



**Minutes**

**Operations Committee**

**May 18, 2023, 5:30 p.m.**

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

**MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:**

Chair Scott Greig  
Vice Chair Marion Koepke  
Mayor Ian Boddy  
Member Roger Bloom  
Member Mike Crone  
Councillor Brock Hamley  
Member Edward Marchewka  
Councillor Carol Merton  
Member Meghan Robertson

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Tim Simmonds, City Manager  
Lara Widdifield, Director of Public Works and Engineering  
Matt Prentice, Manager of Public Works  
Chris Webb, Manager of Engineering Services  
Heidi Jennen, Supervisor of Environmental Services  
Ashley Ford, Water and Wastewater Administrative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

2.a Chair Greig Re: 9th Avenue East Watermain Looping Project

2.b Chair Greig Re: Climate Action Team Open House

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

4.a Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on April 20, 2023

OP-230518-001  
Moved by Member Bloom

**"THAT the Operations Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on April 20, 2023."**

Carried.

## **5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **5.a Presentation from John Slocombe, GM BluePlan Engineering Re: Alpha Street Reconstruction**

John Slocombe of GM BluePlan Engineering shared a presentation on the Alpha Street Reconstruction and the following items were highlighted:

- Proposed rest areas;
- Pedestrian Crossing options, including school crossings;
- End points of the multi-use trail; and
- Next steps in the project.

Committee raised safety concerns relating to a proposed sidewalk on the west side of the roadway.

Committee questioned if large trucks would be following the detour during construction or would they be rerouted entirely around the area. The consultant confirmed that trucks would not be permitted in residential roadways, they would be rerouted.

Committee requested that this presentation be brought forward to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for discussion and input.

OP-230518-002  
Moved by Councillor Hamley

**"THAT in consideration of the presentation provided on May 18, 2023 from GM BluePlan Engineering respecting the Alpha Street Reconstruction, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to remove the proposed west side sidewalk from 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue West to 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue 'A' West from the Alpha Street Reconstruction project preferred alternative design."**

Carried.

OP-230518-003

Moved by Councillor Merton

**"THAT in consideration of the presentation provided on May 18, 2023 from GM BluePlan Engineering respecting the Alpha Street Reconstruction, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to keep the proposed rest stops in the Alpha Street Reconstruction project".**

Carried.

**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 Engineering

None.

8.b Environment

8.b.1 Report OP-23-025 from Supervisor of Environmental Services Re: Agreement for Eligible Community Promotional and Education

The Supervisor of Environmental Services provided an overview of the report.

OP-230518-004

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-025 respecting an Agreement for Eligible Community Promotion and Education, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council:**

- 1. Direct staff to bring forward a by-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement for Eligible Community Promotion and Education with Circular Materials, as outlined in the report; and**
- 2. Authorizes staff to sell 200 of the City's existing inventory of blue boxes to Miller Waste Systems as identified in the report."**

Carried.

8.c Public Works

8.c.1 Report OP-23-026 from Manager of Public Works Re: Winter Control Season Report 2023

The Manager of Public Works provided a summary of the Winter Control Season Report.

The Committee discussed the use of sand with respect to extra cleanup in the spring.

The Committee suggested the addition of storm accumulation and intensity on to the statistics chart in the Annual Summary Report going forward.

OP-230518-005

Moved by Member Marchewka

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-026 respecting Winter Control Season Operations, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."**

Carried.

8.d Transit

8.d.1 Report OP-23-024 from Supervisor of Environmental Services Re: Transit Data Collection Implementation and Reporting Update - CONSAT 360

The Supervisor of Environmental Services provided an overview of the report.

Committee requested that this report and forthcoming monthly dashboards be sent to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for information purposes.

OP-230518-006

Moved by Member Robertson

**"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-024 respecting Transit Data Collection Implementation and Reporting Update - CONSAT 360, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."**

Carried.

8.e Water and Wastewater

None.

**9. MATTERS POSTPONED**

There were no matters postponed.

**10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

10.a Motion for Which Notice was Previously Given by Member Robertson at the April 20, 2023 Operations Committee Meeting Re: Hydrogen Fuel

OP-230518-007

Moved by Member Robertson

**"WHEREAS one of four pillars in the City's Strategic Plan Refresh is to protect our environment and natural assets, and includes the objective of enhancing the City's resiliency and capacity for mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change;**

**AND WHEREAS the City of Owen Sound has developed a Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan to understand the impact that climate change has on City services and infrastructure, and is in the process of developing the Climate Change Mitigation Plan;**

**AND WHEREAS hydrogen is a carbon free energy that produces water, and hydrogen fuel cells that power electric motors are the leading technology, there is also technology to convert gas and diesel combustion engines to use hydrogen fuel;**

**AND WHEREAS a manufacturer located in Owen Sound will produce excess carbon free hydrogen in the development of their green hydrogen product systems, and the excess hydrogen will be available for use, study, and research;**

**AND WHEREAS the City of Owen Sound currently operates ice resurfacing equipment and locally manufactured sidewalk and park equipment, which are powered by combustion engines;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff provide a preliminary, exploratory report to the Operations Committee on the ability, feasibility and potential risks of converting the ice resurfacing and sidewalk and park equipment to use hydrogen as fuel."**

Carried.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION**

11.a Source Protection Committee Minutes - November 25, 2022, Meeting

OP-230518-008

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

**"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the May 18, 2023 Operations Committee agenda, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive Item 11.a for information purposes."**

Carried.

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

### **12.a 9th Avenue East Watermain Looping Project**

Chair Greig provided Committee with an update regarding the 9th Avenue East Watermain Looping Project, noting that Moorefield Excavating was awarded the tender at the May 8, 2023, City Council Meeting.

### **12.b Climate Action Team Open House**

Chair Greig attended the Climate Action Team Community Conversation about the Draft Owen Sound Climate Mitigation Plan on May 17, 2023. Staff provided the following link <https://ourcity.owensound.ca/climate-action-strategy> to the City's Climate Action Strategy Website for anyone interested in filling out the Community Engagement Survey or for any information on the City's Climate Action Strategy progress.

## **13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no notices of motion.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Greig adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.