rd.), Council authorizes a temporary exemption to the Community Flag Raising and Flag Protocol Policy to permit the United Nations flag to fly on one of the two Community Flagpoles until such time as a permanent solution is implemented.

Carried Unanimously

15.6 Memorandum from Gus Galanis, Acting Commissioner of Planning and Building Services, dated May 8, 2024, regarding Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Davidson
Seconded by: Councillor Cilevitz

a) That the memorandum from Gus Galanis, Acting Commissioner of Planning and Building Services, dated May 8, 2024, regarding Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024, be received for information purposes;

b) That the memorandum be forwarded to the Province of Ontario as comments on the Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting Numbers 019-8366, 019-8368, 019-8369, 019-8370, 019-8371, and 019-8462, prior to the May 10th deadline.

Carried Unanimously

16. Other Business

There were no other business items.

17. Emergency/Time Sensitive Matters

There were no emergency/time sensitive matters.

18. By-laws

Moved by: Councillor Thompson

Seconded by: Councillor Liu

That the following By-laws be approved:

By-law 52-24 - A By-Law to enact housekeeping amendments to By-Law 86-20, being A By-law to delegate certain powers and duties during a recess of Council of the Corporation of the City of Richmond Hill

By-law 60-24 - A By-law to Adopt Amendment 50 to the Richmond Hill Official Plan

Carried Unanimously

19. Closed Session

There were no closed session items.

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

20.1 By-law 58-24

Moved by: Councillor Cui

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola

That By-law 58-24, A By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at this meeting, be passed.

Carried Unanimously

21. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz

Seconded by: Councillor Shiu

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Godwin Chan, Deputy Mayor

Stephen M.A. Huycke, City Clerk