

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ajax
Held Electronically on Monday, November 16, 2020 at
6:00 p.m.**

***Alternative formats available upon request by contacting:
accessibility@ajax.ca or 905-619-2529 ext. 3347***

Present:	Mayor Regional Councillors Councillors	S. Collier M. Crawford S. Lee J. Dies R. Tyler Morin A. Khan L. Bower
----------	--	---

1. Call to Order

Mayor Collier gave a short introduction regarding the electronic Council meeting format and noted that the meeting was being live streamed on the Town's website.

Mayor Collier called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and acknowledged traditional treaty lands.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. Closed Session (6:05 p.m.)

Authority to Hold a Closed Meeting and Related In-Camera Session

Moved by: J. Dies
Seconded by: R. Tyler Morin

That Council convene to a Closed Session pursuant to Section 239 (2)(e) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, to discuss matters pertaining to litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board.

CARRIED

3.1 LeMine Update

3.2 Further Modifications to Ontario Municipal Board Minutes of Settlement for Beechridge Farms Inc. – OMB Case No. PL050180

Open Meeting (6:50 p.m.)

Ratify Actions Taken In Closed Session

Ratify Directions from Closed Session

Moved by: A. Khan
Seconded by: M. Crawford

That all directions approved in the Closed Session be ratified.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by: R. Tyler Morin
Seconded by: L. Bower

That the following Minutes of previous Council meetings be adopted:

- Regular Meeting of October 19, 2020;
- Closed Session Meeting of October 19, 2020;
- Special Meeting of October 22, 2020;
- Closed Session Meeting of October 22, 2020; and
- Special Meeting of November 9, 2020.

CARRIED

5. Question Period

Mayor Collier noted that members of the public were advised they could submit questions regarding the agenda to the Town Clerk up until noon on the day of the meeting. Alexander Harras, Acting Director of Legislative & Information Services/Clerk, noted that 83 items of correspondence had been received regarding item 10.2 on the meeting agenda.

Motion to Suspend the Rules of Procedure

Moved by: M. Crawford
Seconded by: J. Dies

That the rules of procedure be suspended to allow for an unscheduled delegation from Kevin Nesbitt, Ajax resident, regarding the motion to re-name Langsdorff Drive.

CARRIED
on 2/3rds

6. Delegation and Petitions/Public Hearings

6.1 Transgender Day of Remembrance

In the absence of presenter Jake Farr, PFLAG Canada Durham, the proclamation certificate will be forwarded to the organization.

6.3 Langsdorff Drive – Ajax must not honour Nazi's with street names

Adam Wiseman, Ajax resident, shared information on the history of Captain Langsdorff and his research regarding Langsdorff's support for the Nazi war machine and participation in the German Navy.

Members of Council asked questions regarding the sources of information included within his presentation and an online petition circulating on the matter. Council thanked Mr. Wiseman for his presentation and video.

6.2 Langsdorff Drive – thoughts from the Durham Region Rabbi

Rabbi Tzali Borenstein, Chabad Jewish Centre of Durham Region, discussed the proposed street renaming in the context of being a teachable moment in history regarding discrimination and respect. He discussed the residual impact and trauma of the Holocaust and anti-Semitism on Durham Region residents.

Members of Council thanked Rabbi Borenstein for his delegation.

6.4 Motion to rename Langsdorff Drive

Max Eisen, Holocaust Survivor, shared his experience as an educator and Holocaust survivor. He discussed his personal experience surviving Auschwitz and the symbolic importance of renaming Langsdorff Drive.

Members of Council thanked Mr. Eisen for his delegation.

6.5 Renaming of Langsdorff Drive

Steve Parish, Ajax resident, provided an overview of the naval history of Hans Langsdorff including his participation in the Battle of the River Plate. He discussed the position that Hans Langsdorff was an officer of the German Navy and not a Nazi. He provided background context on the previous Council's decision regarding the street naming and noted consultation on the matter with the HMS Ajax River Plate Veterans Association and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322. He urged Council to uphold the street naming of Langsdorff Drive.

Members of Council asked questions regarding Mr. Parish's research of Hans Langsdorff, and the presence of a diversity committee or staff representative overseeing the diversity portfolio at the time the decision was made. Mr. Parish responded to questions from Council.

Members of Council thanked Mr. Parish for his delegation and congratulated him on his recent Municipal Leadership award from the Greenbelt Foundation.

6.7 Renaming of Langsdorff Drive

Malcolm Collis, HMS Ajax River Plate Veterans Association Archivist, discussed his participation in the 80th Anniversary events and recognition of the Battle of the River Plate, the act of reconciliation, and positive relationships established between the HMS Ajax River Plate Veterans Association, the German naval association, and the family of Captain Langsdorff.

Members of Council asked questions about the effects of the street renaming on the relationship between the Town and the HMS Ajax River Plate Veterans Association. Mr. Collis responded to questions from Council members.

Members of Council thanked Mr. Collis for his delegation.

6.6 Renaming of Langsdorff Drive

Patricia Milne, President, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322, discussed the position that the street name should not be changed. She introduced Jim Devlin, Ajax resident, who shared his perspective as a veteran on revisionist history and his position that the street should not be renamed.

Members of Council asked Mr. Devlin questions regarding the oath taken as part of his military service and his position on the Town's street naming policy. Mr. Devlin responded to questions from Council Members.

Members of Council thanked Ms. Milne and Mr. Devlin for their delegation.

Additional Delegation

Kevin Nesbitt, Ajax resident, presented information on his research regarding the indirect, direct and tangential involvement of Hans Langsdorff in Nazism, pertaining to his role as a military naval officer and not a Nazi.

Council thanked Mr. Nesbitt for his delegation.

6.8 Ajax Public Library Board Report

Noel Green, Library Board Chair, and Sarah Vaisler, Chief Librarian & Executive Officer, Ajax Public Library, presented a 2020 update to Council from the Ajax Public Library Board. N. Green shared a service overview including details about locations, hours, card holders and use. Information on building resilience throughout the pandemic was discussed in the context of educational support, economic support, social aid, and community resiliency programs. Information was presented on the Ajax Public Library's commitment to anti-black racism and winners of the 2021 Bookmark contest.

Members of Council commended the Ajax Public Library for its work in serving, engaging, and responding to the needs of the Ajax community. Members of Council asked questions about the Older Adults Advisory Committee, when late fees may be reintroduced, and loan of internet hotspots. S. Vaisler provided information on committee recruitment.

Members of Council thanked Mr. Green for his presentation.

6.9 2020 Accessibility Advisory Committee Report

Julia Stevenson, 2020 Accessibility Advisory Committee Chair, presented a summary report of the activities of the Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020. She discussed the role of the Committee and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on accessibility and the need to pivot the work of the committee to adapt to the current environment. She reviewed activities and consultation opportunities for the year including online recognition of National Access Ability Week and Guide Dog Awareness Month, and partnership with the Brain Injury Association of Durham Region on an Unmasking Brain Injury art exhibit.

Future initiatives for 2021 were reviewed. J. Stevenson thanked Council and staff for their continued support.

Council Members thanked J. Stevenson for her presentation and commended the Accessibility Advisory Committee for adapting during the pandemic to continue championing accessibility.

6.10 2020 Heritage Advisory Committee Report

Camille Graham, 2020 Heritage Advisory Committee Chair, presented a summary of the activities of the Heritage Advisory Committee for 2020. She discussed the purpose and mandate of the Committee, public outreach and education, heritage properties, Ajax Archives, planning applications reviewed by the Committee, celebration and recognition events, as well as events and activities postponed in 2020.

Council Members asked questions regarding the Committee's opportunity to discuss the renaming of Langsdorff Drive. Michael Sawchuck, Senior Planner, provided a summary of informal feedback from the committee, noting that the committee had not formally reviewed the matter to date. Council members thanked C. Graham for her presentation and all members of the Committee for their contribution to preserving the history and heritage of Ajax.

6.11 Elexicon Update

Patrick McNeil, Chair of the Board of Directors, Lesley Gallinger, President & CEO of Elexicon Energy, and Karen Fisher, Interim President & CEO of Elexicon Group and Chair of the Board of Directors, delivered an update on the first year of Elexicon's operations after the merger in April of 2019. P. McNeil introduced the presentation and provided background information on Elexicon Corporation. L. Gallinger discussed merger objectives, COVID-19 response and implications, financial sustainability, Elexicon Energy Community Report, and 2020-2021 outlook. K. Fisher discussed merger objectives, COVID-19 update, post-merger accomplishments, shareholder activities, and 2020-2021 outlook.

Members of Council asked questions about regional broadband access, the CircuitMeter program, the tiered-rate and time-of-use rate application process, and timelines for the suspension of disconnections. P. McNeil and L. Gallinger responded to questions from Council.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Collier thanked the presenters for their presentation.

6.12 Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit Project Update

David Hopper, Senior Transit Engineer, Mathieu Goetzke, Vice President of Planning, and Kristin Demassi, Senior Planning Officer, Metrolinx, delivered a presentation on the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit Project. They discussed the project scope and rationale, 2031 Frequent Rapid Transit Network, study area, project benefits, stakeholder feedback, preferred preliminary design, Town of Ajax cultural heritage, Pickering Village changes in traffic patterns, transit travel time reliability, and cycling infrastructure. They reviewed the project schedule and overall timeline, consultation to date, proposed BRT Stop Locations, technical study updates, BRT stop design, Public Information Centre #3, and project next steps.

Council Members asked questions regarding stakeholder advisory group composition, construction span of the project, outreach to the Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade and Pickering Village BIA, location of bus stops, bike lanes, heritage property impacts, public consultation opportunities, design, and public education.

Mayor Collier vacated the Chair. Deputy Mayor Dies assumed the Chair.

Moved by: M. Crawford
Seconded by: S. Collier

That the Town reaffirms its commitment to the BRT Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project to ensure transit reliability and capacity between Downtown Oshawa and Scarborough Centre;

That the Town is seeking additional technical information on the preferred design for Pickering Village corridor as the area is not designed to handle high volumes of traffic unlike the majority of Kingston Road, and to ensure that this project does not divert traffic onto local roads in an already congested area;

That in addition to the static online PIC#3, Metrolinx holds technical briefings in each of the five pinch point areas (Oshawa, Whitby, Ajax, Pickering and Scarborough) to provide residents and businesses an opportunity to provide direct feedback and ask questions as each area will be impacted differently;

That Metrolinx CEO Phil Vester provides an update in writing regarding the above requests to Ajax Council through Mayor Collier prior to the end of 2020; and

That this motion be sent Metrolinx, the Region of Durham, Durham Municipalities, MPP Phillips and MP Holland.

CARRIED

Mayor Collier resumed the Chair.

6.13 **OPG's Centre for Canadian Nuclear Sustainability**

Sabrina Nestor, Manager, Nuclear Decommissioning Strategy & Centre for Canadian Nuclear Sustainability, Ontario Power Generation, delivered a presentation on Ontario Power Generation's Centre for Canadian Nuclear Sustainability. S. Nestor discussed the Centre's mandate, foundation pillars, collaborations and partnerships, bringing industry and innovation to the Region, as well as recent activities and initiatives.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Collier thanked Ms. Nestor for her presentation.

Council recessed at 10:16 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:29 p.m.

7. **Correspondence**

Members separated correspondence Items 7.1, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, and 7.10 for

discussion.

Moved by: M. Crawford
Seconded by: L. Bower

That the balance of the report dated November 16, 2020 containing Items of Correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

Item 7.1

Members discussed the Town of Ajax list of Proclamations Issued by the Mayor's Office and noted that a proclamation had been issued for Hindu Heritage Month.

Moved by: S. Collier
Seconded by: A. Khan

That Recognition of Hindu Heritage Month be added to the Town of Ajax list of Proclamations Issued by the Mayor's Office.

CARRIED

Item 7.3

Members discussed the motion received from the City of Pickering regarding support of ambulatory services at Ajax Pickering Hospital.

Moved by: S. Collier
Seconded by: R. Tyler Morin

That Item 3 of the Correspondence Report "City of Pickering: Support of Ambulatory Services at Ajax Pickering Hospital" be received for information.

CARRIED

Item 7.4

Members discussed the motion received from the Region of Durham regarding delegation of authority for enforcement of local sign by-laws on regional roads.

Moved by: S. Collier
Seconded by: R. Tyler Morin

That Item 4 of the Correspondence Report "Region of Durham: Delegation of Authority for Enforcement of Local Sign By-laws on Regional Roads" be received for information.

CARRIED

Item 7.5

Members discussed the motion received from the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) regarding the Durham Live Wetland Compensation Request.

Moved by: J. Dies
Seconded by: S. Lee

That Item 5 of the Correspondence Report “Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA): Durham Live Wetland Compensation Request” be received for information.

CARRIED

Item 7.6

Members discussed the motion received from Loyalist Township regarding funding for community groups and service clubs affected by the pandemic.

Moved by: S. Collier

Seconded by: A. Khan

That Item 6 of the Correspondence Report “Loyalist Township: Funding for community groups and service clubs affected by the pandemic” be endorsed.

CARRIED

Item 7.7

Members discussed the motion received from Environmental Defence & Other Concerned Organizations regarding the Lower Duffins Creek Wetland Complex MZO.

Moved by: J. Dies

Seconded by: S. Lee

That Item 7 of the Correspondence Report “Environmental Defence & Other Concerned Organizations: Lower Duffins Creek Wetland Complex MZO” be endorsed.

CARRIED

Item 7.8

Members discussed the motion received from the County of Prince Edward regarding proposed Changes to the Municipal Elections Act.

Moved by: S. Lee

Seconded by: M. Crawford

That Item 8 of the Correspondence Report “County of Prince Edward: Proposed Changes to the Municipal Elections Act” be endorsed.

CARRIED

Item 7.10

Members discussed the motion received from City of Hamilton regarding amending AGCO Process to Consider Radial Separation from Other Cannabis Locations. Geoff Romanowski, Director of Planning & Development Services, responded to questions from Members of Council.

Moved by: L. Bower

Seconded by: M. Crawford

That the Item 10 of the Correspondence Report “City of Hamilton: Amending AGCO Process to Consider Radial Separation from Other Cannabis Locations” be referred to staff for review.

CARRIED

8. Reports

8.1 Community Affairs & Planning Committee Report

None.

8.2 General Government Committee Report

Moved by: R. Tyler Morin
Seconded by: A. Khan

That the General Government Committee Report dated November 9, 2020, be adopted.

CARRIED

8.3 Summary of Advisory Committee Activities

Moved by: J. Dies
Seconded by: A. Khan

That the Summary of Advisory Committee Activities Report dated November 16, 2020, as attached to the meeting agenda be received for information, and that the recommendations contained therein be referred to staff where applicable.

CARRIED

8.4 Departmental Reports

8.4.1 Appointment of External Auditors

Members of Council asked questions regarding rotation of the lead auditor for the firm. Dianne Valentim, Director of Finance/Treasurer, responded to questions from Council Members.

Moved by: M. Crawford
Seconded by: L. Bower

1. That Council award the contract for External Audit Services, to Deloitte LLP in the estimated amount of \$59,664.00 (inclusive of all taxes), for a period of one year.
2. That Council authorize Staff to renew the contract for an additional four, one year periods, pending an analysis and satisfactory performance review at the anniversary date of the contract, in the estimated amount of \$249,379.70 (inclusive of all taxes).
3. That council approve the by-law appointing Deloitte LLP as auditors for the Town of Ajax and its local boards for the fiscal years 2020 to 2024.

CARRIED

8.4.2 2020 Year End Projection and COVID-related Financial Impact

Members of Council asked questions regarding the Town being the only lower-tier municipality in Durham applying for Phase 2 funding. D. Valentim responded to questions from Council Members.

Moved by: M. Crawford

Seconded by: S. Lee

1. That the Report on the 2020 Year End Projection and COVID-related Financial Impact be received for information; and
2. That a copy of this Report, including details of the Town's grant submission for Phase 2 of the Safe Restart Funding, be shared with MP Holland and MPP Phillips for their information.

CARRIED

8.4.3 Ajax Public Library Report to Council

Moved by: S. Lee

Seconded by: L. Bower

That the Ajax Public Library Report to Council be received for information.

CARRIED

9. Regional Councillors' Report

Regional Councillors provided an update regarding the recent Regional Council Meeting.

Moved by: M. Crawford

Seconded by: S. Lee

That the Regional Councillors' Report of November 16, 2020 be received for information.

CARRIED

10. Business Arising from Notice of Motion

10.1 Anti-Racism & Diversity Training Plan for Ajax Council

Mayor Collier vacated the Chair. Deputy Mayor Dies assumed the Chair.

Mayor Collier and Regional Councillor Crawford introduced the motion and reviewed its contents. Mayor Collier and Regional Councillor Crawford responded to questions on the motion from Council Members.

Moved by: S. Collier

Seconded by: M. Crawford

WHEREAS Ajax Council continues to take concrete actions against systemic racism in all forms in response to examples of recent racist behaviour, including the act of terrorism against the Sipekne'katik First Nation in Nova Scotia and the purposeful, public vandalism of yearbooks at St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School; and

WHEREAS Ajax Council remain committed to inclusion and equitable treatment of all residents, regardless of differences in, for example: race, age, class, creed, language, culture, religion, sexual orientation or any other factor; and

WHEREAS Members agree that building a foundation of collective understanding about race and racism, cultural relations and the impacts of language requires specialized, professional training;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Ajax Council requests the Town's Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator to report back to Council with a fulsome plan for Council training, including phases, focus areas, programming and costs; and
2. That Anti-racism training begin with a specific anti-Black racism focus, which can be built upon by training focused on addressing racism toward other marginalized groups including Indigenous Peoples; and
3. That the plan include diversity and inclusion training, which considers issues of inclusion that are not racism-related, including LGBTQ+, accessibility and intersectionality.

CARRIED

Mayor Collier resumed the Chair.

10.2 Re-Naming of Langsdorff Drive

Councillor Bower and Regional Councillor Lee introduced the motion, reviewed its contents, and responded to questions from Council Members. Members each discussed their position on the matter. Natasha Sharma, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, discussed the matter through a diversity lens perspective.

Moved by: L. Bower
Seconded by: S. Lee

WHEREAS Council of the Town of Ajax has adopted a policy to name its streets after personnel serving on the HMS Ajax, Achilles, and Exeter during the Battle of the River Plate, and from other sources where Council deems appropriate;

AND WHEREAS in 2004 a street in Ajax was named *Langsdorff Drive* after Hans Langsdorff, captain of the Nazi pocket battleship *Graf Spee* that fought in the Battle of the River Plate, and a street dedication ceremony was held in 2007;

AND WHEREAS Council recently approved the re-naming of Graf Spee Lane to Hassard-Short Lane, and therefore deems it expedient to consider renaming Langsdorff Drive as well;

AND WHEREAS Ajax is committed to investigating best practices to measure the impact of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity initiatives as outlined in our 2017-2022 Diversity and Community Engagement Plan;

AND WHEREAS members of the community are calling on public leaders to take action on systemic and institutional racism and white supremacy to combat barriers felt by racialized groups as outlined in our Anti-Black Racism Taskforce;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT Council directs staff to initiate the process to rename the street currently known as Langsdorff Drive;

AND THAT as per the Street Naming Policy, Council hereby directs the Director of Planning & Development Services to hold an open house for the affected residents of Langsdorff Drive, and to report back to Council with a recommended course of action to rename the street.

CARRIED

Recorded Vote

In Favour: Councillor Bower, Regional Councillor Crawford, Regional Councillor Lee, Councillor Tyler Morin

Opposed: Regional Councillor Dies, Councillor Khan, Mayor Collier

10.3 Regulating Short-Term Rentals & Online Home Sharing Services

Regional Councillor Lee and Regional Councillor Dies introduced the motion and reviewed its contents.

Moved by: S. Lee

Seconded by: J. Dies

WHEREAS short-term rentals and online home sharing services negatively impact the availability and affordability of local housing supplies, and may cause disturbances in established communities when properties are misused by short-term renters;

AND WHEREAS other municipalities, including the City of Toronto and recently the City of Oshawa, have introduced zoning provisions and licensing requirements designed to reduce the prevalence of short-term rentals and home sharing services in their communities;

AND WHEREAS Ajax Council wishes to protect the availability and affordability of housing in Ajax, and reduce the negative impacts of short-term rentals and home sharing services on Ajax residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT staff be directed to review the viability of implementing appropriate mechanisms to minimize the prevalence of short-term rentals and home sharing services in the Town of Ajax, and present their findings and recommendations in a report to a future meeting of Council or the appropriate standing committee.

CARRIED

11. By-laws

Moved by: A. Khan
Seconded by: J. Dies

That By-law numbers 45-2020 to 48-2020 be read a first, second and third time and passed.

CARRIED

12. Notice of Motion

None

13. New Business - Notices & Announcements

Council Members highlighted upcoming events and activities including upcoming online ward meetings, and wished the Hindu and Sikh community a Happy Diwali.

14. Confirming By-Law

Moved by: M. Crawford
Seconded by: R. Tyler Morin

That By-law number 49-2020 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ajax at its meeting held on November 16, 2020 be read a first, second and third time and passed.

CARRIED

15. Adjournment

Moved by: L. Bower
Seconded by: M. Crawford

That the November 16, 2020 meeting of the Council of the Town of Ajax be adjourned.
(12:06 a.m.)

CARRIED

Mayor

Acting D-Clerk