

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Time: 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Members Present:

Councillors

- Ward 3 – Councillor Rino Bortolin
- Ward 5 – Councillor Ed Sleiman (Chairperson)
- Ward 6 – Councillor Jo-Anne Gignac
- Ward 9 – Councillor Kieran McKenzie
- Ward 10 – Councillor Jim Morrison

Also present are the following from administration:

- Jelena Payne, Community Development and Health Commissioner
- Debbie Cercone, Executive Director Housing and Childrens Services
- Andrew Daher, Executive Director Employment and Social Services
- Alina Sirbu, Executive Director, Long Term Care/Administration
- Mary Ellen Bernard, Manager, Social Policy & Planning
- Linda Higgins, Manager Intergovernment Subsidies & Financial Administration
- Stephen Lynn, Coordinator Social Planning
- Jennifer Tanner, Manager Homelessness & Housing Support
- James Chacko, Senior Manager, Parks
- Jan Wilson, Corporate Leader Parks, Recreation, Culture & Facilities
- Kelly Goz, Coordinator, Housing Administration & Development
- Winnie Lee, Manager Customer Service
- Tina Moore, Coordinator Housing Admin & Development
- Sandra Bradt, Executive Initiatives Coordinator
- Shawn Sharpe, Supervisor Employment
- Leonardo Gil, Social Investment Data Research/Special Projects
- Anna Ciacelli, Supervisor of Council Services

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 2 of 10

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair calls the meeting of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None disclosed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee minutes of its meeting held August 7, 2019

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

THAT the minutes of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee meeting held August 7, 2019 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.

Report Number: SCM 284/2019
Clerk's File: MB2019

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None requested.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None requested.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

See items 8.2, 8.3 and 8.5

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 3 of 10

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

7.1. Minutes of the Diversity Committee of its meeting held June 13, 2019

Moved by: Councillor Bortolin
Seconded by: Councillor Gignac

Decision Number: **CSPS 64**

THAT the minutes of the Diversity Committee meeting, held June 13, 2019 **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 250/2019
Clerk's File:MB2019

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.1. Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services Service Agreements - City Wide

Moved by: Councillor Bortolin
Seconded by: Councillor Gignac

Decision Number: **CSPS 65**

THAT City Council **CONFIRM AND RATIFY** the signing of the 2019 Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) Service Contract in force from January 1, 2019 by the Chief Administrative Officer as per CAO56/2019; and further,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) Service Contracts for 2019 and subsequent years on behalf of the City for the delivery of employment and social assistance programs, in accordance with the City's legislated obligations as determined by MCCSS. Authorization would be subject to APPROVAL as to technical content by the Community Development & Health Services Commissioner, as to legal form by the City Solicitor, and as to financial content by the City Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Executive Director of Employment and Social Services and Chief Financial Officer or designate to sign the Annual MCCSS – Ontario Works (OW) Budget Submissions and Year End Financial Reports; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** that agreements with employers, agencies and organizations as determined by the Community Development & Health Services Commissioner **BE PREPARED**; and further,

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee

Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 4 of 10

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Community Development and Health Services Commissioner to sign, amend, or terminate such agreements on behalf of the City in accordance with the criteria established by the MCCSS Service Contract where the net city contribution does not exceed \$150,000 or \$1,000,000 gross. For agreements that exceed a \$150,000 net city contribution or a \$1,000,000 gross contribution, that in addition to the Community Development & Health Services Commissioner, the Chief Administrative Officer be required to sign as a secondary authority; and further,

THAT Agreements with employers, agencies and organizations **BE APPROVED** as to technical content by the Executive Director of Employment & Social Services, as to legal form by the City Solicitor, and as to financial content by the City Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, or designates. Provided the agreements conform to the standard format reviewed and pre-approved by the City Solicitor, the City Solicitor is not required to approve each individual agreement as to form; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Executive Director of Employment and Social Services or designate to sign the following administrative reports:

- Ontario Works Service Plans;
- Other Administrative Reports as specified from time to time by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Carried.

Councillor Morrison was absent when the vote was taken on this matter.

Report Number: S 150/2019
Clerk's File:SS2019

8.2. P2P 2018 Update - City Wide

Stephen Lynn, Coordinator of Social Planning appears before the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee regarding the administrative report P2P 2018 Update and displays a brief video which includes details related to the 9 point Social Investment Plan as follows:

1. Foundational Services—Community Development and Health Services continues to function as the lead for services which support and stabilize residents of Windsor and Essex County who require assistance with basic needs.
2. Supportive Partner—P2P continues to keep a dialogue open with all levels of governments to align its work locally with our provincial and federal partners
3. Council Involvement—City Council has approved a range of strategies and initiatives which positively impact residents who are living in low-income environments
4. Corporate Involvement—Social Policy and Planning continues to focus on inter-departmental collaboration by aligning the work of Council with the work of Pathway to Potential, working with other corporate departments to plan, promote and enhance existing and new programs which will continue to benefit low-income residents.
5. Recreation, Culture, and Arts—collaboration with the City of Windsor's Recreation and Culture department to promote and provide 90% discount for recreational, cultural, and artistic programs for low-income children and youth in Windsor.

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee

Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 5 of 10

6. Affordable Transportation/Transit Windsor—options to provide affordable transportation are essential components of municipal poverty reduction strategies.
7. Investing in Neighbourhoods—P2P has invested in neighbourhoods through the support of targeted community programming with specific agencies.
8. Community Awareness and Communications—Raising awareness about issues, promoting new or existing programs and collaborations and providing opportunities for residents to voice their opinions, are all important roles for Pathway to Potential.
9. Monitoring and Data Evaluation—Evaluation of the diverse number of Pathway to Potential funded programs is complicated but necessary to determine the effectiveness of each program and its impact on low-income residents.

Councillor Bortolin inquires about Point 2—Supportive Partner. Stephen Lynn, indicates that they work with other organizations such as United Way and Prosper Us. Ms. Payne indicates the discussions on where funding is distributed are extensive with the City and with the external partners such as United Way. Ms. Payne adds that organizations including the United Way are changing their vision to align with Pathway to Potential. Funding is being considered to be distributed to other neighbourhood groups which would have access to the funding through the RFP process.

Councillor McKenzie inquires about P2P funding and the total impact in the community. Mr. Lynn indicates it is a social investment program which is focused on outcomes. It is a measured approach and is difficult to provide holistic approach.

Councillor McKenzie inquires whether there is a matrix to apply to various partners, that is smaller organizations and how it is determined that they would be a good partner. Ms. Payne indicates funding is provided through the RFP process which contains strict criteria. The program tries to align targets with needs of the community and neighbourhoods, with the focus on youth/children to attempt to break the cycle of poverty at the child/youth level. The application process is reviewed, with formal agreements developed with every successful organization, and includes reporting requirements.

Leonardo Gil, Social Investment Data Research/Special Projects appears before the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee regarding the administrative report P2P 2018 Update and indicates that the new data matches some of the themes. He adds that it important to build out the matrix. Mr. Gil indicates that understanding the service providers' methodology is essential to understanding our contribution to the reduction of poverty in the community.

Councillor Gignac inquires about the possibility of a template which is used across Canada and Ontario to provide measured results and the City of Windsor not obtaining available Provincial funding towards these types of programs. Ms. Payne indicates that the Province provided two rounds of funding but it was not all expended. The funding was geared more toward community agencies, not municipalities. The United Way received some money for their on track to success program. Ms. Payne explains the process and indicates that the Municipality hired consultants to help the agencies to ensure applications were complete and evaluation was in place.

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 6 of 10

Moved by: Councillor Bortolin
Seconded by: Councillor McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSPS 66**

THAT the report from the Coordinator of Social Planning regarding the 2018 Pathway to Potential Social Investment Plan **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Report Number: S 152/2019
Clerk's File:SS/10488

8.3. Community Impacts resulting from Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services Funding and Policy Changes - City Wide

Marion Overholt, Executive Director Legal Assistance of Windsor

Marion Overholt, Executive Director Legal Assistance of Windsor appears before the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee Meeting regarding the administrative report Community Impacts resulting from Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services Funding and Policy Changes – City Wide and indicates that the government will be cutting benefits for children. Ms. Overholt provides a brief history of the program and the possible changes to this program and concludes by requesting that the committee and Council consider supporting resolution provided.

Councillor McKenzie requests clarification on the proposed changes to Disability and overpayments. Ms. Overholt provides details related to the proposed definition changes to ODSP and overpayments.

Moved by: Councillor McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Bortolin

Decision Number: **CSPS 67**

THAT the report from the Executive Director, Employment & Social Services providing updates on the 2019 Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services Funding and Policy Changes and resulting impacts **BE RECEIVED** for information; and further,

THAT City Council **BE REQUESTED** to petition the Provincial government against cuts in funding to the Employment & Social Services department that will directly affect the basic needs and provision of services to residents, and result in additional downloaded costs to the municipality; and,

That the following motion **BE SUPPORTED**:

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee

Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 7 of 10

WHEREAS, The Transition Child Benefit ("the Benefit") provides essential financial support to children living in poverty in Windsor and Essex County;

AND WHEREAS the cancellation of the Benefit will cause financial hardship to low income capacity to replace the Benefit for qualifying families,

BE IT RESOLVED That the City of Windsor calls on the Government of Ontario to rescind its decision to cancel the Transition Child Benefit ("the Benefit") and urges the Government of Ontario to take all necessary steps to ensure that children living in poverty in Ontario have access to financial support for their basic necessities by maintaining the existing eligibility criteria for the Benefit; and further,

That the City **ENGAGE** the Province through direct dialogue on the impacts to the proposed changes to the definition of ODSP and the proposed overpayment changes; and,

That this recommendation **BE FORWARDED** to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and to the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) to request support from the municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Councillor Morrison was absent when the vote was taken on this matter.

Report Number: S 155/2019

Clerk's File: SS2019

8.4. Sharps Disposal Bin Initiative - City Wide

Jelena Payne, Community Development and Health Commissioner appears before the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee regarding the administrative report Sharps Disposal Bin Initiative and indicates that there is a committee that brings recommendations and considers the data to determine the best locations for the disposal bins.

Councillor McKenzie inquires about the additional bins and disposal fees. Ms. Payne indicates currently the program is working well. Nine of ten of the original disposal bins were installed with no problems. They have had bins donated and the committee will make recommendations on where to best place them. The disposal company has no issues with the extra bins and the cost for disposal is within the initial budget.

A concern regarding a greater level of public education around disposal is mentioned. Ms. Payne indicates that Environmental Services works extensively to educate when they do find improperly disposed syringes and provide extensive outreach and education related to the bins.

Councillor Gignac inquires about advertising the location of the bins. Administration indicates that the location of the bins are advertised on City website, 311 has the locations and they are also on the Health Unit website as well as in the waste calendar.

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 8 of 10

Moved by: Councillor Bortolin
Seconded by: Councillor McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSPS 68**

THAT the report of the Commissioner of Community Development and Health Services regarding the Sharps Disposal Bin Initiative **BE RECEIVED** for information; and further,

THAT City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Commissioner of Community Development and Health Services or the City Engineer, or their designates, to assume the operational and maintenance costs associated with five additional sharps disposal bins and to take any additional actions deemed appropriate to manage the Sharps Disposal Bin Initiative such that those actions do not exceed the total annual funding approved by Council; and further,

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer, City Clerk and/or the City Treasurer **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute any documents required to bring effect to the decisions of the Commissioner of Community Development and Health Services or City Engineer, subject to approval as to form by the City Solicitor, to financial content by the City Treasurer, and technical content by the Commissioner of Community Development and Health Services or City Engineer.

Carried.

Councillor Morrison was absent when the vote was taken on this matter.

Report Number: S 156/2019
Clerk's File: SS/13335

8.5. Understanding the Numbers: Addressing Housing Needs Across Windsor Essex Through Coordinated Access Systems - City Wide

Angela Yakonich, Executive Director, Windsor Family Homes & Community Partnerships

Angela Yakonich, Executive Director, Windsor Family Homes & Community Partnerships appears before the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee regarding the administrative report Understanding the Numbers: Addressing Housing Needs Across Windsor Essex Through Coordinated Access Systems and provides a brief history of her organization and indicates that creating and maintaining more affordable housing is very important to the Community. Ms. Yakonich provides details related to the housing first program and adds that they collaborate with community partners and that the Rent Smart program is available to all tenants and the community.

Councillor McKenzie inquires about gaps to address shortfalls such as income supports and Capital investment. Ms. Yakonich indicates that rent supplements have been helpful, and adds that a full time social worker would be helpful, they currently have one although it is a contract position that will require fund raising to fund in the future. Ms. Yakonich adds that their current

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee

Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 9 of 10

focus is on repair and renewal to ensure their current tenants are well taken care of, building new units in the future would be welcome.

Councillor Bortolin inquires about legislative changes and their impact. Debbie Cercone Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services appears before the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee regarding the administrative report Understanding the Numbers: Addressing Housing Needs Across Windsor Essex Through Coordinated Access Systems and explains the changes. Ms. Cercone indicates that the priorities of social housing is more needs approached and adds that the ability to address people's needs chronologically, has been declining. The addition of the new Meadowbrook units will assist those on the chronological list.

Ms. Cercone indicates that a report will be provided to Council in the near future which will consider partners and other tools that may be available including Planning Act changes.

Councillor Gignac inquires whether Rent Smart is mandatory. Kelly Goz, Coordinator Housing Administration and Development appears before the community Services and Parks Standing Committee regarding the administrative report Understanding the Numbers: Addressing Housing Needs Across Windsor Essex Through Coordinated Access Systems and indicates the program is not mandatory and Administration can potentially consider whether to make it mandatory. Ms. Goz explains the application process.

Ms. Cercone indicates that investment in supportive housing would be beneficial to the community.

Councillor McKenzie inquires about specific recommendations that may stimulate even greater private investment in affordable housing. Administration indicates currently CIP's are available in many areas across the City and also rent supplements.

Councillor McKenzie inquires about the influx of students to the area and the impact on housing. Ms. Payne indicates they currently meet with the Educational partners on a regular basis and continue to monitor the student housing demand.

Moved by:Councillor Bortolin

Seconded by:Councillor McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSPS 69**

THAT this report regarding Addressing Housing Needs Across Windsor Essex through Coordinated Access Systems from the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Councillor Morrison was absent when the vote was taken on this matter.

Report Number: S 157/2019
Clerk's File:SS/4274

Minutes

Community Services and Parks Standing Committee
Wednesday, September 04, 2019

Page 10 of 10

9. QUESTION PERIOD

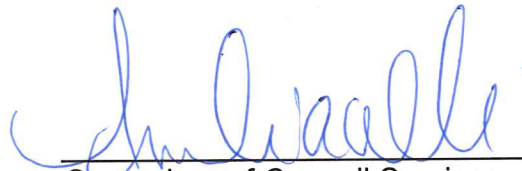
None requested.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee is adjourned at 10:36 o'clock a.m. The next meeting of the Community Services and Parks Standing Committee will take place on Wednesday October 2, 2019.



Councillor Sleiman (Chairperson)



Supervisor of Council Services