

# Strategic Planning and Budget Committee Minutes



December 14, 2022  
2:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers

Members Present: K. Redman, D. Craig, R. Deutschmann, J. Erb, S. Foxtan, M. Harris, C. Huinink, C. James, J. Liggett, D. McCabe, J. Nowak, N. Salonen, S. Shantz, B. Vrbanovic, K. Williams, P. Wolf

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## 1. Call to Order

Chair Michael Harris called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Harris provided a land acknowledgement.

B. Vrbanovic joined the meeting at 2:36 pm.

D. McCabe joined the meeting at 2:40 pm.

N. Salonen joined the meeting at 2:43 pm.

J. Liggett joined the meeting at 2:54 pm.

## 3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest under the “Municipal Conflict of Interest Act”

None declared.

## 4. Presentations

### 4.1 2023 Budget - Supporting the Plan

Chair M. Harris provided opening remarks.

Connie MacDonald, Chief Communications and Strategy Officer, introduced the presentation and provided an overview of the development of the strategic plan and budget. A copy of the presentation is appended to the original minutes. The members of the Corporate Leadership Team highlighted the various levels of services and the service level enhancements that are being proposed in the strategic plan and budget.

Responding to questions, Mathieu Goetzke, Commissioner, Transportation Services, stated that Grand River Transit ridership and revenue is back to pre-pandemic levels. He committed to providing the Committee with a list of the discounts that are given for Grand River Transit and noted that staff will provide an update on road safety, including a range of counter measures, in March.

The Committee requested that as a part of the budget process, staff provide information on the impact of expanding automated speed enforcement including the possibility of local processing.

In response to a question from the Committee, Peter Sweeney, Commissioner, Community Services, outlined the various requirements for Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program and committed to bringing back more information on the poverty line and poverty in the community.

Responding to questions, staff stated that information can be brought looking additional opportunities for revenue raising but noted that additional investments may be required.

Craig Dyer, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer, highlighted the components of the Regional tax bill, and explained the factors that are increasing the pressure on property tax rates.

**5. Communications**

**6. Other Business**

**7. Adjourn**

Moved by S. Foxtton

Seconded by J. Nowak

That the meeting adjourn at 4:41 p.m.

**Carried**

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Regional Clerk

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Regional Chair