

**TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS**  
**MINUTES**  
**Climate Action Committee (CAC)**

**August 24, 2022**

**Virtual Meeting – Zoom@7pm**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ian Anderson, Councillor Bryan Barker (Chair), Bob Clifford, Paul Darlaston, Chris Theijsmeijer

**REGRETS:** John Hoekstra (technical issues)

**Staff:** Todd Gordon (MPM, Recorder)

**Members of the Public:** Simon Blakely, Liam Campbell, Seija Deschenes

**Media:** None

**1) OPEN**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Moved by Chris Theijsmeijer; Seconded by Bob Clifford. Carried.

**2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda for the June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, meeting was approved.

Moved by Paul Darlaston; Seconded by Chris Theijsmeijer. Carried.

**3) DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

**4) ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes for the July 27<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, meeting were approved.

Moved by Chris Theijsmeijer; Seconded by Bob Clifford. Carried.

**5) DELEGATIONS**

Simon Blakely, Rethink Green

Simon presented more information on Rethink Green and the Green Economy North program. This included changes at Rethink Green, the fact that their new strategic plan is imminent (they are willing to share an advanced draft). He then presented a variety of ways (options) in which Rethink Green could engage and interact with Billings and assist with achieving objectives and goals under the CEEP. One of these options is participating in the next cohort of the Green Economy North Program (see Old Business for further discussion)

**6) OLD BUSINESS**

**i. CCIC Update – Recommendation to Council - Update**

The Chair informed the committee that the CAC recommendation to re-advertise for the CCIC position was accepted by Council. The MPM confirmed that the advertising was posted.

**ii. CAC – Moving Forward**

**a) Rethink Green/Green Economy North.**

The committee returned to the Rethink Green presentation by Simon Blakely. Given that the timeline that the deadline for inclusion in the next cohort of the Green Economy North program is September 30<sup>th</sup>, the committee felt it would be prudent to recommend to Council that the next step be taken – completing the online application form, which would initiate further discussion with Rethink Green and allow for the assessment of costs and benefits of participation in the program. Re-engaging in a composting pilot experiment.

**Recommendation:**

That Council consider further enquiry into membership in Green Economy North, and direct staff to complete the first stage of the online application process.

Moved by Chris Theijsmeijer; Seconded by Bob Clifford. Carried.

**b) Composting.**

There was more discussion of approaches to composting/organics, the possibility of a backyard composter pilot program, data collection around composting and organics in general, and the need to think about organic waste holistically, being open to the possibility of more than one approach.

**iii. CAC Blog**

Brief discussion of the Blog. Encouragement by the committee to Chris Theijsmeijer, chief blogger to keep making excellent posts. Chris continues to urged other members to share ideas and encourages them to collaborate on posts if they are willing and able. The committee urged staff to keep referencing the blog on the municipal Facebook page, and to check on links to the blog on the municipal website.

**7) NEW BUSINESS**

**i. Possible Project Partnership with Manitoulin Streams**

Seija Deschenes, Project Coordinator with Manitoulin Streams presented the parameters of the Natural Infrastructure Fund, a program under Infrastructure Canada. The committee discussed the potential and appropriateness of the municipality partnering with Manitoulin Streams on a project under the fund.

**Recommendation:**

Council partner with Manitoulin Streams in applying to the Natural Infrastructure Fund, and direct staff to provide support to Manitoulin Streams in the application process, as appropriate.

Moved by Paul Darlaston; Seconded by Bob Clifford. Carried.

**8) CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**9) INFORMATION**

None

## **10) CLOSED SESSION**

None

## **11) RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

1. That Council consider further enquiry into membership in Green Economy North, and direct staff to complete the first stage of the online application process.
2. That Council partner with Manitoulin Streams in applying to the Natural Infrastructure Fund, and direct staff to provide support to Manitoulin Streams in the application process, as appropriate.

## **12) NEXT MEETING**

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm, via Zoom

## **13) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm, on a motion by Paul Darlaston.