



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE
MAYOR'S TASKFORCE ON CLEAN TECHNOLOGY MINUTES

October 21, 2024, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44

MEMBERS PRESENT Councillor Deb Wilson
Greg Lane
James McNeil
Wayne Brown
Kevin Willey
Shawn Carnegie
Nadia Diakun-Thibault
Mayor Nancy Peckford
Matt Gilmer, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism

MEMBERS ABSENT Cholly Boland
Karen Dunlop, Chief Administrative Officer

STAFF PRESENT Chloe Preston, Municipal Clerk
Senterre McKenna, Committee Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT Mike Findley, Director of Public Works, left meeting at 3:23PM
Bruce Enloe, Executive Assistant to The Mayor
Anne Weir, Economic Development Manager or United
Counties of Leeds Grenville UCLG
Susan Smith MNG, Funding and Grants
Katie Nolan, Community Futures Grenville
James McNeil arrived at 2:17PM

A. Open Meeting

Co-Chair Mayor Nancy Peckford called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

B. Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgement was read by Mayor Nancy Peckford.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Moved By Kevin Willey

Seconded By Greg Lane

Be it resolved that:

The agenda for the Mayor's Task Force on Clean Technology meeting on October 21, 2024 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

D. Disclosure of Interest

None.

E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved By Nadia Diakun-Thibault

Seconded By Kevin Willey

Be it resolved that:

The minutes of the Mayor's Task Force on Clean Technology meeting on September 16, 2024 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

1. Committee Meeting Minutes - September 16, 2024

F. Delegations

None.

1. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Opportunities

Susan Smith provided insights on funding agencies and community grants, particularly regarding the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). She discussed the complexities of the grant application process, emphasizing the need for detailed information and alignment with the Municipalities goals, including greenhouse gas reduction.

Wayne Brow inquired about past successful applications with FCM, to which Susan Smith confirmed some success, though not for Federal Funding. Mayor Nancy Peckford asked about the Green Municipal Fund and whether the Municipality has applied to relevant grants. Susan Smith clarified that a specific project must be defined before applying, as general applications are not permitted. Nancy Peckford noted the potential benefits of developing a sustainable plan to access

additional funds, which Susan Smith agreed could be advantageous, provided funding is confirmed.

Nancy Peckford also mentioned two new funding options presented at the Eastern Warden Caucus: Adaptation and Action, and Climate Ready Plans and Processes. Susan Smith advised against relying on the FCM website for information due to frequent changes, recommending direct contact with FCM project managers when filling out an application. Greg Lane suggested reviewing successful applications from other municipalities for guidance.

Nancy Peckford expressed interest in capacity-building grants for municipalities needing initial support and highlighted neighboring counties' successes with Green Building Grants. Ann Weir recalled past applications for sustainability grants and mentioned previous consultations on climate change. Nadia Diakun-Thibault sought more information on FCM's greenhouse gas reduction requirements, while Susan Smith indicated these typically cover a 20-year period. Greg Lane inquired about agricultural grants, but Susan Smith was unfamiliar with specific options, as there is an abundance of information on the website.

2. Community Futures Grenville

Katie Nolan shared information about Community Futures, a federally funded non-profit that supports rural economic development. They have established a loan fund over the past three years to provide small business loans in the area. Katie Nolan is exploring ways to allocate these loans to the clean tech sector, focusing on reducing energy use, waste, and emissions.

She highlighted special loan options, including a \$30K limit in Haliburton for efficiency projects and a \$100K limit in Peterborough, which can fund businesses up to \$300K. There are minimum eligibility criteria set by lenders, with interest rates starting at prime +2%, although there is some flexibility.

Nancy Peckford emphasized the need for clear definitions of green tech and clean tech, while Greg Lane suggested researching incentives for businesses considering relocating to the area. Katie confirmed that both existing businesses and those looking to relocate can apply for loans. Ann Weir pointed out that there are more options for smaller businesses to encourage local growth. Nancy Peckford inquired about coworking opportunities in North Grenville and whether such companies could benefit from the loan program. Katie Nolan affirmed that these types of businesses might qualify and expressed interest in further discussions on this topic.

3. Compostable Yard Waste Program

Mike Findley discussed the Compostable Yard Waste Program in North Grenville, highlighting that residents can purchase compost bins at the Customer Service Desk. The organic waste green bin program recycles 100 tons of waste monthly, with the processed organics being ground up and sold, generating funds.

Greg Lane inquired about how the organics are sold, and Mike Findley explained that they tender the waste annually. Nancy Peckford asked about the potential expansion of the yard waste program alongside the organics program, noting that yard waste is currently picked up twice a year.

Shawn Carnegie expressed interest in alternative programs for organics and yard waste in other municipalities. Mike mentioned future possibilities, including a feasibility study, but noted that ministry approval would be needed for a dedicated compost site. Nancy Peckford suggested that a Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) grant could help meet this need.

Anne Weir mentioned that some municipalities allow residents to drop off yard waste at recycling sites, where they can collect ground waste for their gardens. She also referenced a biodigester in North Augusta Township that faced some controversy, and she offered to share more information about it.

G. Decision Items

H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports

1. Upcoming Delegation - Janice Ashworth

Janice Ashworth will attend the November meeting to discuss her ideas on climate change, she will address any specific questions during her presentation, focusing on greenhouse gas mitigation, resilience, and priorities for the next five years in North Grenville. The Members would like to discuss and learn more about strategies for lowering emissions and how municipalities can benefit from these approaches.

ACTION: Chloe Preston, Municipal Clerk, will provide Janice Ashworth with this relevant information for her delegation.

2. Clean Air Partnership - Delegation Materials

Correspondence to members re: materials

3. Resolution to Join FCM-ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program - UPDATE

The Council has passed a resolution and submitted it to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), including contacts for

correspondence. Matt Gilmer and Nancy Peckford will be included in all communications regarding this matter.

4. Potential European Green Initiatives

Deferred to next meeting.

5. Sustainable North Grenville - Draft Table of Contents, Climate Action Plan

Greg Lane proposed initial elements for a climate action plan and opened the discussion to all members. Wayne Brown inquired about the current status of the process, to which Greg Lane replied that this is just the starting point for further input and refinements, suggesting a name change to "Sustainability Framework."

Nancy Peckford mentioned that Janice Ashworth might have additional sections to contribute, and noted that FCM requires a defined Climate Risk Assessment Plan before an application can be completed. She referenced the City of Ottawa's defined plan for reducing operational emissions. James McNeil emphasized the need for a clearer definition of emission reduction and suggested creating an inventory of current measures for both corporate and community emissions.

I. Other Business

Anne Weird noted November 22rd, Leeds and Grenville Economical summit her at North Grenville, the Energy Minister will be present.

Potential European Green Initiatives, Nadia Diakun- Thibault will be added to this agenda.

1. Items for Upcoming Meetings

1. Delegation - Janice Ashworth (TBD)
2. Delegation - Christina Guido, Town of Caledon (TBD)
3. Task Force Interim Report to Council (November 18, 2024)
4. Green Tech, Green Technology or Nature-based Solutions Discussion Paper (November 18, 2024)
5. Clean Technology Company Attraction (November 18, 2024)

J. Public Questions

None.

K. Adjournment

Moved By Kevin Willey

Seconded By Greg Lane

Be it resolved that:

The meeting be adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

CARRIED