



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MINUTES

COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING COMMITTEE

July 20, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

City Hall, Downstairs Boardroom

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in the Upstairs Boardroom at City Hall. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chairperson: Councillor S. Morgan,
Mayor M. Heyck (ex-officio),
S. Anderson,
J. Carr,
R. Sexton,
R. Gervais,
J. Newton,
A. Fowler, and
C. Scott.

The following Committee members were absent:

C. Correa,
J. Hazenberg, and
J. Pickett.

The following members of Administration were also in attendance:

M. Auge,
C. Vaughn, and
C. Kida.

Call to Order

1. Councillor Morgan called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Introductions

2. Roundtable introductions were made for the benefit of new members.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

3. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Agenda

4. Committee agreed unanimously to amend the agenda to include a discussion regarding the Infrastructure Canada's Smart Cities Challenge and to clarify that item #9 in the agenda, GNWT



Application to Federal Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund is specifically for the transportation sector.

5. J. Newton moved,
C. Scott seconded,

That the Agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of the Minutes

6. A. Fowler moved,
S. Anderson seconded,

That the Minutes of the meeting held on April 5, 2017 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Update from the City

7. *a. Approval of Community Energy Action Plan*

Administration advised that the contract for the biomass centralized heating system at the Multiplex, which was approved in the 2017 budget, was awarded to Ryfan and that the system will start to be constructed in the next week or two.

- b. Proposed use of \$20,000 for Communications*

Administration advised that it has worked with the Communications Department to create a draft plan for communications/community outreach regarding the Community Energy Action Plan.

Corporate Capital Project Ideas

8. Committee discussed creating a list of ideas for city corporate Capital Projects totaling approximately \$500,000 for 2018. Committee further noted that there is potential for substantial federal and territorial funding support for CEP related projects over the next several years.

Committee discussed the proposed implementation of an organics and cardboard ban, as part of waste reduction/GHG reduction efforts, and the possibility of speeding up the proposed timeline. Administration noted that they are waiting for the waste audit to be completed in order to use the information gathered to create a Strategic Plan for waste.

Committee discussed the proposed replacement of internal lights at city facilities with LED lights. While this project is worthwhile in terms of both cost savings and greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions, Committee noted that there may be a need to revise the expected GHG savings from this project since the estimate may have been based on a year when the diesel to hydro ratio was exceptionally high.



Administration noted that the first biomass boiler was installed at Pumphouse 1, with a plan to pipe heat to the Water Treatment Plant. Administration further noted that there is a need to monitor its performance for one year to determine the benefit of installing a second boiler at this location to provide more of the heat load.

Committee discussed the potential for proceeding with the design phase for a centralized biomass heating system for City Hall, which would generate enough heat for three (3) buildings: City Hall, Joint Task Force North (JTFN) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Administration noted that there is a potential funding source available for the design stage (estimated to cost \$130,000) and that the City could submit an application. Committee agreed that further discussion is needed with the other entities in order to determine their interest in the project; however, the City could still proceed with an application and include this consultation in the design phase.

Action: *Administration to contact Joint Task Force North (JTFN) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to assess their interest in proceeding with the design phase for the Centralized Boiler for three (3) buildings.*

GNWT Application to Federal Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund

9. Mr. Robert Sexton, a GNWT representative, noted that there is \$75,000 in funding for transportation-related initiatives available in the short-term through the Federal Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund, which is administered through the GNWT. He further noted that the funding could be used towards cycling routes, electric vehicles, fleet management software, etc. Mr. Sexton advised that the proposed project(s) should show immediate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reductions as opposed to strategies to achieve the (GHG) reduction.

Committee discussed electric vehicles as a viable and proven technology for reducing GHG emissions and the possibility of applying for \$75,000 in funding to replace two regular cars in the City fleet with electric vehicles. Committee noted that the challenge with electric vehicles is that charging stations may need to be installed not only in Yellowknife but along highways. Committee further noted that some models of electric vehicles have been able to drive from Hay River to Yellowknife before needing to charge up.

Committee discussed other potential transportation-related initiatives worth about \$75,000, including: removing fares and making Yellowknife's public transportation free for four months in order to boost use of public transit; and enhanced use of fleet management software to track and eliminate idling through eco-driving training.

Mr. Craig Scott, the Ecology North representative, noted that the CarShare initiative has been stalled pending cooperation from the GNWT Departments of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) and, Justice in trying to get the organization incorporated.

Action: *Mr. Robert Sexton to send Administration a formal email about the funding available for transportation-related initiatives under Federal Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund.*



Funding Opportunities

10. Some funding opportunities were presented to Committee. They are as follows:
 - a) \$75,000 in the short-term for transportation related projects through the GNWT.
 - b) \$30 million over 5 years - Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund (federal funds administered through the GNWT). The focus is on energy efficiency in buildings, industries and fuel substitution.
 - c) \$500,000 to \$1 million per year - Community Energy Fund being proposed by GNWT, to be cost-shared with community proponents covering 25%. This fund would favor projects that achieve the most Greenhouse Gas reductions per dollar granted. This fund could be used to support Yellowknife's Local Improvement Charge Program (LIC) once legislative changes allow the program to proceed.
 - d) \$9.2 billion in Infrastructure Canada funding (federal) – focus on greening energy, particularly electricity, in remote communities. Yellowknife is considered a remote community.
 - e) \$5 million prize – Infrastructure Canada's Smart Cities Challenge. This fund is to support creative use of technology and data to improve livability.

Ms. Aleta Fowler, an Economic Development Officer for Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, noted that there is funding available to be used in reducing the use of diesel in small communities.

Action: Ms. Aleta Fowler to send Administration more information about the funding program available for reducing the use of diesel in small communities.

Adjournment

11. The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.