



## **Minutes**

### **River District Board of Management**

**November 10, 2021, 5:30 p.m.**

**City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers**

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **PRESENT:**

Chair Dave Parsons  
Vice Chair Jacqueline Furtner  
Member Waleed Aslam  
Member Ron Cole  
Councillor Marion Koepke  
Member Dianne Mattice  
Deputy Mayor Brian O'Leary  
Member Peter Reid  
Member Lois Taylor  
Member Winnifred Walcott

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Member Kathy Hannen

##### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services  
Brent Fisher, Manager of Community Development and Marketing  
Jamie Eckenswiller, Deputy Clerk  
Jeff Fluney, Police Inspector  
Viveca Gravel, Community Development Coordinator

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Parsons called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

#### **2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

- 2.a Deputy Mayor O'Leary Re: River District Name
- 2.b Member Reid Re: Social Media
- 2.c Member Cole Re: Holiday Passport

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- 4.a Minutes of the Owen Sound Downtown Improvement Area Board of Management meeting held on September 8, 2021

DIA-211110-001

Moved by Member Reid

**"THAT the Owen Sound Downtown Improvement Area Board of Management approves the minutes of the meeting held on September 8, 2021."**

Carried.

### 5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 5.a Deputation from Kim Wingrove, Grey County CAO and Kevin McNab, Grey County Director of Paramedic Services Re: Grey County C.A.R.E. Health Outreach

Grey County CAO Kim Wingrove and Grey County Director of Paramedic Services provided a deputation on Community Accessibility Responsibility and Equity (CARE).

Ms. Wingrove advised that the CARE initiative is currently taking place in Hanover and Owen Sound and came about as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Wingrove advised that earlier in 2021 there was an outbreak at a rooming house in Hanover that required Grey County Paramedics and other service providers to work together and remain on-site for several weeks to ensure the residents of the rooming house were able to properly quarantine. This process provided Grey County with an opportunity to learn how best to help the most vulnerable in the community who may not always be easy to reach.

Mr. McNab advised that the CARE initiative is focusing on meeting people where they are located and caring for their individual needs. The initiative is also providing social and health support services to those who may not otherwise have access to such services. Mr. McNab advised that the community partners that Grey County is working with are instrumental in the success of the initiative.

Mr. McNab advised that peers in the community with lived experience are working with those who need assistance by providing them with food and clothing, and taking care of their immediate needs.

Mr. McNab noted that there have been two CARE sessions in Owen Sound to date, with 80 people attending the first, and 47 attending the second. In total, 127 lunches have been served, 57 naloxone kits distributed, 70 safe-use kits, 49 food

hampers, primary care support provided to eight people and addictions medicine support provided to four people, four people put on a housing list, eight people provided with assistance obtaining identification, and over 400 essential items distributed.

Member Reid left the Council Chambers at this time.

**6. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions 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 Report CR-21-108 from the Director of Corporate Services Re: 2021 Financial Forecast - DIA

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

DIA-211110-002

Moved by Member Taylor

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CR-21-108 respecting 2021 Financial Forecast - DIA, the River District Board of Management directs City staff to issue an invoice for any year-end funding requirement to be covered by DIA reserve funds."**

Carried.

- 8.b Report CS-21-139 from the Director of Community Services and Director of Corporate Services Re: Draft 2022 Budget

Member Reid returned to his chair.

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

The River District Board expressed concerns over the allotment of \$7,000 in the draft budget for a Board election noting that there has not been a Board election for several cycles.

The River District Board enquired about the possibility of receiving half of the parking fines that the City collects as a way to avoid an increase to the River District tax levy.

DIA-211110-003

Moved by Vice Chair Furtner

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-21-139 respecting the 2022 Draft Budget, the River District Board of Management directs staff to:**

1. **Implement a 2% levy increase for the 2022 draft budget as outlined in the report; and**
2. **Provide notice of a public meeting being held on January 12, 2022 respecting the 2022 draft budget."**

Prior to a vote on the motion, Member Reid requested a recorded vote.

	<b>In Favour</b>	<b>Opposed</b>
Member Aslam	X	
Member Cole	X	
Councillor Koepke	X	
Member Mattice		X
Deputy Mayor O'Leary	X	
Member Reid		X
Member Taylor	X	
Member Walcott	X	
Vice Chair Furtner	X	
Chair Parsons	X	
<b>Results</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>

Carried.

Councillor Koepke left the meeting at this time.

- 8.c Report CS-21-142 from the Manager of Community Development and Marketing and Community Development Coordinator Re: River District Website Update

The Community Development Coordinator provided an overview of the report.

Jennifer Cross and Nicole Graham of VS Marketing Group provided an overview of the River District website.

DIA-211110-004

Moved by Vice Chair Furtner

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-21-142 respecting River District Website Update, the Owen Sound Downtown Improvement Area Board of Management:**

- 1. Approves the staging site of the River District Website as presented by VS Marketing Group; and**
- 2. Approves the launch of the River District Website to the public with a launch date of November 19, 2021."**

Carried.

8.d Verbal Report from the Board Treasurer Re: Board Finances

In the absence of the Board Treasurer, Member Taylor provided an update on Board Finances.

Member Taylor advised that the River District currently has a net bank balance of \$113,385, and a GIC of \$60,115.

DIA-211110-005

Moved by Member Taylor

**"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided November 10, 2021 from Member Taylor respecting Board Finances, the River District Board of Management receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."**

Carried.

8.e Verbal Report from the Police Inspector Re: Police Update

Inspector Fluney advised that Community Resources Officer Jason Crannie has completed training and is now certified in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Officer Crannie is available to help businesses prevent crime by making recommendations that businesses changes things such as lighting, sign placement, planters, and other aspects of environmental design to help reduce the likelihood of crime.

Inspector Fluney advised that the Police Auxiliary Food Drive commences this weekend at the Metro grocery store. Auxiliary officers will be onsite collecting groceries and donations that will be given to the Salvation Army Food Bank.

The Owen Sound Police Services CORE Officer is continuing her focused approach on areas in the City including the River District, with high-visibility foot and vehicle patrols. Inspector Fluney noted that a hotspot near the River District has recently shut down with the property being sold, but a new hotspot in the area has been identified. The CORE Unit Officer has been working with the landlord and neighbours and has resolved the issues at that address.

Inspector Fluney advised that members of the Owen Sound Police Service (OSPS) attended cultural awareness training with other area first responders and City staff. The training was provided in partnership with the M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre and delivered by George Couchie, a veteran police

officer with extensive experience designing and delivering Indigenous awareness training programs and initiatives to police and other government bodies.

The Citizens on Patrol (COPS) program and Auxiliary Police program have resumed since shutting down due to COVID-19. Both groups patrolled on Halloween. COPS and Auxiliary members will be continuing to patrol on weekends and will be patrolling during the Santa Claus Parade and opening of the Festival of Northern Lights.

Lastly, Inspector Fluney advised that the OSPS conducted 126 hours of foot patrol in the River District in September, and 130 hours in October.

DIA-211110-006

Moved by Member Aslam

**"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided November 10, 2021 from Inspector Fluney respecting a Police Update, the River District Board of Management receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."**

Carried.

## **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**

Member Aslam left the Council Chambers at this time.

11.a Correspondence from Regional Tourism Organization 7 Re: Ontario Investing \$100 Million to Help Tourism Sector Rebound From COVID-19

11.b Final approvals issued for the following Business Licences:

DIA-211110-007

Moved by Deputy Mayor O'Leary

**"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the November 10, 2021 River District Board of Management (RDBM) agenda, the RDBM receives items 11.a and 11.b for information purposes."**

Carried.

## **12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

### **12.a River District Name**

Deputy Mayor O'Leary discussed the transition from the name 'Owen Sound Downtown Improvement Area' to 'River District', noting that there have been some inconsistencies with the names being used. Deputy Mayor O'Leary advised that staff that regularly attend River District Board of Management meetings generally use the correct name but noted that others are still making reference to 'Owen Sound Downtown Improvement Area'. Deputy Mayor O'Leary enquired as to what the new acronym is for the River District Board of Management.

Member Aslam returned to his chair.

Chair Parsons advised that the acronym for the Board is 'RDBM' which stands for River District Board of Management.

### **12.b Social Media**

Member Reid advised that the River District Board of Management's (RDBM) social media pages are lacking unique content and enquired as to how the River District is going to get more unique posts on the page.

The Manager of Community Development and Marketing advised that there have recently been more posts related to a specific event, however, the RDBM pages have utilized the story feature to promote various businesses rather than specifically focusing on posts. A content creation plan is in place to highlight various businesses and sectors in the River District.

The Community Development Coordinator advised that from November 3-9, the RDBM Facebook page received 34 additional page likes and follows.

### **12.c Holiday Passport**

Member Cole asked staff for an update on the Holiday Passport campaign.

The Community Development Coordinator advised that the passport campaign will operate in a similar way as years past whereby participating businesses will receive holiday passport and stickers to distribute to patrons of their respective businesses. Once shoppers have collected four stickers, they can submit their completed card to a participating business or drop it off at City Hall to be entered for a chance to win a River District prize pack. Ms. Gravel advised that she will be distributing holiday passports to participating businesses and will be available to answer questions.

## **13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no notices of motion.

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Parsons adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.