



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

**MINUTES**

**COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**June 5, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.**

**City Hall, Upstairs Boardroom**

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Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. in the Upstairs Boardroom at City Hall. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chairperson: Councillor S. Morgan,  
S. Anderson,  
J. Carr,  
R. Sexton,  
R. Gervais,  
C. Scott, and  
D. Fetaz.

The following Committee members were in attendance via conference call:  
D. Wohlgemuth.

The following Committee members were absent:  
L. Archer,  
C. Correa,  
C. Steed, and  
Mayor M. Heyck (ex-officio).

The following members of Administration were 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.

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

2. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**Approval of Agenda**

3. Committee agreed unanimously to include the following items on the agenda:
  - Update on the Loans for Heat Program, and



- Update on the Smart Cities Challenge.

4. R. Sexton moved,  
C. Scott seconded,

**That the Agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Approval of the Minutes**

5. J. Carr moved,  
D. Fetaz seconded,

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on May 9<sup>th</sup> be approved as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Introductions**

6. Roundtable introductions were made for the benefit of new members and representatives of the public.

**Discussion and vote on recommendation drafted at May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting – re: Energy Efficient Building Standards**

7. After extensive discussion about the recommended motion drafted at May 9th meeting Committee members suggested to reword the motion to clarify that:
  - Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) extended its deadline until December 31, 2019 in order to accommodate Yellowknife's transition, and that Arctic Energy Alliance (AEA) will continue to support NRCan's commitment as a service provider.
  - Specific dates were added as a suggested timeline for the technical working group for single-family residential building standards; and
  - It was recommended that the new standard be periodically revisited in order to allow for continuous improvement along with best practices.
8. C. Scott moved;  
J. Carr seconded,

The final drafted motion as follows:

***That the Community Energy Planning Committee, in its role as advisor to Council in ensuring the CEP is implemented in an effective manner, recommends the following:***

**WHEREAS the Community Energy Plan 2015-25 commits the City to continue to push the envelope by implementing higher, better energy efficiency standards;**



**WHEREAS** studies conducted by Arctic Energy Alliance show that Yellowknife residents (living in homes built between 2010-2015) are saving an average of \$2800 per year in avoided energy costs per home as a result of the energy efficiency by-law;

**WHEREAS** reducing cost of living is one of the primary goals of the Community Energy Plan;

**WHEREAS** there is no urgent need to remove the current minimum energy efficiency standard in the City's Building By-law, given that Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has specifically extended its deadline to support Yellowknife's transition and will continue to support plan evaluation files submitted before December 31, 2018 and final evaluations until December 31, 2019, allowing Arctic Energy Alliance to continue its service; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Yellowknife's energy efficiency standard is critical to achieving not only Yellowknife's own Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction targets, but also critical to achieving territory-wide GHG reduction targets set by the GNWT as well as national targets in the pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.

**NOW THEREFORE** the CEP Committee recommends that Council:

- 1. Maintain the current energy efficiency standards in the Building By-law until new energy efficiency standards are put in place;**
- 2. Set up a technical multi-stakeholder working group to provide a recommendation by September 30, 2018 on what new minimum standard for residential buildings should be implemented according to the new GJ-based rating system endorsed by NRCan (similar to the process that led to the establishment of the current standard in the By-law), with the aim to have a new standard in place by December 31, 2018;**
- 3. Set up a separate technical multi-stakeholder working group to provide a recommendation on what new standard should be implemented for institutional, commercial and industrial buildings;**
- 4. Ensure that new energy efficiency standards meet or preferably exceed the current standards, with requirements for the minimum standard to be re-evaluated periodically; and**
- 5. Ensure clear public communications detailing the cost savings that Yellowknife residents enjoy as a result of energy efficiency standards in the By-law.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



### **Update on the Loans for Heat Program and the Smart Cities Challenge**

9. a. Loans for Heat Study

S. Morgan, the CEP Chair, shared that the proposed Loans for Heat Program (included within the CEP), which is an LIC-based program offering low-interest financing for home-owners to be able to do renewable energy or energy efficiency retrofits in their homes (eg. install wood heating or improve building envelope), and allow them to pay the loan back through their City property tax bill, is currently blocked by territorial legislation (CTV Act). However, an amendment that would allow the program to happen in Yellowknife and other communities has been drafted. The Legislative Assembly is expected to vote on this amendment at the end of October this year.

*b. Smart Cities Challenge*

C. Scott, Ecology North representative, informed the Committee that the City of Yellowknife with Ecology North, Northland Utilities, and White Arkitekter was selected as a finalist in the Smart Cities Challenge. C. Scott further reported that the City has been awarded a \$250,000 prize that will be used on the street light pilot project expected to take place in the winter 2018/2019. The concept of the project is to incorporate technology on street lights throughout the city that would contribute to energy efficiency, dark sky compliance, tourism, and data collection to improve efficiency of services. The final decision for the \$5 million grand prize will be announced in Spring/Summer 2019.

### **Discussion and recommendations on Strategic Waste Management Plan implementation**

10. M. Auge, Administration representative, gave a presentation outlining results of the study. Questions, answers and discussion followed the presentation.

***Action: Administration to check what Greenhouse Gas (GHG) info is mentioned in the study, and what the options would be for quantifying GHG reductions from the City's waste diversion and management efforts.***

### **Upcoming CEP meetings – fall 2018**

11. Committee agreed to meet in September at a date to be determined. Committee further agreed that the meeting will focus on the Loans for Heat Program since facilitating territorial legislation is expected to go through third reading at the Legislative Assembly at the end of October, and the City hopes to roll out the program as soon as possible following legislative change. The CEP Committee would like to offer advice to Council on the best ways to design and implement this program.

### **Adjournment**

12. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.