General Committee Minutes

Council Chambers, City Hall

March 23, 2026

Present: Councillor Baldwin
Councillor Beamer, Chair
Councillor Bierk
Councillor Crowley
Councillor Duguay
Councillor Haacke
Councillor Lachica
Mayor Leal
Councillor Riel
Councillor Vassiliadis

Regrets: Councillor Parnell

Staff: Reem Ali, Advisor, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Brad Appleby, Director, Planning, Development and Urban Design
Ian Boland, Manager, Water Resource Systems
Kyle Bruce, Manager, Airport Administration
Robert Dunford, Manager, Transportation Planning
Richard Freymond, Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services
Natalie Garnett, Deputy City Clerk
Greg Giles, Director, Engineering and Capital Works
John Kennedy, City Clerk
Caroline Kimball, Manager, Policy Planning
Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner, Community Services
Jennifer McFarlane, Director, People and Culture
Blair Nelson, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning & Growth Management
David Potts, Commissioner, Legislative Services, City Solicitor
Jasbir Raina, Chief Administrative Officer
Sriram Raman, Manager, Government Relations
Ilmar Simanovskis, Commissioner, Municipal Operations
Brendan Wedley, Director, Strategic Communications & Service Peterborough

Closed Session – 5:00 p.m., Sutherland Room

Consent Items

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis

That item Report LSOCS26-009 – Superior Court Application Instructions be approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Carried

Resolution to meet in closed session

Moved by Mayor Leal

That Committee enter closed session to discuss two items under Section 239(2)(e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board and 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and one item under Section 239(2)(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

Carried

Closed Session ended at 5:43 p.m.

Open Session - 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Haacke declared an interest in Report LSOCS26-011 – Actions, as the applicant is a client of his firm

Report of Closed Session

Report LSOCS26-009 – Instructions

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-009, dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSOCS26-009 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting Superior Court Application Instructions.

Approved as part of the Closed Consent Agenda.

Report LSOCS26-008 – Litigation

Moved by Councillor Crowley

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-008, dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSCOCS26-008 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting Litigation Instructions – OLT Condos.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Report LSOCS26-011 – Actions

Councillor Haacke declared a conflict on this item. (Applicant is a client of his firm.)
Moved by Councillor Bierk

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-011 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That staff be directed to proceed as outlined in Closed Session Report LSOCS26-011 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting Litigation Instructions – Two Superior Court Actions.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Conflict (1): Councillor Haacke

Carried (9 to 0)

Report LSOCS26-012 – Signs

Moved by Councillor Baldwin

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSOCS26-012 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor as follows:

That Report LSOCS26-012 dated March 23, 2026, of the City Solicitor respecting election signs be received for information.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Consent Items

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis

That item 2025 Council Remuneration and Expense Statements - Report FCSFS26-003, be approved on consent.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

2025 Council Remuneration and Expense Statements, Report FCSFS26-003

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report FCSFS26-003, dated March 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

That the 2025 Remuneration and Expense Statements for Council Members and Council appointees to boards and commissions, outlined in Report FCSFS26-003, dated March 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services, be received for information.

Public Meeting under the Planning Act

Moved by Mayor Leal

That Councillor Beamer act as Chair for Planning Meeting.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Councillor Bierk left at 6:37p.m. and returned at 6:38 p.m.

Councillor Duguay left 6:57 p.m. and returned at 6:59 p.m.

Councillor Crowley left at 6:45 p.m. and returned at 6:46 p.m.

Councillor Bierk left 6:59 p.m. and returned at 7:00 p.m.

Draft Community Planning Permit By-law, Report IPGPL26-014

Delegations:

Ian Attridge, Reimagine Peterborough
Caroline Tennent, 495 Gilmour Street
Linda Sunderland, Peterborough Field Naturalists
Mark Bullock, 884 Valleyview Drive

Moved by Councillor Duguay

That Council approve the amended motion as follows:

a) That Report IPGPL26-014 be received for information;

b) That Council receives all oral and written submissions made at the Public Meeting held on March 23, 2026, regarding the draft Community Planning Permit (CPP) By-law;

c) That all comments be referred back to staff for further review and preparation of a subsequent Recommendation Report for Council's consideration by June 30, 2026; and,

d) That a separate evening meeting in June be held to discuss the Community Planning Permit By-law.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Lachica

That a separate evening meeting in June be held to discuss the Community Planning Permit By-law.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Presentations

IPGACP26-006 Update on Clonsilla Area Transportation Study and Approval of Part A Study Design

Councillor Beamer left at 8:11 p.m. and returned at 8:12 p.m.

Councillor Haacke left at 8:12 p.m. and returned at 8:15 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Duguay

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report IPGACP26-006, dated March 23, 2026, of the Commissioner of Infrastructure, Planning and Growth Management, as follows:

a) That the presentation of Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited on the matter of the Clonsilla Area Transportation Study be received; and

b) That staff proceed with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process for the Clonsilla Area Transportation Study, in accordance with the approved Study Design Report.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Community Services

Rent Supplement Funding Model for Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS), Report CSSS26-004

Moved by Councillor Bierk

In light of recent litigation having been commenced by the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Support Services Corporation (OAHSSC) against the City of Peterborough, and approximately 200 other municipalities, that Report CSSS26-004 be referred back to staff and brought forward on the same date as Council considers a report on the OAHSSC litigation.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Finance and Corporate Support Services

Councillor Crowley left at 8:50 p.m. and returned 8:52 p.m.

Commemorative Flag and Illumination Policy, Report FCSSCSP26-002

Moved by Councillor Riel

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report FCSSCSP26-002, dated March, 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services, as follows:

That the Commemorative Flag and Illumination Policy, attached to report FCSSCSP26-002 as Appendix A, be approved.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Legislative Services

Amendment to City of Peterborough Council Code of Conduct By-law 19-028, Report LSCLK26-011

Councillor Baldwin left the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Lachica

That the report be referred to DEI staff to report back to Council with recommendations.

For (8): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Duguay

Absent (1): Councillor Baldwin

Carried (8 to 1)

Office of the Ombudsman - Closed Meeting Complaints, Report LSCLK26-013

Councillor Baldwin returned at 9:01 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Lachica

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSCLK26-013 dated March 23, 2026 of the City Clerk as follows:

That the letter dated March 10, 2026 from J. Paul Dubé, Ombudsman to City Council attached as Appendix A to Report LSCLK26-013 of the City Clerk regarding Closed Meeting Complaints be received for information.

For (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Bierk, and Councillor Riel

Carried (8 to 2)

Portfolio Chairs By-law, Report LSCLK26-010

Moved by Councillor Baldwin

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report LSCLK26-010 dated March 23, 2026 of the Commissioner, Legislative Services as follows:

That a Portfolio Chairs By-law be passed in the form of by-law attached as Appendix B to Report LSCLK26-010.

For (6): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (4): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Riel

Carried (6 to 4)

Municipal Operations

Airport Zoning Regulation Amendment, Report MOAIR26-003

Moved by Mayor Leal

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report MOAIR26-003 dated March 23, 2026, of the Commissioner, Municipal Operations as follows:

That the Commissioner of Municipal Operations, in consultation with the Commissioner of Legislative Services and in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor, be authorized to do such things as they consider appropriate to initiate and advance amendments to the Peterborough Airport Zoning Regulations, including the execution of any procedural or administrative agreements required by Transport Canada and to execute agreements as required by Transport Canada to support the Airport Zoning Regulation process.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

2026 Water System Financial Plan, Report MOWAT26-003

Moved by Mayor Leal

That Council approves the recommendations outlined in Report MOWAT26-003, dated March 23, 2026, from the Commissioner of Municipal Operations, as follows:

a) That the Drinking Water Supply System 2025–2031 Financial Plan, prepared under Municipal Drinking Water Licence No. 145101 and dated March 23, 2026, be approved;

b) That Staff be authorized to submit the approved Water Financial Plan and accompanying Council resolution to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, as required; and

c) That Staff be directed to make the Water Financial Plan publicly available and to provide public notice of its availability in accordance with Ontario Regulation 453/07.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (1): Councillor Lachica

Carried (9 to 1)

Notice of Motion

Moved by Councillor Crowley

WHEREAS:

1. Poverty and income insecurity continue to negatively impact the health and well-being of residents in Peterborough and across Ontario;

2. Municipal governments bear significant costs from the downstream effects of poverty, including increased demand for social services, emergency shelters, and community programs;

3. Evidence from the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (2017–2019) and comparable programs demonstrated meaningful improvements in health, housing stability, and food security among participants;

4. A Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) requires collaboration between the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to design, fund, and implement effectively; and

5. Municipalities, as the order of government closest to residents, are well-positioned to advocate for income security policies that reflect local needs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Council urges the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to collaborate on the design, funding, and implementation of a Guaranteed Basic Income for all Canadian residents;

2. Council calls upon the Province of Ontario to reinstate a basic income pilot with a view to province-wide implementation; and

3. The Clerk be directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Prime Minister of Canada, our local MPP and MP, relevant federal and provincial Ministers, AMO and FCM, and to share it with all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Duguay

That the rules of procedure be amended to extend the hour of the meeting past 10:00 p.m. to complete the agenda.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Duguay

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has announced the development of the ALTO High-Speed Rail Project, a transformative national infrastructure initiative designed to connect major population and economic centres within the Toronto to Quebec City corridor;

AND WHEREAS the City of Peterborough is strategically positioned within eastern Ontario and the Greater Toronto economic region, making it a natural and viable location for a station stop that would serve a rapidly growing population across Peterborough, the Kawarthas, and surrounding communities;

AND WHEREAS the inclusion of a high-speed rail station in Peterborough would significantly strengthen regional economic development, workforce mobility, tourism, and business investment, while enhancing access to national markets and employment opportunities;

AND WHEREAS improved intercity transportation infrastructure aligns with the City's goals of sustainable growth, reduced congestion, climate-conscious mobility, and increased housing affordability through better regional connectivity;

AND WHEREAS high-speed rail stations in comparable jurisdictions have proven to act as major economic catalysts, attracting private investment, supporting downtown revitalization, and strengthening regional competitiveness;

AND WHEREAS the Peterborough region represents a strong opportunity to serve a broad catchment area across eastern Ontario, reducing travel pressure on the Greater Toronto Area while supporting balanced regional development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Peterborough formally expresses its full support for the inclusion of Peterborough as a designated station stop within the planning and development of the ALTO High-Speed Rail Project;

AND THAT Council urge the Government of Canada and project proponents to recognize the strategic economic, geographic, and regional mobility advantages of establishing a high-speed rail stop serving the Peterborough region;

AND THAT the City of Peterborough reaffirms its commitment to working collaboratively with federal and provincial partners to ensure this once in a generation infrastructure project delivers lasting economic opportunity, sustainable mobility, and regional prosperity for the people of Peterborough and surrounding communities

AND THAT the City of Peterborough actively engage, collaborate and work with federal, provincial partners, and all other stakeholders to advance the case for Peterborough as a critical node within the national high-speed rail network;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to: The Government of Canada, The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport, Martin Imbleau, President and CEO, Alto, The Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Local Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament representing the Peterborough Region, Municipalities across the Kawartha Region and Eastern Ontario, Regional Economic Development and transportation partners.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

Councillor Beamer left at 10:15 p.m. and returned at 10:16 p.m.

Councillor Crowley left at 10:16 p.m. and returned at 10:18 p.m.

Councillor Duguay left at 10:18 p.m. and returned at 10:20 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Crowley

That the Notice of Motion regarding By-law number 20-073 and the suspension of the AMP System be deferred to the General Committee meeting of April 13, 2026.

For (4): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, and Mayor Leal

Against (6): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (4 to 6)

Moved by Councillor Lachica

WHEREAS, the Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS), is the legal framework used to issue, review, and appeal penalty notices for various municipal infractions, most notably parking,

WHEREAS, according to IPG Division, non-functioning (not able to receive physical or digital payment) are to be assessed and bagged,

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that…

By-law Number 20-073, the AMP System By-law for the City of Peterborough, be suspended for automobiles parked at non-functioning, (inability to receive coin, credit card or digital payment) parking meter zones and that those marked parking spaces be usable until those meters function.

For (8): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Baldwin, and Councillor Duguay

Carried (8 to 2)

Councillor Vassiliadis left at 10:38 p.m. and returned at 10:40 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Bierk

Amending motion:

Following the word "Boulevards" to add: within the area bounded by and including the following municipal roads: Park Street, McDonnel Street, Water Street and Sherbrooke Street

For (7): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (3): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Duguay, and Mayor Leal

Carried (7 to 3)

Moved by Councillor Bierk

WHEREAS By-law 23-106 regulates the disposal of materials on City property and Owner’s Boulevards; and,

WHEREAS Council has received major concerns from downtown business and property owners regarding enforcement related to “orphaned garbage” left by others without clear attribution;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to pause the issuance of new administrative penalties under By-law 23-106 for unattributed/orphaned garbage on Boulevards within the area bounded by and including the following municipal roads: Park Street, McDonnel Street, Water Street and Sherbrooke Street; until July 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff consult with affected property and business owners and report back to Council with recommended amendments to improve clarity and fairness in enforcement.

For (7): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (3): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Duguay, and Mayor Leal

Carried (7 to 3)

Other Business

There were no items of Other Business.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Haacke

That this meeting be adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

For (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (10 to 0)

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John Kennedy

City Clerk

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Councillor Beamer

Chair