



## Community and Protective Services Committee

### Minutes 14

Thursday, October 15 2020

9:30 am

### Electronic Participation

This Meeting will be held through electronic participation in accordance with Section 238 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* as amended by Bill 197, the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*

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- Notes:
1. *Please note that these Minutes are to be considered DRAFT until confirmed by the Committee.*
  2. *Underlining indicates a new or amended recommendation approved by Committee.*
  3. *Except where otherwise indicated, reports requiring Council consideration will be presented to Council on 28 October 2020 in Community and Protective Services Committee Report 14.*

**Present:** Chair: Councillor J. Sudds  
Vice-Chair: Councillor K. Egli  
Councillors: D. Deans, E. El-Chantiry, M. Fleury, C. Kitts, M. Luloff,  
C. McKenney, C. A. Meehan

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were filed.

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes 13 - 17 September 2020

CONFIRMED

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Response to Inquiries

- CPS 04 - 20 - Review of street outreach efforts
- CPS 05 - 20 - Funding for community programs re: homelessness

## POSTPONEMENTS AND DEFERRALS

### 1. OTTAWA PARAMEDIC SERVICE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

ACS2020-EPS-GEN-0005

CITY WIDE

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*Deferred from the Community and Protective Services Committee meeting of  
September 17, 2020*

## REPORT RECOMMENDATION

**That the Community and Protective Services Committee recommend Council receive this report for information.**

Anthony Di Monte, General Manager of Emergency and Protective Services, gave some introductory remarks and presented Pierre Poirier, Chief, Ottawa Paramedic Service, who gave a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation is held on file with the City Clerk's office.

The Committee then heard from the following:

- Cameron Love - President and Chief Executive Officer (Ottawa Hospital)
- Dr. Andrew Falconer - President and Chief Executive Officer (Queensway – Carleton Hospital)
- Dr. Bernard Leduc - President and Chief Executive Officer (Hôpital Montfort)

They spoke to a PowerPoint presentation which is held on file with the City Clerk's office.

Committee members had a variety of questions of the Hospital representatives dealing with but not limited to the following:

- When someone is dropped off at a hospital by a paramedic, they cannot be alone – they need to be handed off to a hospital staffer. The hospital needs a body 7 days a week to take care of the person from the ambulance so that paramedics can get back on the street and deal with their next call. It seems to be a resourcing issue. If hospitals have the money to hire that staff person/people, then there is no delay with the paramedics. Dr. Falconer responded by saying it is a resource issue. Initiatives to create space for offloading is currently funded by a certain number of hours a day. They've asked for funding for that purpose. The Ottawa Hospital is funding this position with their own money. Dr. Leduc noted that it is not just funding but also a need for space, which amounts to an additional 15 %.
- Dr. Love said there is an element to get dollars, but we need to look at the need for beds. We need to build a plan to deal with community needs.
- The problem of bottleneck is a hospital problem, not a paramedic problem but the City is paying for it. What is the plan to fix it? Dr. Cameron agrees that the hospital has a responsibility to give the community access to care and they are all committed to building on a plan to reduce/eliminate bottleneck and build the capacity.
- Dr. Cameron stated that the hospital is in the process of hiring paramedics to work in the hospital's emergency room area and that will

help.

- Would it be helpful to ask the Mayor to write to the Ministry for funding for capacity? Dr. Cameron said yes, the Mayor has been doing so since the beginning of the pandemic. Once the beds are in place that would be tremendously helpful.
- Councillor Fleury asked if the YouTube version of this meeting could be sent to all local Members of Provincial Parliament. The coordinator will work with the Chair's office and the Mayor's office for this.
- There is a concern about the mental health with first responders. This is a priority for staff to ensure it is a priority and have a program to deal with the mental trauma of first responders. City has taken a leadership role with Fire and Police on this.

Chair Sudds and members thanked the Paramedics for their service and there is a hope to resolve these problems at the hospitals as soon as possible.

The report recommendation was put to Committee and RECEIVED as presented.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

2. COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES – HUMAN NEEDS TASK FORCE AND COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE
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## **REPORT RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Community and Protective Services Committee receive this presentation for information.**

Donna Gray, General Manager of Community and Social Services, introduced Shelley VanBuskirk, Director, Housing and Dean Lett, Director, Long Term Care who would assist her with a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation is held on file with the City Clerk's office.

Committee members had a variety of questions dealing with but not limited to the following:

- As the weather gets colder, do we have capacity to take people in? Yes, we are under capacity since COVID.
- If the Province were to allow us to temporarily suspend the rule around people on the waiting list, that would be helpful, correct? And, if housing benefits applied to above- market rent, that would help us remove people in shelters? Yes, you would get more people interested in this Program. People can take a unit over average market rent and pay the difference.
- The City has been approached by different individuals in bringing the container concept. Not a route that the City has given significant thought to as there is a lot to deal with such as land, maintenance, etc.... Most city land is for development purposes. They feel that a modular and rapid housing initiative can wrap things up rather quickly.

Councillor McKenney had a direction to staff and a motion.

The presentation was RECEIVED as presented and Councillor McKenney's motion CARRIED with report going to Council based on the motion.

#### **Motion CPS 2020 14/1**

Moved by Councillor C. McKenney

**WHEREAS the Province of Ontario is currently experiencing a sharp increase in the number of COVID-19 cases with the onset of a second wave of the pandemic; and**

**WHEREAS, tenants have experienced unprecedented job losses and loss of income due to continued challenges as a result of the COVID-19 crisis;**

and

**WHEREAS, 2.5 percent of rental households (approximately 3,200) have not been able to pay their rent over the past six months as a result of the economic shutdown and are at risk of eviction; and**

**WHEREAS, housing stability is a critical tool to manage the pandemic, as acknowledged by the implementation of a moratorium on most eviction proceedings from March 19, 2020 to July 31, 2020; and**

**WHEREAS, the province has invested in subsidizing rent for commercial businesses and providing mortgage relief for homeowners acknowledging the impact of losing their homes and businesses; and**

**WHEREAS, the province had put a freeze on all evictions but has since rolled that back and it is now legal for Ontario to once again evict tenants; and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Ottawa declared an Affordable Housing and Homelessness crisis and emergency in January of 2020 which persists and is growing – especially for families; and**

**WHEREAS, on any given night 1900 individuals including children are sleeping in a shelter bed in our city; and**

**WHEREAS In 2019, the number of people sleeping outside this year has doubled since the beginning of the COVID pandemic; and**

**WHEREAS there are 36,000 renter households in Ottawa who spend in excess of 30% of their income on rent and are at risk of losing their housing.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Committee recommend that Council direct Mayor Watson to write to Ontario Premier Doug Ford and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting that the provincial government immediately restrict all residential rental evictions, except in case of threats to public safety, and maintain this moratorium on evictions until the COVID-19 pandemic is effectively contained.**

CARRIED

DIRECTION TO STAFF

That the Community and Social Services staff formally request the provincial government to temporarily suspend the removal of people from the subsidized wait list who are accessing any housing benefit.

**EMERGENCY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING**

3. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN – INTERIM REPORT  
ACS2020-EPS-GEN-0008 CITY WIDE
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**REPORT RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Community and Protective Services Committee recommend that Council approve the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan priorities as outlined in this report.**

Anthony Di Monte, General Manager of Emergency and Protective Services, gave some opening remarks before introducing Lisa Petch, Program Manager, Operational Projects, who gave a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation is held on file with the City Clerk's office.

The Committee then heard from the following delegation:

\* Dillon Black - Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW) – provided an outline of organization. Spoke on proposed priorities and supports the priorities, however women and gender base (including LGBTQ) are not included in the list of priorities. They mentioned recent sexual harassment in a councillor's office.

[ \* *Individuals marked with an asterisk either provided their comments in writing or by email; all such comments are held on file with the City Clerk. ]*

Following the delegation Councillor McKenney introduced their motion:

**Motion CPS 2020 14/2**

**WHEREAS gender-based violence and violence against women are important issues in the community; and**

**WHEREAS it is important for Ottawa City Council to recognize gender-based violence and violence against women as a priority and take concrete steps to address gender-based violence and violence against women;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that addressing gender-based violence and violence against women be added as a sixth priority to the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.**

Committee members had a variety of questions dealing with but not limited to the following:

- Can you agree to add gender-based violence as a priority? Staff replied in the negative stating that it was not identified as a priority, but that it is broadly included in all priorities.
- The City is mandated to do this by the Province but have not received funding to date which is upsetting and troubling that implementation is not happening until 2022.
- Is funding an issue? Anthony Di Monte reiterated that this is the first step. The question about funding will be best asked in the 2nd step.

Councillor McKenney's motion was put to a vote and CARRIED as presented.

The report recommendation was put to Committee and CARRIED as amended by the motion.



ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

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**Committee Coordinator**

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**Chair**

DRAFT