



Minutes

Community Services Committee

July 22, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Melanie Middlebro'
Vice Chair Marion Koepke
Member Aly Bousfield-Bastedo
Councillor Travis Dodd
Member Morgan Kemick
Councillor Suneet Kukreja
Member Royden Thomson
Member Lance Thurston

MEMBERS

ABSENT/REGRETS: Member Connie Ede

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Michelle Palmer, Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Operational Effectiveness
Sabine Robart, Manager of Planning and Heritage
Jacklyn Iezzi, Senior Planner
Christina McLean, Committee and Executive Support Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Middlebro' called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 2.a Committee and Executive Support Coordinator Re: 2026 Municipal Election Reminder
- 2.b Councillor Dodd Re: Capital Project Updates
- 2.c Councillor Koepke Re: Park Naming Update

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 3.a Member Thomson - Item 8.b.1 - Report CM-26-022 Re: Transfer of Artifacts (Bells, Clock Faces and Clock Mechanism) to Grey Roots

Member Thomson declared an interest with item 8.b.1 due to their personal employment with the Grey County Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- 4.a Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on June 24, 2026

CS-260722-001

Moved by Councillor Dodd

"THAT the Community Services Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on June 24, 2026."

Carried.

5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no deputations or presentations.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions or comments from the public.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

- 8.a Parks and Open Space

- 8.a.1 Report CS-26-073 from the Director of Community Services Re: Harrison Park Rainbow Bridge Structural Assessment

The Director of Community Services provided an overview of the report.

In response to questions from Committee, the Director noted that:

- Staff will investigate the possibility of any available grant opportunities for this work and will include that as part of the funding options in a future report to Committee.
- While salting the bridge in winter months may have contributed to the deterioration of the bridge, the consultants do not consider that as one of the main factors.
- The rainbow shape of the bridge is what is noted as a heritage attribute in the cultural heritage designation of Harrison Park.

- The bridge has significantly deteriorated within the past two years since the last inspection report in 2024.

CS-260722-002

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-26-073 respecting the Harrison Park Rainbow Bridge 2026 Ontario Structure Inspection Manual (OSIM) Inspection, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

Having declared a conflict of interest with Item 8.b.1, Member Thomson left the Council Chambers.

8.b Planning and Heritage

8.b.1 Report CM-26-022 from the Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Operational Effectiveness Re: Transfer of Artifacts (Bells, Clock Faces and Clock Mechanism) to Grey Roots

The Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Operational Effectiveness provided an overview of the report.

CS-260722-003

Moved by Councillor Kukreja

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CM-26-022 respecting the Transfer of Artifacts (Bells, Clock Faces and Clock Mechanism) to Grey Roots Museum & Archives, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Approve the transfer/donation of the five bells, four clock faces, and clock mechanism to Grey Roots Museum & Archives; and**
- 2. Direct staff to bring forward a by-law to authorize the transfer agreement."**

Carried.

Member Thomson returned to the Council Chambers.

8.b.2 Report CS-26-072 from the Senior Planner Re: CIP Grant Application - 612 2nd Avenue East - Safe n Sound

The Senior Planner provided an overview of the report.

In response to questions from Committee, the Senior Planner noted that:

- The property is zoned as C1 - Core Commercial, which doesn't typically require setbacks, and that this building would have been built prior to the current by-law, so it may have a non-complying status applied to it.
- The accessibility changes that are being proposed are beyond what the building code requires in order for it to meet the accessibility regulations for the change of use to the building.
- In order for the applicant to receive the grant funding, the conditions note that a Financial Incentive Program Agreement must be entered and that the work must proceed in accordance with the plans provided to the City, so the funds are not issued until that work is complete.
- The number of CIP grant applications received by the City varies from year to year, and in years where the entire allocated amount is not used, the difference is then used in other years when there are higher numbers of applications.

CS-260722-004

Moved by Member Thurston

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-26-072, respecting an application to the financial incentive programs available under the City's 2020 Community Improvement Plan (CIP), by Safe N Sound Residence (Annette Pedlar) for work to be completed at 612 2nd Avenue East to facilitate the conversion of the existing building to a shelter, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Approve the application for a Vacant Building Conversion and Expansion Grant (50% of eligible costs, to a maximum of \$10,000), subject to the conditions outlined in Schedule 'C';**
- 2. Approve the application for an Accessibility Improvement Grant (50% of eligible costs, to a maximum of \$10,000), subject to the conditions outlined in Schedule 'C';**
- 3. Approve the Landscaping and Property Improvement Grant (50% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$10,000), subject to the conditions outlined in Schedule 'C';**
- 4. Direct staff to allocate the remaining \$13,000 in the 2026 CIP budget and draw \$17,000 from the CIP reserve fund to fund the applications;**

5. **Direct staff to bring forward a by-law to authorize a Financial Incentive Program Agreement between the property owner and the City; and**
6. **Direct staff to draw an additional \$25,000 from the CIP reserve fund to fund additional CIP program applications that may be received from August to December of 2026."**

Carried.

8.b.3 Report CS-26-074 from the Manager of Planning and Heritage Re: Public Art Installation - Intersections Wood Collaborative - 289 10th Street East

The Manager of Planning and Heritage provided an overview of the report.

In response to questions from Committee, the Manager noted that:

- While the City currently does not have a policy in place for public murals, the intent is that there will be one in the future.
- Murals are an addition to the streetscape, and the public art policy does include some elements relating to an addition of this kind.

CS-260722-005

Moved by Member Kemick

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-26-074 respecting a Public Art Installation (Mural) by Intersections Wood Collaborative at 289 10th St E, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

1. **Approve the mural proposal as generally detailed in Schedule 2 to the report, subject to the owner obtaining a Temporary Encroachment Permit for work within the City's right of way (west sidewalk on 3rd Avenue East), and that the artist provide a final sketch to the satisfaction of the City prior to commencing work; and**
2. **Direct staff to consider an application to the Community Improvement Plan – Landscaping & Property Improvement program if an application is received, even after the work has started."**

Carried.

8.c Arena Operations

None.

8.d Building

None.

8.e Community and Business Development

None.

8.f Facility Bookings and Community Programs

None.

8.g Tourism, Culture and Events

None.

9. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no matters postponed.

10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

11. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

11.a Memorandum from the Chief Building Official and Manager of Planning and Heritage Re: Development Update

The Manager of Planning and Heritage provided an overview of the June 2026 Development Update, highlighting building inspections completed and ongoing development projects.

CS-260722-006

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the July 22, 2026 Community Services Committee agenda, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council receive Item 11.a for information purposes."

Carried.

12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

12.a 2026 Municipal Election Reminder

The Committee and Executive Support Coordinator provided a reminder of the upcoming Municipal Election in October, highlighting that nominations are open until August 21 at 2:00 p.m., and that voters can confirm their voter registration online at RegisterToVoteON.ca by August 12.

12.b Capital Project Updates

Councillor Dodd asked staff to provide an update on a number of ongoing projects, including the Owen Heights and Comm-R-Ette Park playground replacements, the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Splash Pad and Playground, the Harrison Park Marker Tree, and Weaver's Creek Boardwalk.

In response to questions from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that:

- The Owen Heights and Comm-R-Ette Park playground replacements are now substantially complete, and the new playground equipment is open for public use.
- The landscape architect is working on the final tender documents for the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Splash Pad and Playground revitalization project, and that the project should be out for tender at the end of this month.
- Preservation work on the Harrison Park Marker Tree has been completed.
- The reconstruction work on Weaver's Creek Boardwalk will take place throughout the month of August.

12.c Park Naming Update

Councillor Koepke asked staff to provide an update on the process that is underway for the park naming at 823 5th Avenue East.

The Director of Community Services noted that there is currently a survey open online at OurCity.OwenSound.ca until August 28, where the public can rank their top three names from the list of names provided, and that the results will be brought back to Committee following the survey conclusion.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Middlebro' adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.