



**Safety and Facilities Services Committee
Minutes**

**March 17, 2025, 1:30 p.m.
Council Chamber**

Present: Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor McConkey

Absent: Councillor Marks

Also Present: Councillor Marimpietri
F. Blanchet, Council-Committee Coordinator
P. Lyon, Director, Municipal Law Enforcement and Licensing
Services
S. Barkwell, Fire Chief
R. Garey, Director, Facilities Management Services
J. MacIsaac, Director, Diversity, Equity and Reconciliation
L. Davis, Manager, Legislative Services/Deputy City Clerk
B. Varty, Manager, Municipal Law Enforcement Services
K. Man, Manager, Policy, Licensing and Business Services
D. Livesey, Senior Policy Advisor
D. Persaud, Manager, Fire Administration Services
P. Aguilera, Council-Committee Coordinator

Public Meeting

Councillor Nicholson called the meeting to order and stated that all members of the Committee were participating from the Chamber except Councillor McConkey who participated electronically and Councillor Marks who was absent. Also present in the Chamber was Councillor Marimpietri.

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Oshawa is situated on lands within the traditional and treaty territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Anishinaabeg and the signatories of the Williams Treaties, which include the Mississaugas of Scugog Island, Curve Lake, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations, and the Chippewas of Georgina Island, Rama and Beausoleil First Nations.

We are grateful for the Anishinaabeg who have cared for the land and waters within this territory since time immemorial.

We recognize that Oshawa is steeped in rich Indigenous history and is now present day home to many First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. We express gratitude for this diverse group of Indigenous Peoples who continue to care for the land and shape and strengthen our community.

As a municipality, we are committed to understanding the truth of our shared history, acknowledging our role in addressing the negative impacts that colonization continues to have on Indigenous Peoples, developing reciprocal relationships, and taking meaningful action toward reconciliation.

We are all Treaty people.

Additional Agenda Items

Moved by Councillor Kerr

That Correspondence SF-25-19 from Noah Edwards submitting comments concerning Report SF-25-16 and Correspondence SF-25-20 from Adrienne Ellis submitting comments concerning Report SF-25-18 be added to the agenda for the Safety and Facilities Services Committee meeting of March 17, 2025 and be referred to the respective reports.

Carried

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None

Presentations

None

Delegations

None

Referrals from Council

None

Reports from Advisory Committees

None

Items Requiring Direction

None

Public Consent Agenda

Moved by Councillor Kerr

That all items listed under the heading of Public Consent Agenda for the March 17, 2025 Safety and Facilities Services Committee meeting be adopted as recommended except Reports SF-25-11, SF-25-14, SF-25-15 and SF-25-18.

Carried

Correspondence with Recommendations

None

Staff Reports/Motions with Recommendations

SF-25-16 - Amendments to Open Air Burning By-law 73-2012 related to Sacred Fires (All Wards)

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

Whereas Open Air Burning By-law 73-2012, as amended (“By-law 73-2012, as amended”) regulates all open air burning within the City of Oshawa to ensure public safety and environmental protection; and,

Whereas consultations have been made with the Diversity, Equity and Reconciliation Division, specifically the Indigenous Relations Advisor; and,

Whereas Sacred Fires are integral ceremonies to Indigenous culture, serving as a spiritual gathering place for wellness, healing and prayer; and,

Whereas articles in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (U.N.D.R.I.P.) and the Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (T.R.C.) Final Report recognize the importance of supporting Indigenous Peoples’ right to access Sacred Fire ceremonies; and,

Whereas the City of Oshawa has made commitments to recognizing U.N.D.R.I.P. and the T.R.C. Calls to Action as the framework for the City’s reconciliation efforts through CNCL22-48; and,

Whereas clarity regarding specific types of fires in By-law 73-2012, as amended, is necessary to prevent misinterpretation by the public and to support enforcement efforts; and,

Whereas the proposed amendments include changes to Section 2 to enhance the definition and regulation of Sacred Fires to provide clear guidance on its meaning and to recognize the cultural and spiritual significance while ensuring proper safety measures; and,

Whereas the proposed amendments to Section 3.2 clarify that Sacred Fires do not require a Fire Permit but must adhere to appropriate safety considerations;

Therefore be it resolved that based on Item SF-25-16 dated March 12, 2025, Council approve a by-law in a final form and content acceptable to the Commissioner, Safety and Facilities Services Department and City Solicitor, to further amend Open Air Burning By-law 73-2012, as amended, to include definitions and regulations for Sacred Fires as generally set out in Attachment 1 of said Item.

Public Discussion Agenda

Matters Excluded from Consent Agenda

SF-25-11 - Technical Amendments to Lodging House By-law 94-2002 (All Wards)

Moved by Councillor McConkey

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

Whereas Lodging House Licensing By-law 94-2002, as amended (“Lodging House Licensing By-law”) regulates Lodging Houses in the City of Oshawa (“City”) to ensure compliance with municipal and provincial standards related to health and safety through the licensing of lodging houses; and,

Whereas, with the exception of establishing tiered and escalating Administrative Penalties, the Lodging House Licensing By-law has not been updated since it was approved on October 21, 2002; and,

Whereas staff regularly review the City’s by-laws to identify opportunities to enhance municipal regulatory standards and have identified a need to undertake the following technical amendments to the Lodging House Licensing By-law:

- Update references to current legislation and municipal by-laws;
- Implement minor typographical amendments (e.g. references to outdated position titles, renumbering, etc.);
- Align administrative and appeal processes with similar Council approved by-laws (e.g. Business Licensing By-law 122-2024, Vehicle-for-Hire 31-2022, etc.);
- Align standards with the City’s Property Standards By-law 1-2002, Zoning By-law 60-94, and other applicable municipal by-laws and provincial legislation; and,
- Remove outdated processes and replace with Lean concepts;

Therefore be it resolved that based on Item SF-25-11 dated March 12, 2025, staff be directed to report back to Committee with a final by-law to implement technical amendments to Lodging House Licensing By-law 94-2002, as amended.

Affirmative (1): Councillor McConkey

Negative (3): Councillor Nicholson, Councillor Kerr, and Councillor Lee

Absent (1): Councillor Marks

Lost (1 to 3)

Moved by Councillor Kerr

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

Whereas Lodging House Licensing By-law 94-2002, as amended (“Lodging House Licensing By-law”) regulates Lodging Houses in the City of Oshawa (“City”) to ensure compliance with municipal and provincial standards related to health and safety through the licensing of lodging houses; and,

Whereas, with the exception of establishing tiered and escalating Administrative Penalties, the Lodging House Licensing By-law has not been updated since it was approved on October 21, 2002; and,

Whereas staff regularly review the City's by-laws to identify opportunities to enhance municipal regulatory standards and have identified a need to undertake the following technical amendments to the Lodging House Licensing By-law:

- Update references to current legislation and municipal by-laws;
- Implement minor typographical amendments (e.g. references to outdated position titles, renumbering, etc.);
- Align administrative and appeal processes with similar Council approved by-laws (e.g. Business Licensing By-law 122-2024, Vehicle-for-Hire 31-2022, etc.);
- Align standards with the City's Property Standards By-law 1-2002, Zoning By-law 60-94, and other applicable municipal by-laws and provincial legislation; and,
- Remove outdated processes and replace with Lean concepts;

Therefore be it resolved that based on Item SF-25-11 dated March 12, 2025, City Council approve a by-law in a final form and content acceptable to Legal Services and the Commissioner, Safety and Facilities Services Department to implement technical amendments to Lodging House Licensing By-law 94-2002, as amended.

Affirmative (3): Councillor Nicholson, Councillor Kerr, and Councillor Lee

Negative (1): Councillor McConkey

Absent (1): Councillor Marks

Carried (3 to 1)

SF-25-14 - Technical Amendments to Pool Enclosure By-law 79-2006 (All Wards)

Moved by Councillor McConkey

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That based on Report SF-25-14 dated March 12, 2025, Council approve a by-law in a final form and content acceptable to the City Solicitor and the Commissioner, Safety and Facilities Services Department to further amend Pool Enclosure By-law 79-2006, as amended, to implement technical amendments as detailed in Section 4.4 of said Report.

Carried

SF-25-15 - Communication Relocation Project (All Wards)

Moved by Councillor McConkey

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That Report SF-25-15 dated March 12, 2025 concerning the communication relocation project be received for information.

Carried

SF-25-18 - Safety and Facilities Services Committee Outstanding Items List Status Report - First Quarter 2025 (All Wards)

Moved by Councillor McConkey

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. Whereas the Noise By-law 112-82, as amended ("Noise By-law") is a by-law to prohibit noises likely to disturb the inhabitants of the City of Oshawa ("City"); and,

Whereas at its April 29, 2024 meeting, City Council directed staff to review Noise By-law 112-82, as amended, as it relates to construction noise; and,

Whereas staff conducted municipal benchmarking of sixteen (16) lower and single-tier municipalities, including Durham Region lakeshore municipalities, to assess and compare the City's Noise By-law construction noise standards against comparator standards; and,

Whereas fifteen (15) of sixteen (16) municipalities benchmarked regulate construction noise in the same manner as the City, meaning construction noise is prohibited from some point in time in the evening each day to some point in time the following morning, with prohibited times being less restrictive or in-line with the City's existing prohibited times; and,

Whereas staff consider the City's Noise By-law regulatory standards to be aligned with municipal best practice and appropriate for the regulation of construction noise;

Therefore Item 11 regarding a review of Noise By-law 112-82, as amended, as it relates to construction noise be removed from the Safety and Facilities Services Committee's Outstanding Items List; and,
2. That the remainder of Report SF-25-18 dated March 12, 2025 being the Safety and Facilities Services Committee's Outstanding Items List Status Report for the first quarter of 2025 be received for information.

Carried

Items Introduced by Council Members

None

Items Pulled from the Information Package

None

Closed Consent Agenda

Correspondence with Recommendations

None

Staff Reports/Motions with Recommendations

None

Closed Discussion Agenda

Matters Excluded from Consent Agenda

None

Items Requiring Direction

None

Matters Tabled

None

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Lee

That the meeting adjourn at 2:17 p.m.

Carried