

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

May 21, 2018

1. Vice-President Logan called the meeting to Order at 8:00pm.
2. Vice-President Logan requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – Councillors Brasco, Darcy, Fowler, Harris, LaCava, D. Leblanc, R. LeBlanc, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Romard, Stanley, Vidal and Logan were present. Councillor Mackin was absent.
3. A motion by President LeBlanc to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on May 7, 2018 was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of May 7, 2018 were approved.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to accept a gift of infrastructure improvements valued at \$935,000 for the widening and repaving of Winter Street from the Davis-Marcus Partners. President LeBlanc moved to hear from the Traffic Engineer, Michael Garvin. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Garvin gave an overview of the traffic impacts in the area and the likely improvement to traffic flow with the widening of the street. President LeBlanc asked about the duration of the project and the time of the day construction would occur. Councillor Romard spoke about the generosity of the gift and how it is unfortunate that private citizens pay for work because the City is “dragging its feet”. Councillor Fowler asked if the work could be performed at night to minimize the impact on residents. Councillor McMenimen asked if this project fit into the City’s Master Traffic Plan and if this will reduce the cost of the Master Plan. Councillor McLaughlin was in support of the gift and inquired if the City of Cambridge (water reservoir) was okay with the work. Councillor Romard moved to approve the gift. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the gift of infrastructure improvements valued at \$935,000 was accepted.
5. A resolution pertaining to the safety and security of the City Council chamber was submitted by President LeBlanc, Vice-President Logan and Councillors Fowler, Harris, Brasco, Stanley and Vidal. President LeBlanc moved to request the Police Chief and Fire Chief work together to conduct a security and safety assessment of the City Council Chamber, the Hoover Committee Room and the Council Room. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to request the Assistant City Clerk serve as the point of contact with the Police Chief, Fire Chief and their designees on this matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to place the matter on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

6. A communication concerning ethics was received from CPC member Daniel Melnychuk. President LeBlanc stated the matter should be filed and moved to file it. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter concerning the ethics communication received from CPC member Daniel Melnychuk was filed.
7. A communication dated May 2, 2018, was received from Ward Six Councillor Robert Waddick stating his resignation from the Office of Councillor Ward Six is effective immediately. President LeBlanc provided a copy of the draft schedule for the special election on September 23, 2018 created by Assistant City Clerk Vizard for the vacant Ward Six council seat. President LeBlanc moved to approve the special election schedule. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the schedule for the special election was approved.
8. President LeBlanc moved to accept a late file communication from the Mayor and to take the matter of the resolution of the Stigmatine Development rights (5/22/2017) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc move to hear from the Mayor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor stated the communication involved a real estate transaction and should be discussed in Executive Session. President LeBlanc moved to go into Executive Session, invite the Mayor, Solicitor Cervone & Assistant Solicitor Azadi, to appoint Paul Centofanti as the Clerk of the Executive Session and to reconvene Open Session at the conclusion of Executive Session. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 13 in favor (Brasco, Darcy, Fowler, Harris, LaCava, D. Leblanc, R. LeBlanc, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Romard, Stanley, Vidal and Logan) and 1 absent (Mackin) at 8:25pm.
9. Open Session reconvened at 10:25pm. President LeBlanc moved to place the matter of the resolution of the Stigmatine Development rights (5/22/2017) back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
8. President LeBlanc moved to take the resolution of the City Clerk vacancy (1/8/2018) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc stated the HR Director, Kristen Murphy, provided an e-mail that indicated seven (7) applications had been received, but only four (4) of the applicants met the minimum requirements. After some discussion, it was moved and voted to schedule interviews with the four applicants at the next COW meeting of June 4, 2018 at 8:00pm. President LeBlanc provided a copy of the draft procedures for filling the vacant City Clerk position. After some discussion of the procedures and suggested amendments concerning questioning of the candidates and voting method, President LeBlanc moved to approve the amended procedures. The procedures, as amended were adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc moved to place the matter of the City Clerk vacancy back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

9. A motion by President LeBlanc to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 10:50pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Committee of the Whole