

Community and Protective Services Committee

Report

6th Meeting of the Community and Protective Services Committee
April 20, 2022

PRESENT: Councillors M. Cassidy (Chair), M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, S. Hillier

ABSENT: Mayor E. Holder

ALSO PRESENT: J. Bunn and J. Taylor

Remote Attendance: Councillors J. Fyfe-Millar, A. Hopkins, S. Lewis, E. Pelozza, M. van Holst and P. Van Meerbergen; L. Livingstone; B. Card, C. Cooper, S. Corman, K. Dickins, S. Glover, O. Katolyk, L. Livingstone, H. Lysynski, S. Mathers, C. McCreery, C. Smith, G. Smith, S. Stafford and B. Westlake-Power

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM; it being noted that the following Members were in remote attendance: Councillors J. Helmer, S. Hillier and M. Salih

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that Councillor S. Hillier disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 5.4 of this Report, having to do with the Deferred Matters List, specifically item number 2 on the list, by indicating that his family also hosts a five day event.

2. Consent

2.1 Request for Proposal 2022-054 - New Play Equipment at Gibbons Park and Greenway Park

Moved by: S. Hillier

Seconded by: M. Hamou

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Environment and Infrastructure, the following actions be taken with respect to the staff report, dated April 20, 2022, related to a Request for Proposal 2022-054 for New Play Equipment at Gibbons Park and Greenway Park:

- a) the bid submitted by Park N Play Design Company Limited, #20, 10 Wrangle Place SE Rocky View County, AB, T1X 0L7, to design, supply and install new playground equipment in Gibbons Park in accordance with RFP2022-054, at its bid price of \$223,215.98 (excluding HST) BE ACCEPTED;
- b) the bid submitted by New World Park Solutions Incorporated, 42 Woodway Trail, Brantford, ON, N3R 6G7, to design, supply and install new playground equipment in Greenway Park in accordance with RFP2022-054, at its bid price of \$170,000.00 (excluding HST) BE ACCEPTED;
- c) the financing for this project BE APPROVED as set out in the Sources of Financing Report, as appended to the above-noted staff report;
- d) the Civic Administration BE AUTHORIZED to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with this project; and,
- e) the Mayor and the City Clerk BE AUTHORIZED to execute any contract or other documents, if required, to give effect to these recommendations.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

2.2 Update - City of London 2021-2022 Winter Response Program for Unsheltered Individuals

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: S. Hillier

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development the staff report, dated April 20, 2022, with respect to an update on the City of London 2021-2022 Winter Response Program for Unsheltered Individuals, BE RECEIVED. (2022-S14)

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

2.3 Irregular Result RFP 21-74: Dental Program Administration Single Bid Award Recommendation

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: S. Hillier

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development and with the concurrence of the Director, Financial Services, the following actions be taken with respect to the staff report, dated April 20, 2022, related to an Irregular Result RFP 21-74 Dental Program Administration Single Bid Award Recommendation, as per the City of London Procurement Policy Section 19.4 "Only One Bid Received":

a) the Request for Proposal (RFP 21-74), submitted by AccetaClaim Servcorp Inc., at the annual cost of \$58,500 (plus HST) for a three (3) year period, with the option to renew the contract for two (2) additional one (1) year periods BE ACCEPTED;

b) the Civic Administration BE AUTHORIZED to undertake all administrative acts which are necessary in relation to this project, and;

c) the approvals, hereby given, BE CONDITIONAL upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract or having a purchase order relating to the subject matter of this approval. (2022-S04)

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

3. Scheduled Items

None.

4. Items for Direction

None.

5. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

5.1 DELEGATION - A. Valastro - Light Pollution By-law

Moved by: M. Hamou
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the verbal delegation from A.M. Valastro, with respect to a potential Light Pollution By-law, BE RECEIVED; it being noted that the communications, as appended to the Agenda, with respect to this matter, were received at the previous Community and Protective Services Committee meeting on March 29, 2022.

Yeas: (4): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Nays: (1): J. Helmer

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (4 to 1)

5.2 Clause 4.2 of the 2nd Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Moved by: M. Hamou
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Planning and Economic Development, the staff report, dated April 20, 2022, with respect to the Animal Control By-law - Reptilia, BE RECEIVED;

it being noted that the verbal delegations from the following individuals, with respect to this matter, were received:

- R. Laidlaw, Zoocheck
- W. Brown, Chair, Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
- V. Van Linden – providing the attached submission
- J. Van-Daele
- F. Morrison
- M. Hamer, World Animal Protection
- R. Murphy, Reptilia
- B. Child, Reptilia
- M. Lerner

it being further noted that the following communications, as appended to the Agenda and the Added Agenda, with respect to this matter, were received:

- M. Lerner
- J. Winston
- L. Corneli, McCOR Management Inc.

and it being noted that clause 4.2 of the 2nd Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from the meeting held on March 3, 2022, with respect to this matter, was received.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

Voting Record:

Moved by: M. Hamou
Seconded by: S. Hillier

Motion to approve the delegation requests, as appended to the Added Agenda, from M. Hamer, R. Murphy and B. Child to be heard at this meeting.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: S. Hillier

Motion to receive the verbal delegations from R. Laidlaw, W. Brown, M. Lerner, J. Van-Daele, F. Morrison, M. Hamer, R. Murphy and B. Child.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

5.3 "Graphic" Flyer Deliveries to Residential Properties

Moved by: J. Helmer

Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the following actions be taken with respect to the staff report, dated April 20, 2022, with respect to "Graphic" Flyer Deliveries to Residential Properties:

a) the proposed by-law, as appended to the above-noted staff report, BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on May 3, 2022, to regulate the delivery of graphic images in the City of London; and,

b) the proposed by-law, as appended to the above-noted staff report, BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on May 3, 2022, to amend By-law No. A-54, as amended, being "A by-law to implement an Administrative Monetary Penalty System in London" to designate the Delivery of Graphic Images By-law.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

5.4 Deferred Matters List

That the Deferred Matters List for the Community and Protective Services Committee, as at April 11, 2022, BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

Voting Record:

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: S. Hillier

Motion to receive the Deferred Matters List for the Community and Protective Services Committee, as at April 11, 2022, with the exception of item 2.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: M. Cassidy

Motion to receive Item number 2 on the Deferred Matters List for the Community and Protective Services Committee, as at April 11, 2022.

Yeas: (4): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, and M. Hamou

Recuse: (1): S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (4 to 0)

5.5 (ADDED) 3rd Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the 3rd Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on April 7, 2022, BE RECEIVED.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

6. Confidential

Moved by: J. Helmer

Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the Community and Protective Services Committee convene In Closed Session for the purpose of considering the following:

6.1. Solicitor-Client Privilege

A matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding an exemption to the Animal Control By-law.

Yeas: (5): M. Cassidy, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Hamou, and S. Hillier

Absent: (1): E. Holder

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

The Community and Protective Services Committee convened In Closed Session from 5:38 PM to 6:02 PM.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM

To: Members of the Community and Protective Services Committee
London, ON

From: Vicki Van Linden
431 Ridgewood Crescent in London.

RE: AWAC Recommendation re: Reptilia Zoo

April 20, 2022

I urge you to support the AWAC recommendation to ensure that the Reptilia Zoo organization is made aware in advance of which animals will be subject to London's animal control bylaws. This will ensure that our city is not placed in a difficult legal situation if the business later claims that they were unclear about which non-native species they would be allowed to bring into our city.

I also want to share with you, on the public record, how deeply disturbing this entire situation is, where we have a zoo moving into a shopping centre that is not zoned for a zoo. We've now seen a zoo magically become 'not a zoo', but become instead, a 'place of entertainment.' Or so we are meant to believe.

I hope that you can understand how negatively this kind of questionable dealing affects the trust that we citizens hope to have in how our city conducts its business.

I was a member of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee for 7 years, a former Chair, and worked hard, along with many fellow citizens to make London zoo-free. London had been shamed internationally in the past by our association with a low-quality zoo called Lickety Split Ranch and Zoo. Finally, it was decided that London would put its past association with animal exploitation behind us and we would become zoo-free, something to be proud of. We had turned a corner. We had become a more ethical, less callous community.

That was what we had accomplished together. And, yet, here we are now. How did we get here?

Through Freedom of Information requests we've read that one city staff member wrote to another:

"It is strongly encouraged that the proponent remove the reference to zoo from their pamphlet, and instead use the references that are consistent with The London Plan and Zoning By-law (i.e., entertainment, recreation and educational.)

This appears to be one staff member advising another on how to help a proponent get around our zoning regulations.

It's been a great surprise for many of us to learn that it's acceptable for staff members to help outside proponents look for loopholes to get around the regulations of our city. We had assumed that it was the role of staff to protect the city from proponents who might try to get around our regulations – not look for ways to help them out.

Yet, we all know that Reptilia is really a zoo. No bureaucratic maneuverings change what we all know to be true.

Regarding the recommendation from the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee: I urge you to support this modest and practical recommendation.

The request is simply to deal pre-emptively with the possibility of prohibited animals being brought to London. I've visited the Reptilia facility in Vaughan with its small, inadequate enclosures where I clearly saw animals displaying behaviours that indicate distress. Most of the animals imprisoned there are species that are prohibited to keep within London. So, it's a reasonable concern that it may have been the original intention of Reptilia's owner to bring exotic animals, like venomous snakes and crocodilians to our city – animals that are not covered by the provincial license.

To protect our city from possible legal concerns in the future it will be helpful for us to be very clear about what species of animals can be brought here, and which must not. And that information should be 'on the record' and verifiable in case of future dispute.

A staff member was quoted in the London Free Press saying that once the zoo opens, then bylaw enforcement staff would take action to enforce any bylaw infractions. But this reactive enforcement will not be helpful to those animals and could be costly to our city. Carting wild animals around from place to place is stressful for them. Moving wild animals should be done as rarely as possible, and only when in the best interests of the animals themselves.

There is also the possibility of there being no place to move the animals to if ordered to leave London. If the Reptilia corporation chooses to acquire new animals to bring here there may well be no other location to move them to later. One cannot just order an animal removed the same way that we can demand that a truck be towed or a derelict building boarded up. This involves living, feeling beings who need our protection. This would not be a normal bylaw enforcement situation and we could wind up engaging in costly legal disputes.

I urge you to accept the recommendation from AWAC, that staff be directed to quickly and fully inform the Reptilia corporation about which animals are prohibited and must

not be brought to our city.

Sincerely,

Vicki Van Linden