



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 1:00 pm

The Committee met at 1:00 pm at the W & M Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre St, Orangeville.

Members Present: Councillor Lisa Post (Chair)
Councillor Guy Gardhouse
Councillor Earl Hawkins
Councillor James McLean
Councillor Fred Nix
Councillor Philip Rentsch

Members Present: Councillor Gail Little (prior notice)
Warden Darren White (prior notice)

Staff Present: Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer
Michelle Dunne, Clerk
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
Brenda Wagner, Administrator, Dufferin Oaks
Anna McGregor, Director of Community Services

Chair Post called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Chair Post shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk verbally took a roll call of Councillors in attendance.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Mrs. Davidson, a Dufferin resident, questioned what can be done to assist tenants in Dufferin County housing units regarding tenants that cause disturbances. Anna

McGregor, Director of Community Services, noted that the County works with OPP Response Teams to assist tenants needing mental health supports.

REPORTS

1. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #1
Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – First Quarter 2024

A report from the Director of Community Services, dated May 23, 2024, to provide quarterly infographics that summarize the work undertaken by the Community Services Department, across Housing Services, Ontario Works and Early Years and Child Care Divisions.

Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Hawkins

THAT the report of the Director, Community Services, titled Quarterly Community Services Activity Report – First Quarter 2024, dated May 23, 2024, be received.

-Carried-

2. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #2
Community Services Annual Review 2023

A report from the Director of Community Services, dated May 23, 2024, to provide a summary of Dufferin County Community Service's activities, operations, accomplishments, and program directions in 2023 and a brief outlook of 2024.

Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report Community Services Annual Review, dated May 23, 2024, from the Director of Community Services, be received.

-Carried-

3. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #3
Homelessness Prevention Program Update 2024-2025

A report from Director of Community Services, dated May 23, 2024, to provide details of the allocation for the Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP).

Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor McLean

THAT the report titled Homelessness Prevention Program Update 2024/25, dated May 23, 2024, from the Director, Community Services, be received.

-Carried-

4. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #4
National Housing Strategy – Housing Advocacy

A report from Director of Community Services, dated May 23, 2024, to provide details on the pause in funding for social housing supports and request Council pass a motion to advocate for the continuation of funding.

Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report titled National Housing Strategy – Housing Advocacy, dated, May 23, 2024, from the Director of Community Services, be received;

AND THAT Council supports a motion to ask for the resolution of the current conflict between the Federal Government and the Government of Ontario to support the timely continuation of funding:

WHEREAS there is an unprecedented national housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS there is no for-profit supply-only trickle-down solution to ending the national housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS substantial investments in ensuring the use of housing for homes are required to help end the national housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS substantial investments in new affordable social housing are required to help end the national housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS substantial investments in revitalizing existing affordable social housing are required to help end the national housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS substantial investments in social support expansions are required to prevent families choosing between housing and other basic necessities of life to help end the national housing affordability crisis;

WHEREAS the national housing affordability crisis is most acute in Ontario;

WHEREAS unlike most Provinces and Territories in Canada, 47 Service Managers and District Social Service Administration Boards (SM/DSSAB) are responsible for delivering social supports, including housing affordability supports in Ontario;

WHEREAS these 47 SM/DSSABs in Ontario lack the revenue and policy tools and powers of the Provincial and Federal governments to end the housing affordability crisis; and

WHEREAS any reductions in funding from the Federal and Provincial governments risks the termination of critically needed housing and social supports for some of the most vulnerable across Ontario;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Warden advocate to the Federal and Provincial governments that the funding dispute must be resolved to limit mounting harms to some of Ontario's most vulnerable families;**
- 2. The Warden send urgent correspondence to the Provincial and Federal Ministers of Housing to confirm that financial support will continue for vulnerable households across Ontario currently in receipt of the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit and Ontario Housing Priorities Housing Initiative;**
- 3. The Warden advocate to the Federal and Provincial governments to continue to fund Service Managers an amount equivalent to the monies under the CMHC-Ontario Bilateral agreement in the National Housing Strategy until a new funding agreement can be reached;**
- 4. The Warden advocate to the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a trilateral table including the SMs/DSSABs, to negotiate the final 3-year tranche of funding under the National Housing Strategy;**
- 5. AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the to the Provincial and Federal Ministers of Housing, the Housing Services Corporation, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus.**

-Carried-

5. **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #5**
2023 – 2024 Dufferin Oaks Quality Services Report

A report from Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated May 23, 2024, to provide Council with an annual review of the Dufferin Oaks' Quality Services Program.

Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Hawkins

THAT the report regarding the Dufferin Oaks 2024 Quality Services Report, dated May 23, 2024, from the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, be received.

-Carried-

6. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #6
Dufferin County Community Support Services Declaration of Compliance

A report from Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, dated May 23, 2024, to seek authorization for the Warden and Clerk to sign the Multi Sector Service Accountability Agreement (MSAA) declaration of compliance.

Moved by Councillor Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report regarding the Declaration of Compliance, dated May 23, 2024, from the Administrator of Dufferin Oaks, be received;

AND THAT Council authorizes the Warden to sign the Declaration on behalf of Council for submission to Ontario Health – Central Region.

-Carried-

CORRESPONDENCE

7. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #7
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to advise that delegation requests for the upcoming Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are being accepted until June 7, 2024.

The Committee discussed delegating regarding:

- Homelessness prevention program funding
- Ontario Works rates and administration funds for the program
- Daycare spaces available, allowing private operators to expand

8. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES – May 23, 2024 – ITEM #8
Township of Amaranth

A resolution from the Township of Amaranth, dated May 16, 2024, to request the Province reconsider phasing out free private drinking water testing services.

Moved by Councillor Nix, seconded by Councillor Hawkins

THAT Council support the resolution from the Township of Amaranth, dated May 16, 2024, regarding the phasing out of free private drinking water testing services.

-Carried-

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 27, 2024
W & M Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre St, Orangeville

Respectfully submitted,

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Councillor Lisa Post, Chair
Health and Human Services Committee