



Regular Minutes
Municipality of Thames Centre
Environmental Advisory Committee

December 2, 2024, 11:30 A.M.
Municipal Office - Council Chambers
4305 Hamilton Road, Dorchester, ON

Members Present: D. Lockie, Chair/Council Representative
T. Heeman, Council Representative
K. Empey, Community Representative
B. McClure, Community Representative
J. Rule, Community Representative
P. Kemp, Vice Chair/Community Representative
R. John, Community Representative

Staff Present: D. Barrick, CAO
A. Storrey, Director of Planning and Development Services
J. Craven, Director of Public Works
S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services and Facilities
M. Ramnanan, Communications Manager
A. Sanderson, Project Manager
S. Henshaw, Recording Secretary

1. Call To Order

Chair Lockie called the meeting to order at 11:41 a.m.

2. Disclosure Of Pecuniary Interest

No pecuniary interests were disclosed.

Committee Member P. Kemp arrived at 11:43 a.m.

3. Previous Minutes

3.1 September 9, 2024 - Regular Meeting

Resolution # EAC-029-24

Moved by: P. Kemp

Seconded by: J. Rule

THAT the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Regular Meeting held on September 9, 2024 **BE RECEIVED.**

Carried.

3.2 October 7, 2024 - Special Meeting

Resolution # EAC-030-24

Moved by: J. Rule

Seconded by: P. Kemp

THAT the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Special Meeting held on October 7, 2024 **BE RECEIVED.**

Carried.

4. Presentations/Delegations

4.1 Corporate Benchmarking Report - 2023 Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary

Richard Hepp and Elisa Tomljanovic, from eMission Software, were in attendance to present the Corporate Benchmarking Report - 2023 Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary.

The Committee discussed the cost inefficiencies of the baseball diamond lights in Harrietsville, as well as the benefits of LED lighting and solar panels.

The Committee discussed solar panel installation, including its benefits, what can be done with excess generated electricity. There was also discussion on financing plans and federal funding that assists with paying for Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers.

The Committee discussed consulting with the municipal insurance and fire department prior to the installation of any solar panels.

The Committee discussed using electric vehicles for municipal fleet.

Chair Lockie thanked R. Hepp and E. Tomljanovic for their presentation.

Resolution # EAC-031-24

Moved by: P. Kemp

Seconded by: T. Heeman

THAT the Municipality of Thames Centre Corporate Benchmarking Report - 2023 Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary, as presented by Elisa Tomljanovic and Richard Hepp of eMission Software, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

5. Reports of Staff

5.1 2025 Meeting Dates

Resolution # EAC-032-24

Moved by: B. McClure

Seconded by: R. John

THAT Report No. EAC-001-24 **BE RECEIVED** for information;

AND THAT the following schedule of meeting dates for 2025 **BE APPROVED**:

- Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

Carried.

5.2 Green Town Hall Feedback

The Committee discussed moving Agenda Item 5.b. "Green Town Hall Feedback" to the next regular committee meeting for a more in-depth discussion.

The Committee discussed the timing of the upcoming 2025 Budget Special Council Meeting on Monday, December 9, 2024.

CAO Barrick confirmed that the costs associated with the Tree Planting Plan have already been approved by Council, however, there is no specific funding currently allocated for any other committee initiatives.

Resolution # EAC-033-24

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: J. Rule

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee **RECOMMEND** that an additional \$5,000 be allocated to the committee budget for 2025 to provide funding for additional initiatives.

Carried.

The Committee discussed creating a landing page on the municipal website for environmental topics, such as committee initiatives, environmental awareness, links to external stakeholders and links to municipal services. The Committee further discussed utilizing social media to also communicate these messages.

M. Ramnanan, Communications Manager, confirmed there would be no additional costs for staff to create a landing page.

Resolution # EAC-034-24

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: R. John

THAT Report No. EAC-002-24 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

6. Committee Business

No items.

7. Correspondence

7.1 2025 Repair Cafes in Thames Centre

The Committee discussed the benefits of holding Repair Cafes in Thames Centre, in both Dorchester and Thorndale.

S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services and Facilities, confirmed there would be no cost for the facility rentals for these events.

The Committee discussed utilizing municipal communications to promote the Repair Cafes.

CAO Barrick and J. Craven, Director of Public Works, advised that any bicycles that get brought to the municipal landfill could be set aside to be repaired.

Resolution # EAC-035-24

Moved by: J. Rule

Seconded by: T. Heeman

THAT Correspondence Item 7.a. **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

8. Unfinished Business

No items.

9. New Business

No items.

10. Scheduling of Meetings

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss it was:

Resolution # EAC-036-24

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: P. Kemp

RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:30 p.m.

Carried.