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Nov 28, 2023 · 65 tweets · [adamadonaldson/status/1729640837800186073](https://twitter.com/adamadonaldson/status/1729640837800186073)

Coming up at 6:30, it's this month's regular meeting of council. This *was* what was on the agenda. There's been at least one big change:



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

This last meeting of the month is not the last meeting of the month in November. No, after this meeting there's still the multiyear budget decision meeting the very next day, but on this nigh...

<https://guelphpolitico.ca/2023/11/17/city-council-preview-whats-on-the-agenda-for-the-...>

The big change:

Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Ontario Big City Mayors.

11.3 Encampments within the Downtown

Mayor Guthrie has withdrawn this item from the agenda.

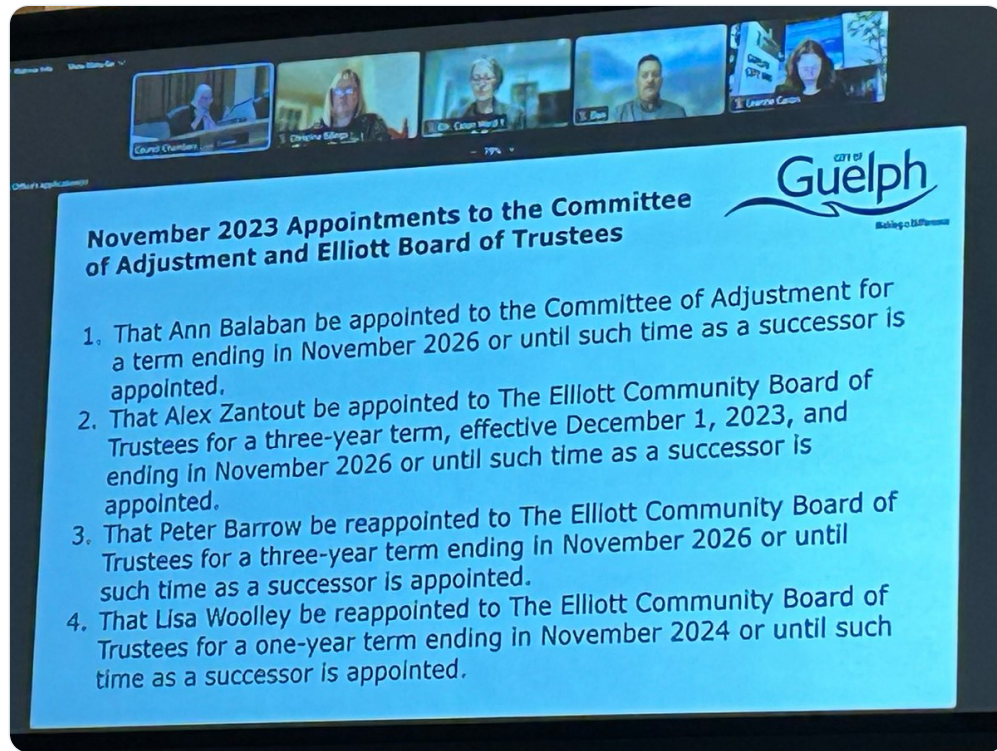
12. By-laws

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

Recommendation:

That By-laws numbered (2023)-20855 and (2023)-20858, be approved subject to Section 284.11 (4) of the Municipal Act

First, coming out of closed session, a list of new appointments:



We're now waiting for the open session to formally get underway.

Mayor Guthrie calls the open session to order (Officially).

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof? Nope!

Two presentations tonight:

6. Guelph Barrier Free Access Recognition Awards

6.1 Outstanding Contribution of a Group of Individuals

Waterloo-Wellington Regional Aphasia Program Participants and Care Partners

6.2 Outstanding Contribution of a Business

The Guelph Enabling Garden Board of Directors

6.3 Outstanding Contribution of an Individual

Heidi Torreyter

6.4 Outstanding Contribution of an Individual

Maddy Workman

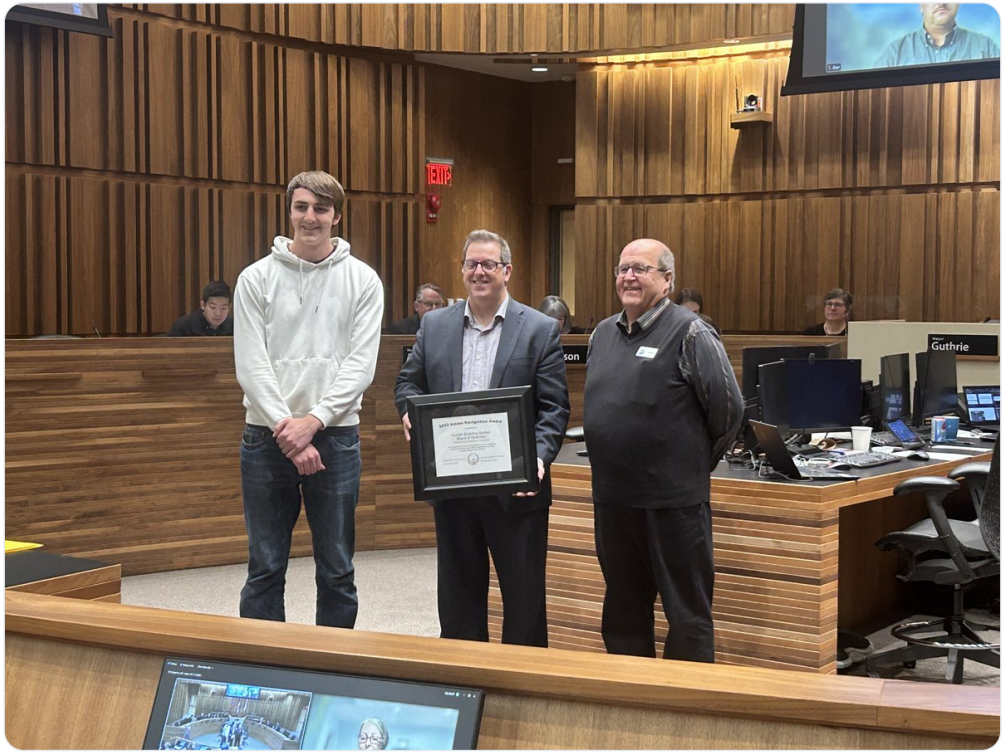
6.5 Outstanding Contribution of a Business

MyLife Counselling Guelph

***7. Team Canada Under 12 Recognition**

Sevi Brown
Penelope Hunt
Cara Parker

Pics:





Pics part 2:



Minutes from Council Meetings held October 11, 17 and 24th and the Committee of the Whole Meeting held September 6, and October 3 approved.

Committee of the Whole consent items:

9.1 Staff Report - Mayor and Council Expense and Education Policy Update - 2023-411



Recommendation:

1. That Council approve the updated Mayor and Council Expense and Education Policy, attached as Attachment-2 to the report entitled "Mayor and Council Expense and Education Policy Update" dated November 6, 2023, and repeal the Policy on Councillor Attendance at Municipal Events.

9.2 Redesigning Advisory Committees of Council – A Governance Framework - 2023-413



Correspondence:

*John Fisher

Recommendation:

1. That the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework, included as Attachment-1 to report 2023-413, dated November 6, 2023, be approved.
2. That City staff, in partnership with the Guelph Lab and University of Guelph, be directed to apply the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework to existing Advisory Committees of Council and report back to City Council in Q4 2024.
3. That the City Clerk be directed to prepare annual information reports, beginning in 2025, detailing the status of the implementation of the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework, included as Attachment-1 to report number 2023-413, dated November 6, 2023.
4. That the City Clerk be directed to research random representative sampling models for appointments to Advisory Committees of Council, as described in report number 2023-413, dated November 6, 2023, and report back to City Council prior to the 2028-2031 multi-year budget.
5. That the budget implications associated with the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework, included as Attachment-1 to report number 2023-413, dated November 6, 2023, be referred to future multi-year budgets.
6. That Advisory Committee of Council member recruitments and appointments be paused until Q4 2024, excluding recruitments required to ensure quorum can be maintained.

Staff Report - Mayor and Council Expense and Education Policy Update passes 12-1 with Billings against.

On Redesigning Advisory Committees of Council – A Governance Framework. O'Rourke wants to change the wording of rec #2,

- approved.
2. That City staff, in partnership with the Guelph Lab and University of Guelph, be directed to apply the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework to existing Advisory Committees of Council and report back to City Council in Q4 2024.
3. That the City Clerk be directed to prepare annual information reports, beginning in 2025, detailing the status of the implementation of the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework, included as

O'Rourke says that she wants to change the wording to read that the ACOC should "help" shape the strategic goals. (Actually she's referring to commitment #2 in the actual report and not recommendation #2 in the motions.)

City staff consider whether other forms of engagement are more appropriate. This is explored in more detail in Part 2 of the Framework.

Commitment #2: ACOCs should shape the City's strategic goals

An ACOC should provide the City with long-term, high-level guidance, that shapes the City's strategic and other guiding priorities as outlined in relevant documents (e.g., the Strategic Plan, Master Plans, the Community Plan). Accordingly, ACOCs should help shape the policy agenda rather than respond to it.

ACOCs should become a more prominent part of the City's governance architecture. The City's "policy pyramid" makes this distinction clearly – ACOCs can best help the City answer the question, "Are we doing the right things?" rather than, "Are we doing things right?". This commitment positions ACOCs as an important community engagement mechanism for enabling residents to shape the city they live in. This commitment also means that ACOC members should be involved in defining problems and identifying potential solutions rather than exclusively being asked to provide feedback on solutions that are already being proposed or have already been decided, a concern raised by several research and community engagement participants. ACOCs may still provide feedback on the implementation of strategies (i.e., more operational decisions) when appropriate or when legislated to do so but should primarily be engaged in the development of policies, strategies and master plans, and the evaluation and

So the O'Rourke motion will change that wording, which means rec #1 will read "As amended at the end."

John Fisher

Recommendation:

1. That the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework, included as Attachment-1 to report 2023-413, dated November 6, 2023, be approved.
2. That City staff, in partnership with the Guelph Lab and University of Guelph, be directed to apply the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework to existing Advisory Committees of Council and report back to City Council in Q4 2024.
3. That the City Clerk be directed to prepare annual information reports, beginning in 2025, detailing the status of the implementation of the Advisory Committees of Council Governance Framework, included as

Motion to approve the amendment approved.

Motion to approve the amended recommendations approved.

Caron says that she would like to raise a matter of the formation of working groups. Clerk O'Brien says that could be tabled now, but that might be more inline for tomorrow's meeting since there's a bicentennial recommendation in the budget.

Guthrie asks Caron if she would be fine doing that motion tomorrow about establishing a community working group for the bicentennial. Caron says she wants guidance since it's not technically a *budget* motion. Guthrie says it can still be a budget motion so stay tuned tomorrow.

Moving on, Daytime Drop-In Services Update. There's the report from staff but no presentation. There are 3 delegates through.

Morgan Dandie is first. She implores council to cover the daytime programs at the Royal City Mission for the next three months. She spent a lot of time communing with the under-housed during her elxn campaign.

On a personal note she says that she's waiting for the official letter telling her when she'll be evicted. Hard to find a job when you're in your late 50s, and without RCM she says she'd feel more in despair b/c she knows she has somewhere she can go.

Dandie says that she understands there are issues downtown, but the vast majority of people at RCM are not part of the problem. Can't let a small group dissuade us from supporting the most vulnerable in our community.

"Royal City Mission isn't just a place, it's a community." Dandie adds.

Next, Kevin Coghill from Royal City Mission. He thanks council for their support and starts with a story about witnessing a stabbing across the road from a high school where he was coaching some young wrestlers. His point is that violence can happen anywhere in Guelph.

Coghill says that he can take his anxieties and worries home to a nice warm bed every day. The word he hears a lot is desperation, people waiting for 5-8 years for housing, and that's despite great successes in Guelph the last few years.

He says people need UBI and affordable housing, and Coghill realises that this is outside the brief of city council, but they're left to deal with the results. He has 11 photos on his phone of people from RCM that died this year, all but 2 were "death by poverty."

Coghill says we're here at winter again and there are no sustainable options. He says RCM can fill the gap as council continues to work towards those solutions, it's a stop gap, but an important one.

Busuttill asks about other orgs stepping up. Coghill says he doesn't know of any, but would welcome them. She also asks about operations. Coghill says 203 is daily average, 1,800 unique individuals, and 75k total meals.

Coghill says there are always at least 3 people on the floor, sometimes 4 depending on the demand.

Downer asks about the funding from 12-7:30. Coghill says that's individual donors. Coghill says they cannot guarantee 12 hours when they only have guaranteed funding for 4 hours. Downer says that staff would have to see the break down of costs and services.

Mark Anderson, managing director for RCM, comes down and says that they have to sit down and looking at the full breakdown of costs. Fundraising is stagnant, not down, but the costs are going up. Staff are underpaid and exhausted, need to look at ways to maintain them.

Anderson says at minimum, with current funding, they can look at 4-6 hours per week. They were also looking at 8 if the community benefit agreement were to be the same. He says the draft budget for drop-in and meal program for 12 hours was about \$1 million per year.

Un-Fun Fact: HOPE House is not longer providing breakfast for RCM anymore.

Allt asks if RCM has audited financial statements. Coghill says yes, though they don't have 2023 yet.

Allt asks about RCM using funds for capital improvements. Coghill says they got new fridges from Fed grants, and the bathroom upgrades were paid for by another church.

Allt asks about burnout. Coghill says they've done well on that, but they do have one staff member out right now. Watching people suffer everyday is unhealthy. So when someone's off, they're not drawing a paycheque.

Goller says they definitely *want* to support, but the increase from \$20k to \$60k is tough. He asks if RCM is looking at other funding? Coghill and Anderson say "always" at the same time.

Anderson says the tricky bit was asking for 12 hours, which he says is the right ask, but they're facing notorious low fundraising months from Jan-Mar, and they've had to dip into reserves this year.

O'Rourke asks how the funding landscape has changed over the last couple of years. She's not insensitive, but council will be looking to "take an axe" to some of its own projects tomorrow.

Anderson says they hardly ever got government funds before COVID. They ended up becoming the only place open during the day thru COVID & thus started getting new funding and able to reshape their programs. Now they've become *the* provider. Putting most donations to operating now

O'Rourke asks if they've expended their services. Anderson says that they used to do dinner and 4 hours, now they do three meals, they have a storage bin program, they're trying to start a rec program, it's a lot bigger than it was before.

O'Rourke asks if they've added more staff. Anderson says they're mostly covering things with agreements through other programs like Stepping Stone. Haven't added staff since start of year when they went to 12 hours.

One more delegate, and then Guthrie says he's going to have council go in-camera to hear more info.

Next, Paul Costello from OPIRG says that his group strongly encourages council to keep going with RCM whom OPIRG has a partnership with. He's seen people with every kind of need there, and RCM is one of the only places where the poor can find humane treatment.

Motion by Goller/Klassen:

Authority to move into closed

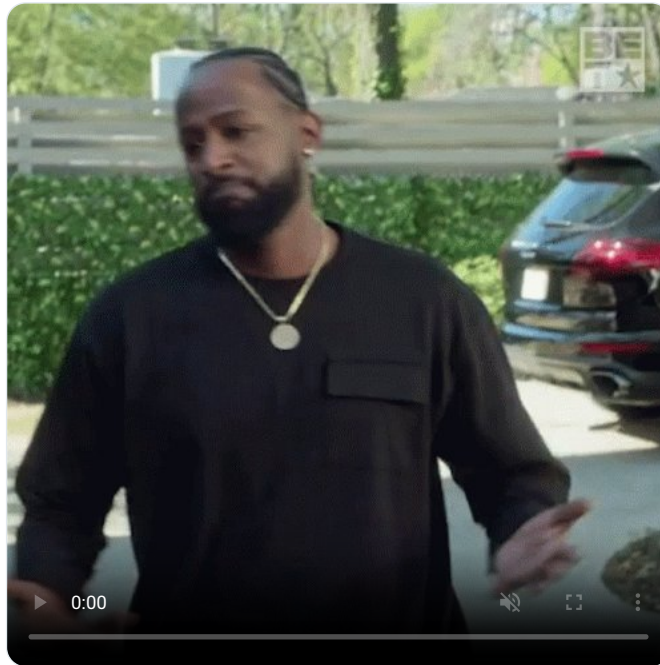


1. That the Council of the City of Guelph now hold a meeting that is closed to the public, pursuant to the Municipal Act, Section 239(2) (b) and (k) of the Municipal Act relating to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board to consider Daytime Drop-In Services Update

Council is moving in-camera, so we'll see what happens next...



Quick update:



Council and staff are emerging from the closed session. Stand by!

Mayor Guthrie calls the meeting back to order. He says there's a motion coming resulting from the discussion. but first, the motion to receive the report for information, which is approved.

The motion, which is to fund an extension of the current pilot program with Royal City Mission to offer drop-in service hours 6 days a week, at a maximum cost to the City of \$21,322 per month. The pilot extension will be from January 1 to March 31.

Daytime Drop-In Services Update



1. That staff be directed to offer an extension of the current pilot program with Royal City Mission to offer drop-in service hours 6 days a week, at a maximum cost to the City of \$21,322 per month. The pilot extension will be from January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024, and the total cost of \$63,966 be taken from the Tax Rate Operating Contingency Reserve.

Goller says that he hopes this is a stop gap till the City and the County can get all its eggs in the same basket till the housing symposium later this winter.

The motion is approved unanimously.

Goller asks if he should table a motion to have staff to bring forward a report sometime in the spring about daytime shelter options. DCAO Clack-Bush says she believes council should wait till the symposium to look at other options for that wholistic approach.

Next, O'Rourke's motion about intimate partner violence. Richardson will second it.

Recommendation:

WHEREAS more than 70 municipalities and regions across Ontario including Hamilton, London, Ottawa, Toronto, Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge and Windsor, along with Peel, Durham, Halton and Waterloo Regions have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic, and;

WHEREAS on August 16, 2023 Justice Minister Arif Virani described gender-based violence as "an epidemic" in the federal government's formal response to the Culleton, Kuzyk & Warmerdam (CKW) Inquest JURY RECOMMENDATIONS, also stating that his government is committed to ending the gender-based violence epidemic "in all its forms, and is working to address any gaps in the Criminal Code to ensure a robust justice system response," and;

WHEREAS by declaring gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic, Guelph can join the growing number of municipalities, regions and organizations like Ontario Big City Mayors and AMO in demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic and;

WHEREAS the incidences of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and have not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of intimate partner and gender-based violence has not kept pace, and;

WHEREAS in 2022, the Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability estimated that one woman or girl is killed every 48 hours in Canada,

WHEREAS Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis served 998 women and 54 children across all its program areas in 2022 and fielded 2,452 crisis calls and;

WHEREAS Guelph Police Services attended 1,659 calls for service related to various domestic incidents in 2022, up slightly from 1639 calls for service in 2021.

Recommendation:

1. That the City of Guelph Recognizes the issue of gender-based violence in Guelph as serious to the health and wellness of our residents and their families.
2. That Guelph City Council declares that intimate partner violence and violence against women is an epidemic, in accordance with Recommendation #1 of the CKW Inquest.
3. That the Province of Ontario be requested to declare that intimate partner violence is an epidemic, in accordance with Recommendation #1 of the CKW Inquest.
4. That the provincial and federal governments be urged to enact the additional 85 recommendations from the CKW Inquest into the 2015 murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, Ontario, which provide a roadmap to preventing intimate partner violence from escalating to femicide.
5. That the provincial and federal governments provide the necessary support to municipalities, regions and their emergency and social services to meaningfully address the gender-based violence and intimate partner violence epidemic.
6. That the recommendations from the CKW Inquest be referred to staff for consideration and, where appropriate, in accordance with the spirit of Recommendation #10, and set out gender-based violence/intimate partner violence as a named priority within the Community Plan.
7. That staff, leveraging the Community Plan as a forum for convening interested partners and collaborating where appropriate, empower the community to raise awareness about and take action to support those impacted by intimate partner violence.

8. That staff provide an update to Council to outline the changes proposed to the Community Plan.
9. That intimate partner violence be included in any future updates to Guelph's Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan.
10. That Guelph City Council respectfully request Guelph Police Services Board share a report that outlines how the police service meets or intends to address the recommendations contained in the Inquest.
11. That this resolution will be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, The Honourable Charmaine A. Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario, The Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, MP Lloyd Longfield, MPP Mike Schreiner, the Guelph Police Services Board, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Ontario Big City Mayors.

O'Rourke says that this stats in the motion are the tip of the iceberg because it take a lot of courage for someone to report. The says this is important b/c declaring the epidemic was the #1 rec out of the Inquest into the 2015 murders of Culleton, Kuzyk and Warmerdam.

O'Rourke says this is important because there are tangible actions that the City, the Police and the community can take and it's an invisible epidemic that also touches women's families, friends and workplaces. Important to work with GWWIC to make a meaningful motion.

O'Rourke says that we should not wait for another inquest or national report to take action. She's heard from a lot of women who support the motion and have shared with her their stories. There's about 1 incident of femicide each week.

One delegate for this item, and it's Cindy McMann the public educator from Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis. She agrees that the sooner we call IPV an epidemic, the stone we can act. She notes that ONgov has been reticent to do so b/c its not "infectious".

McMann says they (GWWIC) supported 998 clients last year, and this is the tip of the iceberg because most victims of IPV do not immediately pick up the phone and call the police or the women's shelter. This is not an intimate matter between couples.

McMann says the recommendations from the Renfrew inquest are a gift and we can leverage the strengths of our community to find solutions.

Caton thanks O'Rourke for brining his forward and notes that every intersecting group increases the risk, disabled people too are also especially at risk and thanks council for the recognitions.

O'Rourke motions pass unanimously.

Bylaws of the week approved!

***12.1**

By-law Number (2023)-20855

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



***12.2**

By-law (2023) - 20858

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of Guelph City Council held November 28, 2023.



Guthrie says he will see everyone bright and early for the budget meeting.



That's a wrap!

@threadreaderapp unroll please!

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