



Minutes

Community Services Committee

October 15, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Marion Koepke
Vice Chair Travis Dodd
Member Aly Bousfield-Bastedo
Councillor Jon Farmer
Member Morgan Kemick
Councillor Suneet Kukreja
Member Lloyd Lewis

MEMBERS

ABSENT/REGRETS: Member Lance Thurston

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Simmonds, City Manager
Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Sabine Robart, Manager of Planning and Heritage
Rebecca Ellerdiem, Senior Advisor, External Relations and Investment Attraction
Andrew O’Leary, Facilities Booking Coordinator
Christina McLean, Committee and Executive Support Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

2.a City Manager Re: Community Open House

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.a Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on September 17, 2025

CS-251015-001

Moved by Councillor Kukreja

"THAT the Community Services Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on September 17, 2025."

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

Chair Koepke provided an overview of email correspondence received respecting Report CS-25-111 Re: Bill 5 Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act Update.

8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

8.a Facility Bookings and Community Programs

8.a.1 Report CS-25-109 from the Facilities Booking Coordinator Re: Summer Recreation Programs 2025 Wrap-Up

The Facilities Booking Coordinator provided an overview of the report.

In response to a question from Committee, Mr. O'Leary noted that the soccer camp is the only one that accepts ages 4-5, and that the rest of the camps are for ages 6-13.

In response to a question from Committee, Mr. O'Leary noted that a camp's capacity limit can be overridden if approved by the counsellor, based on staffing and waitlist numbers.

CS-251015-002

Moved by Councillor Farmer

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-25-109 respecting Summer Recreation Programs 2025 Wrap-up, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

8.b Community and Business Development

8.b.1 Report CM-25-026 from the Senior Advisor, External Relations and Investment Attraction Re: External Relations and Investment Attraction Plan

The Senior Advisor, External Relations and Investment Attraction provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the External Relations and Investment Attraction Plan.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ellerdiem noted that providing support to community groups was listed as an action to support the Vision 2050 Strategic Plan.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Ellerdiem noted that the plan as presented will be executed by working closely with other groups, such as Grey County, Georgian College, and partners in the priority sectors.

CS-251015-003

Moved by Councillor Farmer

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report respecting External Relations and Investment Attraction Plan, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council approve the External Relations and Investment Attraction Action Plan 2025-2027 as presented."

Carried.

The Senior Advisor, External Relations and Investment Attraction and Facilities Booking Coordinator left the meeting.

8.c Planning and Heritage

8.c.1 Report CS-25-111 from the Manager of Planning and Heritage Re: Bill 5 Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act Update

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

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Robart noted that the legislation outlines which policies and rules changed for special economic zones.

In response to a question from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that the legislation amended eight acts, and that a more detailed understanding will arise for staff over time as regulations are issued and staff have experience working within the new framework.

CS-251015-004

Moved by Member Kemick

THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-25-111 respecting Bill 5 Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act Update, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Receive the report for information purposes;**
- 2. Direct staff to provide formal notice including:**

- a. That the City of Owen Sound joins with neighbouring municipalities and opposes the reduction of environmental and cultural heritage projections outlined in Bill 5, that override the rule of law, affect provincial accountability and nullify municipal planning authority; and
 - b. That the City of Owen Sound urges the province to support housing and infrastructure development in ways that align with sound environmental planning and wildlife protection and empower municipalities with appropriate planning tools; and
3. Direct staff to send this notice to the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Paul Vickers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound.

Carried.

8.d Arena Operations

None.

8.e Building

None.

8.f Parks and Open Space

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 City of Owen Sound - Join a Committee

The Committee and Executive Support Coordinator provided information on ongoing committee recruitment, highlighting that applications are open until November 7, more information can be found at

[Owensound.ca/CommitteeVacancies](https://www.owensound.ca/CommitteeVacancies), and that application packages and information will be available at the Community Open House on October 20th.

11.b Memorandum from the Chief Building Official Re: Development Update

The Manager of Planning and Heritage provided an overview of the September 2025 Development Update, highlighting ongoing projects and the upcoming transition to online software for planning applications in 2026.

11.c Site Plan DA-25-017 - 1750 16th Ave E - Hotel

The Manager of Planning and Heritage provided a brief overview of the Site Plan.

CS-251015-005

Moved by Member Kemick

"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the October 15, 2025 Community Services Committee agenda, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council receive Items 11.a to 11.c for information purposes."

Carried.

12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

12.a Community Open House

The City Manager noted that there is a come and go Open House at the Bayshore Community Centre on Monday, October 20th from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., where community groups and City departments will have tables set up to provide information and answer questions from the public.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Koepke adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.