

REGULAR MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – 4:30 p.m.

Township of South-West Oxford

Council Chambers

Present: Chair Jim Pickard – via Zoom; Mayor David Mayberry; Councillor Valerie Durston; Works Superintendent Adam Prouse; Cathy Reeves (community representative), George Klosler (community representative) – via Zoom; Chief Building Official Howard Leaver

Regrets: Shana Deamone (community representative)

Staff: Clerk Julie Middleton

Call to Order

Chair Jim Pickard called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Motion to Accept the Agenda

Resolution No. 1 Moved by: David Mayberry
Seconded by: Adam Prouse

RESOLVED that the agenda for the meeting of the March 8th, 2023 Environment and Energy Innovation Committee be approved, as amended (ERTH Request – Beachville Net Metering Project).

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

Minutes

Resolution No. 2 Moved by: Adam Prouse
Seconded by: Valerie Durston

RESOLVED that the minutes of the January 11th, 2023 meeting Environment and Energy Innovation Committee meeting be reviewed and approved.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Energy Consumption Reports

The Committee reviewed the data from the LAS – EPT. The data reflects a good news story in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from 2019 to 2022.

It was noted that the following data has not yet been entered:

- Dereham Centre Hall Hydro for 2022 (missing Nov and Dec bills)
- Mount Elgin Community Centre Hydro for 2022 (missing Dec bill)
- Salford Hall Hydro for 2021 and 2022 (missing all)

Julie will follow up with Nicole on the missing data and will provide the Committee with an update when available.

Mount Elgin Hall Ceiling Insulation

Chief Building Official Howard Leaver provided an updated quote for the ceiling insulation project at the Mount Elgin Community Centre - \$17,011.55. He also received another quote for approximately \$9,000; this quote does not include insulation paint covering. He explained that the spray insulation has to be covered for fire protection. The Township's Fire Chief doesn't think that the paint covering is necessary on the foam. It was noted that the ceiling tiles are not fire resistant. CBO Leaver commented that he thinks that \$17,011.55 is too high and that the desired energy savings will not be achieved or the cost recovered. The Township's building department staff would remove the ceiling tiles for the work to be completed.

The Committee asked Howard to bring forward a third quote at the next meeting and a cost to replace the ceiling tiles with new tiles.

Beachville Fire Station Hydro Usage

Hydro bills for January and February 2023 were reviewed. The Hydro Bill for the other fire halls was added for comparison, as requested by Works Superintendent Adam Prouse. It was noted that Howard is expecting a phone call from ERTH to provides an explanation of the February electricity charges at the Beachville Fire Hall.

ERTH Request – Beachville Net Metering Project

The Committee agreed that the Township will be a willing participant in the new net metering project with ERTH. Mayor Mayberry will confirm with ERTH.

Correspondence

Making our Home More Energy Efficient – Article by George & Annette Klosler

George Klosler commented on the article he wrote based on his own experience with making is own home more energy efficient. He encouraged members of the public to get more information from the Canada Greener Homes Grant online. Staff will include

the article in the upcoming SWOX Talks Newsletter with a link to the Canada Greener Homes Grant website for more information.

Discussion Items

Energy Links

The Committee thanked Cathy for providing the information. It was recommended that staff prepare this information for members of the public as well. Discussion took place about the possibility of moving towards green cleaning products in all Township facilities. The information should be shared with the Township's Zero Waste Committee. Julie will look into the other options for compostable/recyclable single-use containers for consideration and bring forward to the Township's Zero Waste Committee.

Pollinator Gardens Webinar

It was noted that the Township's Engage and Inform Committee will be handing out pollinator seeds at Earth Day in April, 2023. It was suggested that the [St. Williams Nursery and Ecological Centre](#) may be a good supplier for the seeds to hand out at the event.

New Business

Dereham Centre Hall – Grant Funds for Range and Commercial Dishwasher

The Committee was advised that the Dereham Centre Hall Board is renovating their kitchen. They are installing a new gas range and commercial dishwasher. They are asking for a \$1,000 grant from the Township's Environment and Energy Innovation Committee. It was suggested that the request for the commercial dishwasher be brought forward to the SWOX Zero Waste Committee.

Two Billion Trees

Mayor David Mayberry looked into the status of this Federal initiative. Municipalities may submit a proposal for a minimum of 10,000 trees.

Township Electrical Audit

Monitoring devices have been in the Mount Elgin Fire Hall, Beachville Fire Hall and Brownsville Fire Hall. Lighting in the Brownsville Fire Hall has been changed so that they will be off most of the time – they are motion activated or 10-minutes at a time. Also have installed a space heater – to reduce the work of the in-floor heating system.

