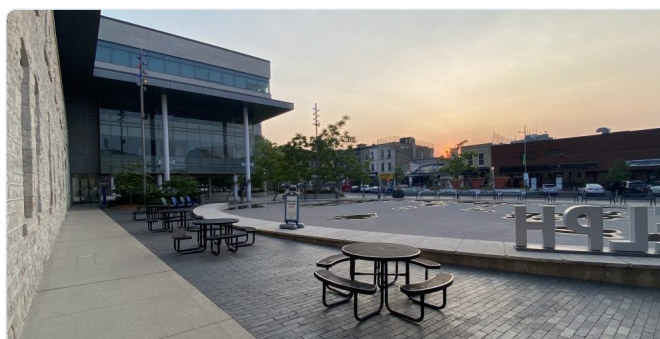




Adam A. Donaldson @adamadonaldson

Jun 27 · 87 tweets · [adamadonaldson/status/1673816063333613569](https://twitter.com/adamadonaldson/status/1673816063333613569)

Coming up at 6:30 pm, it's this month's regular council meeting. This is what we're doing tonight:



City Council Preview – What's on the Agenda for the Meeting on June ...

It's the end of June, and this agenda certainly feels like it's the last day of classes before summer vacation. Granted, there are still a bunch of meetings coming in July, but you...

<https://guelphpolitico.ca/2023/06/16/city-council-preview-whats-on-the-agenda-for-the-...>

Mayor Guthrie has called the meeting to order.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof? None.

Minutes of the open Committee of the Whole Meeting held May 2, 2023, Council Planning Meeting held May 9, 2023, Council Orientation and Education Workshop held May 17, 2023 and Council Meeting held May 31, 2023 approved unanimously.

Consent agenda:

No items pulled, and all are passed unanimously.

4.1 Water Services' Updated Operational Plan Endorsement, 2023-207

Recommendation:

1. That the City of Guelph Council endorse the Water Services' Operational Plan, as required as part of the Ontario Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program.

4.2 Ontario Health - Multi-Sectoral Accountability Agreement, Declaration of Compliance, 2023-189

Recommendation:

1. That the Mayor be authorized to sign the declaration of compliance for the Ontario Health Multi-Sectoral Accountability Agreement for the period of April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

4.3 2022 Guelph, Future Ready Progress Report, 2023-180

Recommendation:

1. That the Guelph, Future Ready Progress Report, dated June 6, 2023, be received.
2. That City Council respectfully requests its local boards and shared services (Guelph Public Library, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, County of Wellington, the Elliott Community, Downtown Guelph Business Association, Grand River Conservation Authority, and Guelph Police Service) to provide annual performance updates in conjunction with the annual Strategic Plan progress reporting, beginning June 2024.

4.4 Smart Cities Update - Our Food Future and Circular Opportunity Launchpad, 2023-194

Recommendation:

1. That the report "Smart Cities Update - Our Food Future and Circular Opportunity Launchpad" dated June 6, 2023, be received.
2. That the City encourages Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health to continue their work in food security and food access and to incorporate the lessons learned from Our Food Future in their ongoing health promotion work in the community.

4.4 Smart Cities Update - Our Food Future and Circular Opportunity Launchpad, 2023-194

Recommendation:

1. That the report "Smart Cities Update - Our Food Future and Circular Opportunity Launchpad" dated June 6, 2023, be received.
2. That the City encourages Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health to continue their work in food security and food access and to incorporate the lessons learned from Our Food Future in their ongoing health promotion work in the community.

4.5 Municipality of Trent Lakes Resolution: Oath of Office

Recommendation:

1. That Council request that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing amend clause 4 of the municipal declaration of office to read:
I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III and I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada including the Constitution, which recognizes and affirms the Indigenous and treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples;
2. And that this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), MPP Mike Schreiner, MP Lloyd Longfield, Premier Doug Ford, Minister Greg Rickford, Minister Steve Clark, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River, and Grand River Metis Council.

4.6 Components of the new Community Engagement Framework, 2023-184

Recommendation:

1. That the revised Community Engagement Policy be approved, formally replacing the 2015 version of the Policy, and that staff be directed to apply the Policy when designing and implementing community engagement.
2. That the draft Community Engagement Charter be approved, formally replacing the 2015 Community Engagement Framework, and staff be directed to develop necessary plans and initiatives for operationalizing the Charter.

Next, 2023 Governance Review. There is no new information, but there are about 20 people signed up to delegate.

Apparently, Cllr O'Rourke asked to pull this, but Guthrie wants to set the stage:

the Procedural Bylaw says you have to talk about the item on the agenda, so if anyone wants to talk about Strong Mayor powers in relation to the procedural bylaw, you're good. Anything else, out of order.

Second, Guthrie says if his clarity hasn't been good he owns that. Guthrie says that he gets powers on July 1, and there are three things he can retain or delegate back, and in all three areas he's delegating back: hiring CAO, org structure, and appointing chairs.

Guthrie says on July 1, it will be the status quo.

Also, to anyone who think that council can stop Strong Mayor powers, they can't change it. It is what it is.

Lastly, Guthrie says that there's going to be a September meeting specifically about this issue, so perhaps that's a better time to have the Strong Mayors delegation.

So we begin with David J Douglas, who has bronchitis and asks for a little slack. He says that the Procedural Bylaw *is* tied to SMP. He says council has been sold "political snake oil" by the Province.

Guthrie stops Douglas after he veers into areas of housing and notes that this is about the Procedural Bylaw and the Governance Review, which has nothing to do with housing. (Douglas was noting that there's no evidence that SMP will result in more housing.)

Kevin Bowman is next, and he says he will brief. He says it's more proof that the Provincial government can abuse municipalities as they like, and he was pleased to hear Guthrie's refutation in Sept. Still, he's worried about how this will change ppl's behaviour in the long-term.

Bowman asks council and the mayor to work towards the abolition of the powers, and Guthrie interrupts again to ask him to keep on the Proc. Bylaw. He asks for clarity about how SMP will impact the bylaw.

Next, Susan Watson. She's glad to hear that Guthrie is delegating powers back to council. Asks to have that delegation written into any future update to the PB. There should be notice and reporting, also wants to keep stat. planning meeting delegations at 10 minutes.

Watson also notes that residents are confused after Guthrie spoke out against the powers pre-election, and then appeared on stage with Clark when powers announced. She urges Guthrie to tell the community where he stands on the matter using council platform.

Watson says that she's relieved that Guthrie has chosen not to be too like Patrick Brown.



Lin Grist is next. She says that everyone's aware that there are strong opinions out there & is glad Guthrie says there's no need to change the way we do business. It's encouraging. Still, she wants council to direct to staff to enshrine powers & have notice of reporting for SMP.

Werner Zimmermann is next and he says he doesn't want to be here because he wishes this wasn't happening. It's about democracy, and when a vote can carry with 1/3 support, that's wrong. He implores council to keep up the resistance and enshrine delegation of powers.

Next, Scott Frederick. He says he needs to make sure that there are "onerous checks" on the use of SMP incl. advanced notice, and also to enshrine the delegation of powers. He also asks to keep the 10-minute delegation for stat. planning meetings.

John Fisher is next. Delegating as a private citizen, he says that City governance affects everything he cares about and thinks approving the changes to the PB tonight is premature until SMP are addressed.

Next, Stan Kozak who says coming down to council tonight as the smoke descends on us is kind of obvious. He's here for "Get Involved Guelph" and they have a sense that local government has to do better.

Meaning? More citizens have to get involved to make gov. better and there's a general feeling out there that gov. is no good. He says this is a reckless ONgov clocking themselves in housing, and has some asks:

- Guthrie repudiate SMP
- Council announce opposition to SMP
- Amend PB that council be notified 7 days in advance if SMP are going to be invoked.
- Rescind the pledge to build 18k homes to send a message.

Emily Steers has withdrawn so it's on to Pia Muchaal. She says that she's glad about Guthrie delegating powers back, but it going to worry about the legislation anyway. She's reading Hugh Whiteley's letter in the package: <https://pub-guelph.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=38186>

Guthrie asks Michael to skip to the part in the letter about Procedural Bylaw. She asks council to reaffirm opposition and demand repeal. Also says ditto to other delegations.

Tanya Gevaert is next, but there seems to be some tech issues, so we go to Diane Hurst. She was concerned that the voice of her councillors were at risk, and asks to send the review back to staff and defer it. Also asks to pass motion to reaffirm opposition.

We're back to Tanya Gevaert, who says "Ditto."
Guthrie says there's a prize in her future for the shortest delegation.

John Farley is next, and he says he brings his experience in the affordable housing sector. Building 2,000 homes/year is no small feat, and there's nothing but the political promise to back that up. SMP has no tools that will lead to development of affordable homes.

Farley also asks to send the review back to staff in a deferral and asks for reporting and enshrining as per other delegations.

Next is Harry Lane. He also asks for a deferral.

Mathew Glass is next, and he starts with a Putin reference. 🙄 He says that council has an opportunity hear to strengthen democratic practices. He's concerned about cynicism and fear, and that the PB should be revised to ensure democratic political practice.

Five delegate left including Anne Gajerski-Cauley. She says the SMP powers do not obligate councils to use them, and appreciates Guthrie's willingness to delegate back the powers, still concerned about 1/3 vote.

Ron East is next, who says that the Council of Canadians are concerned about SMP. He thinks every delegate is addressing the Procedural Bylaw, which make no reference to provincial leg. Bill 3 and 39 and need to be completely redrafted.

East says that council can't proceed with the current Procedural Bylaw without making it explicitly clear that they intend to proceed with majority rule.

Cllr Goller asks if passing the bylaw changes tonight don't make that clear. East says it needs to be clear on public record

Tech issue with Emma Russell-Trione (?) so we go to Barbara Mann. She says this is legislation, but it's also a choice if we use it or not. Repeats the asks from tonight about warning and reporting.

The last two delegates seem to not be available, so we're moving on. Allt/Goller move recommendation:

Matthew Cross
Recommendation:

1. That the amended Procedural By-law, included as Attachment-1 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved, as amended at the Committee of the Whole meeting held on June 6, 2023.
2. That the amended Closed Meeting Protocol, included as Attachment-2 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
3. That the amended Chief Administrative Officer Recruitment, Selection and Performance Sub-committee Terms of Reference, included as Attachment-3 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
4. That the amended Chief Administrative Officer Evaluation Process Terms of Reference, included as Attachment-4 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
5. That the amended Recruitment, Appointment and Contract Administration for Municipal Officers Reporting Directly to City Council policy, included as Attachment-5 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
6. That the amended Recruitment, Hiring and Involuntary Departures Procedures for Municipal Officers policy, included as Attachment-6 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
7. That the City Clerk and Mayor be directed to review the current governance framework for the Strategic Advisory Group on Downtown Guelph to ensure compliance with all applicable legislation and report back to City Council as required.
8. That the Delegation of Authority By-law be amended as outlined in Attachment-7 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023

Allt asks about next steps. Deputy clerk McMahon says that the update precipitating by Bill 3 will be brought to council for approval in September. Shouldn't be an issue to approve changes tonight and continue till Sept.

There's also revised set of recommendations in a memo. Guthrie asks Allt if he meant those, and he does.

1. That the amended Procedure By-law, included as Attachment-1 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved, as amended at the Committee of the Whole meeting held on June 6, 2023.
2. That the amended Closed Meeting Protocol, included as Attachment-2 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
3. That recommendations three, four, five and six, approved at the June 6, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be deferred and that the City Clerk, and Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services staff report back to City Council.
4. That the City Clerk and Mayor be directed to review the current governance framework for the Strategic Advisory Group on Downtown Guelph to ensure compliance with all applicable legislation and report back to City Council as required.
5. That the Delegation of Authority By-law be amended as outlined in Attachment-7 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023 and the Delegation of Authority Noise Exemption Correction Council Memo dated June 27, 2023.

6. That the amended Recruitment, Hiring and Involuntary Departures Procedures for Municipal Officers policy, included as Attachment-6 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
7. That the City Clerk and Mayor be directed to review the current governance framework for the Strategic Advisory Group on Downtown Guelph to ensure compliance with all applicable legislation and report back to City Council as required.
8. That the Delegation of Authority By-law be amended as outlined in Attachment-7 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023

Downer asks for clarity about the procedure around the veto to override SMP. CAO Stewart says that there's still some things they have to have in place before July 1, but apparently they're still waiting for recommendations.

Stewart says that they're working on a lot of timelines that have been laid out by the Province. To answer Q, council has 21 days to get 2/3 together to override the veto and bring petition to clerk for special meeting to override.

Stewart says that there are things that have to be enacted despite the fact that things have changed since CoW. Whether council agrees with this or not, there are meetings in July that have to be held and this is meant to get them through till Sept.

Downer says that the SMP page of the website goes live on July 1, and the delegation will happen simultaneously. McMahon confirms. Guthrie says he will sign those orders first thing on Saturday.

Cllr O'Rourke asks if that delegation will be enshrined in procedural bylaw. Jodie Sales from intergovernmental says mayor decisions will be shared in writing, and says City of Ottawa is a model for what Guelph is working towards. <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/open-transparent-and-accountable-government/public-disclosure/mayoral-decisions-pursuant-municipal-act-2001#section-ood718e5-23e8-4b13-9b5d-84ac140f7232>

Stewart notes again that they haven't received the regulations yet, so there may not be an answer for all questions that council will have tonight. The recommendations tonight are meant to get council through till Sept.

Clerk O'Brien says that where there are aspects to the PB that need updated, those will come back in Sept. The rules regarding budgeting are *likely* not needing major changes.

O'Rourke asks if its possible to say that council will not support legislation given oath to hold up Ontario law. He says that legislation is law, so no.

Cllr Busuttil asks about enshrine the delegation in the PB. Sales says it will be posted on the website, but it will not (at this point) be enshrined in the Procedural Bylaw.

Busuttil asks if procedures can be added before or after the invocation of SMP. O'Brien says it's limited what can be added to PB since it mostly covers the calling and governance of meetings. Transparency will be achieved through the website.

Stewart adds that the Procedural Bylaw cannot override legislation passes at the provincial level, but they can look at the definitions, which in this case, he says, are "rather vague". What does it mean when ONgov declares a provincial priority? 🤔

Cllr Caron asks if they know what they will receive the regulations? Sales says they don't know, hopefully later this week. The expectation is that this will look similar to implementation with Ottawa but 🤔

Caron notes that we're doing 2nd governance review in 6 months, do they need council direction? Sales says they're working right now and are coming back with urgent items in Sept.

Caron says that three municipalities that didn't sign housing pledge didn't get powers; New Market said they couldn't meet the challenge. Asks staff if we get down the road and realise the same thing, what happens if we rescind?

Sales says they're actively advocating on housing pledge and council put great thought into it. There's a meeting with the Chief of Staff with the MMAH on Tuesday to discuss that.

Stewart adds that the July 11 workshop will show council the work done/work needed. Also, July 19 is the DC bylaw update, and there are concerns about being made whole. There maybe news soon about the audit process. May no be able to afford everything in 10Y budget b/c changes.

Stewart adds that there's pacing issues, staff are burning out with the pace of change and the schedule for approvals. Where do we get the staff, and how do we cope if the changes don't stop coming? Can't do it all with the present staffing level.

Caron says that last Sept, council made their position clear, if they were take the motion again, would it be a motion of reconsideration? O'Brien says that when it comes to legislative changes, motion to reconsider usually not needed.

Caron notes that the old wording for an amendment she brought forward to CoW. McMahon says that change will be made, they don't usually amend the CoW documents before the regular meeting.

Allt says the effect on City finances are being missed and hopes that people delegating appreciate that PB is one part of the challenge.

Allt asks if staff is trying to insulate itself without knowledge of regulations. Sales says they're assuming that the regulations will be the same as the ones grant to Ottawa.

Allt asks about the delegation of authority and what happens if a new mayor takes them back. Sales say the powers apply to the head of council and the next head can make their own independent decisions. Allt says then those powers are an election issue.


O'Rourke asks why not codify the delegation of authority. If it's in a bylaw, why not give council a chance to vote? Sales says that legal has determined that the statute > than bylaw and they have to recognise that.

O'Rourke asks if the procedural bylaw sees a veto as contempt of council's decision. O'Brien says the leg. is up to interpretation, but the veto and override process are the end part of the decision.

Stewart says that tonight is a difficult place and the mayor's in a difficult spot too. Suggests that council take advantage of some info sessions being offered next week. The veto changes things politically, and there's a lot of "What Ifs...?"

Motion from Allt/Caron. Basically, it holds on to the current 10 minute time limit for delegations at the planning meeting. People are owed those 10 minutes because often this is about their home.

5.1 2023 Governance Review, 2023-141, 2023-281, 2023-285
Councillor Allt Motion



1. That, in order to continue ten (10) minute delegation times at Council Planning, an additional clause be added to section 4.8 of the proposed Procedure By-law as follows:

4.8 (u) - Notwithstanding Section 4.8 (a), the time limitation for delegations speaking at a public meeting to hear applications under the Planning Act, shall not exceed ten minutes. Council may extend the ten minute time period by a majority vote of the Council Members present without debate.


Guthrie says he disagrees with this and at the beginning of term council agreed to effective meetings, and staff have made it a process to encourage meetings with neighbourhoods before the planning application. Can always ask questions after.

Cllr Billings asks about other municipalities on planning delegations. O'Brien says that they didn't do a full search; some are 5, others are 10 at some meetings in addition planning. "It's a mixed bag," he says.

Amendment passes 9-3 (Guthrie, Billings, and Gibson against). Busuttil not in the meeting.

From O'Rourke/Allt:

5.1 2023 Governance Review, 2023-141, 2023-281, 2023-285
Councillor O'Rourke Motion



1. That the Procedural Bylaw, included as Attachment-1 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be amended to add the singing of O Canada, silent reflection and First Nations acknowledgement to all meeting types.

This one passes unanimously.

Next from O'Rourke/Goller. This is meant to help people who are visually impaired since they only have access to the prepared recommendations.

**5.1 2023 Governance Review, 2023-141,
2023-281, 2023-285**
Councillor O'Rourke Motion



1. That Section 4.10 Motions and Order of Voting c) be amended to include "and that it be read aloud" so the new clause reads:

"When a Councillor moves a motion or an amendment to a motion that is not included as part of the agenda package, that Councillor shall provide a copy of the motion to the Mayor or chair, **and that it be read aloud**, prior to the vote being taken."

Allt asks who's responsible for the reading. Guthrie says that it could be either the mover or the chair, but that was his question too. Notes that council sometimes comes out with appointments that are four or five pages long.

O'Rourke says something like the committee appointments isn't what she was thinking about, it's more like amendments that come up in the middle of a meeting that could change the nature of the debate and those don't tend to be very long.

Amendment passes unanimously.

Amendment from O'Rourke/Chew. The recommendation had 10 years for some of the delegated authority on agreements, this puts it back to 5.

**5.1 2023 Governance Review, 2023-141,
2023-281, 2023-285**
Councillor O'Rourke Motion



1. That Table 3, row 1.2 of the Delegation of Authority By-law, included at Attachment-7 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be amended to return the noted limitation to five years.

Cllr Klassen asks how many contracts this effects. DCAO Clack-Bush says that this was for culture and rec groups with long-term leases, which there are not many. It might mean bringing stuff to council once or twice per year.

Passes 8-5. (Billings, Downer, Guthrie, Klassen, and Goller)

Comments starting with Downer. She says that this has been an excellent discussion and she appreciates the delegations trying to keep it to the PB when there's all the anxiety around the SMP. She encourages the delegations to engage the province.

Cllr Caton thanks the delegates for bring good info and their passion, and thanks staff for answering many, many emails. Also pleased that the language had gender neutral pronouns without any prodding from them.

Caron says she's not confident that the Premier is going to listen to anyone that sends him their objection. This issue is bigger than Guelph, and everyone who's a fan of democracy should feel threatened. Democracy is eroded slowly, and it's happening right here.

Allt thanks staff, and council and the community. This speaks well of the community's concern about governance, and w/o the SMP there probably wouldn't have been delegates for this matter. He tells Guthrie that he's caught in a vice. Notes that POTUS can't make a law.

Guthrie says that at least 72 per cent of the City likes him, I supposed referring to last year's election results.

Motion is passed as amended.

1. That the amended Procedure By-law, included as Attachment-1 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved, as amended at the Committee of the Whole meeting held on June 6, 2023.
2. That the amended Closed Meeting Protocol, included as Attachment-2 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be approved.
3. That recommendations three, four, five and six, approved at the June 6, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023, be deferred and that the City Clerk, and Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services staff report back to City Council.
4. That the City Clerk and Mayor be directed to review the current governance framework for the Strategic Advisory Group on Downtown Guelph to ensure compliance with all applicable legislation and report back to City Council as required.
5. That the Delegation of Authority By-law be amended as outlined in Attachment-7 to the 2023 Governance Review dated June 6, 2023 and the Delegation of Authority Noise Exemption Correction Council Memo dated June 27, 2023.

Bylaws of the week pass as amended.

6. By-laws

Resolution to adopt the By-laws. (Councillor Caron)

*6.1 By-law Number (2023) - 20791

A By-law to provide rules for governing the order and procedures of the Council of the City of Guelph and to repeal By-law Number (2021) - 20649

*6.2 By-law Number (2023)-20805

A by-law to repeal By-law (2023) - 20797 and amend By-law (2022) - 20698 - Traffic By-law, as amended, being a By-law to regulate the use of Highways within the City of Guelph and the Traffic and Parking thereon

*6.3 By-law Number (2023) - 20807

A By-law to appoint Brian Arnold as the Fire Chief and General Manager, and to appoint Steven Goode and Ryan Schubert as Deputy Fire Chiefs, for the Guelph Fire Department, and to repeal By-law Number (2009) - 18725 and By-law Number (2023) - 20779.

*6.4 By-law Number (2023) - 20808

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of meetings of Guelph City Council held June 13th, 14th and 27th.

*6.5 By-law Number (2023)-20809

A By-law to amend By-law Number (2009) - 18855, as previously amended, being a By-law respecting the licencing of businesses operating within the City of Guelph with respect to taxicabs

Guthrie notes the passage of Bill C-22 and Cllr Caton's advocacy for that.

This meeting is adjourned.



@UnrollHelper unroll please.

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