



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

March 17, 2025, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44

MEMBERS PRESENT Councillor Deb Wilson
Greg Lane
Cholly Boland
Wayne Brown
Kevin Willey
Shawn Carnegie
Nadia Diakun-Thibault
Mayor Nancy Peckford

MEMBERS ABSENT James McNeil
Matt Gilmer, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism

STAFF PRESENT Mary Remmig, Deputy Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT Ashley Cuthbert, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator
Gaby Kalapos, Clean Air Partnership
Ann Weir, United Counties of Leeds Grenville
Bruce Enloe, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

A. Open Meeting

Mayor Nancy Peckford called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

B. Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgement was read by Wayne Brown.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Moved By Greg Lane

Seconded By Kevin Willey

THAT the agenda for the Mayor's Taskforce on Clean Technology meeting on March 17, 2025 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

D. Disclosure of Interest

None at this time.

E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. Committee Meeting Minutes - February 24, 2025

Moved By Wayne Brown

Seconded By Greg Lane

THAT the meeting minutes of February 24, 2025 for the Mayor's Taskforce on Clean Technology be approved as presented.

CARRIED

F. Delegations

None.

1. Right of Way Use Discussion

Gaby Kalapos from Clean Air Partnership provided an update on federal funding available for oil-to-electric heating transitions and shared examples of municipal loan programs supporting energy efficiency.

Greg shared plans to provide a testimonial and noted he applied for funding to install a heat pump. Shawn raised the topic of wood heating, and Gaby acknowledged the importance of community-specific solutions, while emphasizing a preference for electric heating.

Deb asked about hydrogen energy, which Gaby explained is more applicable to industrial use. Nadia expressed concern over wood burning being labeled carbon neutral; Gaby clarified it emits carbon but is still considered a more sustainable alternative than natural gas.

The Mayor confirmed the Committee's interest in sending a recommendation to Council, targeting June 2025, and Mary will gather supporting information from Gaby and other municipalities.

G. Decision Items

1. Reschedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be schedule for April 28, 2025.

Moved By Greg Lane
Seconded By Deb Wilson

CARRIED

H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports

1. Clean/Green Technology Company Business Attraction & Incentives

Ann Weir provided an overview of current business attraction and incentive initiatives, noting that while these efforts exist, they are not specifically targeted toward green technology. She emphasized that the economic landscape has shifted significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nancy referenced initiatives in Edwardsburg Cardinal and sought Ann's perspective. Ann noted that the committee's mandate—and particularly the report—is quite broad, with only limited focus on economic development. She stressed the need for a clear and targeted economic development strategy, one that is informed directly by the needs and perspectives of businesses rather than the community at large. She highlighted Edwardsburg Cardinal's openness to engaging with businesses and confirmed that the County has not yet undertaken a green technology inventory.

Greg suggested that if businesses are willing to establish in the municipality, efforts should be made to support them, either through direct assistance or facilitation.

The Mayor invited suggestions for individuals or organizations who could assist the group in achieving its goals. Ann recommended Launch Lab, based in Kingston and Ottawa and affiliated with the Research Innovation Council. Although it serves the broader region, its primary focus remains urban centers. She supported Greg's emphasis on providing support for green tech businesses, while also encouraging patience, recognizing that not all ventures in this sector will succeed.

Greg suggested this topic could be included in future discussions with the Kemptville Campus.

Shawn raised the issue of upgrading port access in Ontario, noting water transport is the most cost-effective option and could open new market opportunities. He believes North Grenville is well-positioned to be strategic in this area.

Ann outlined current challenges and opportunities with water-based transportation and provided an overview of recent improvements.

Nancy referenced Kingston's efforts to offset transportation costs and inquired about North Grenville's available funding mechanisms. Ann indicated she would need to look into this but mentioned that the Municipality could explore tools like development charges.

Nancy offered to contact the Mayor of Kingston for more information.

Ann highlighted the importance of building strong relationships with the Ministry and praised the Municipality's Development Review Team (DRT) for its effectiveness in expediting development processes, emphasizing the value of maintaining this approach.

Kevin and Greg engaged in a brief discussion on conversion kits, and Cholly departed the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Shawn expressed strong support for North Grenville taking a leadership role in exploring alternative transportation and infrastructure strategies.

Greg requested a meeting with the Mayor to discuss alternative options to road salt with Public Works. Nancy suggested that a formal recommendation to Council might be appropriate, but Greg felt that a preliminary meeting would be beneficial.

A link was shared for reference: www.cwcarbon.com

Note: This matter will be brought forward as a Notice of Motion on March 25, 2025, and is scheduled for Council deliberation on April 8, 2025.

Moved By Greg Lane

Seconded By Shawn Carnegie

THAT the Mayor's Taskforce on Clean Technologies recommend that Council facilitate meetings with Canadian Wollastonite to explore options replacing road salt with wollastonite as pilot project.

CARRIED

2. Network/Partner Overview - Ongoing Discussion

Mary explained that staff are looking to collaborate with Invest Ottawa to refine the language of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Now that the appropriate contact has been identified, the process will move forward.

I. Other Business

Mary updated on changes to the staff resources and liaison.

1. Items for Next Meeting

1. Delegation from Kemptville Campus - Partnership Possibilities (TBD)
Invite Annie Hillis in Person in April.
2. Alternatives to Natural Gas (April 2025)
3. Delegation from Sustainable North Grenville - Topic To Be Identified (April 2025)

J. Public Questions

None.

K. Adjournment

Moved By Deb Wilson

Seconded By Wayne Brown

Be it resolved that:

The meeting be adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

CARRIED