



# Environmental Task Force Minutes

9:30 AM - Tuesday, September 24, 2024  
Council Chambers

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**Present:** Councillor Roy Huetl (Chair); Deputy Mayor John Inglis; Councillor Fred Fowler; Paul Asselin; Bruce Moore; Marlene Spruyt; and Ange Defosse

**Absent with Regret:** Katie Surra; and Mike Ward

**Also Present:** Tara Mieske, Clerk/Planning Manager, Dipl.M.A. Dipl.M.M., and Darwyn Sproule, Public Works Manager, P. Eng.

## 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

## 2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

We begin this gathering by acknowledging and celebrating these traditional lands as a gathering place of the first peoples and their ancestors who are entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. We do so respecting both the land and the Indigenous People who continue to walk with us through this world. Today, the Township of North Frontenac is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and all residents to pursue a united path of reconciliation.

## 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None declared.

## 4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- a) *Notes of the August 28, 2024 Meeting were approved by the Task Force via email and were received for information at the September 12, 2024 Council meeting.*

## 5. Business Arising

- a) *Draft Terms of Reference*

The Task Force completed the draft Terms of Reference and they are provided in the Council Agenda for Council's consideration. The Task Force will focus on a Work Plan at the next meeting.

## 6. New Business

- a) *Review of Draft Proposed Energy Reduction Projects*

Darwyn Sproule, Public Works Manager, provided an update of the Township's Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan. The goal was to reduce energy consumption by 5% over the past five years. The actual energy consumption was reduced by 10% and greenhouse gases were reduced by 20%. A majority of the savings can be contributed to converting furnaces in Township facilities from oil to propane. The goal for the next five years is to reduce energy consumption by 6%. He advised heat pumps and LED lighting are examples of potential costs savings initiatives at some of our facilities throughout the future.

**b) *Other Municipal Environmental Programs and Local Groups***

Paul Asselin provided an update on some research he completed on programs, policies and analysis from other municipalities, including LED lighting, blue box operations, not permitting organics in landfills, transportation analysis, tree programs, grants, green construction workshops, electricity summits and mini seminars, etc.. These programs and policies may be researched further when implementing the work plan.

Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt are going to look into some other local environmental groups including the Climate Network Lanark, Frontenac Stewardship Council, South Frontenac group, etc. and provide more details to the Task Force on their initiatives and potential support.

**c) *Accessory Dwelling Units***

Councillor Huetl provided an update on an Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment being considered by Council to update the Township's Policies to permit Accessory Dwelling Units in accordance with the Provincial mandate. He noted the Economic Development Task Force will be meeting with the County Planners to discuss the policies and will be encouraging the policies to only apply to properties zoned Rural, Limited Service Rural and Hamlet. He noted there are concerns with environmental impacts if permitted on waterfront properties.

**d) *North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance***

Bruce Moore advised he is representing the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance on the Task Force and as part of his role he would like to see recommendations provided to Council on implementing a septic inspection program and policies on short-term rentals. It was the consensus of the Task Force that these will be discussed as part of the Work Plan.

## **7. *Adjournment***

- a) *The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m. The next meeting will be held on October 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.***

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Councillor Roy Huetl, Chair