

Stratford Town Crier

Town Crier, October 28, 2023

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedule

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED SPECIAL AND PUBLIC MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford has **re-scheduled** the Special and Public Meeting pursuant to subsection 26(3) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, to **December 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers located on the 2nd floor of Stratford City Hall at 1 Wellington Street, Stratford, ON, N5A 6W1.

The purpose of the Special Meeting of Council is to formally initiate the process to review and update the City of Stratford's Official Plan and obtain feedback on land use matters that Council and the public would like to be considered during the process.

The City's Official Plan Review will satisfy the requirements of a Comprehensive Review, as specified by the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), 2020. The Official Plan Review applies City-wide.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT:

An Official Plan is a long-term policy document that guides land use planning in the City. The purpose of the Official Plan Review is to update the policies of the Official Plan to conform to Provincial planning policies and legislation. As part of the Official Plan Review, a Land Needs Assessment will be completed to ensure that the City is planning for future population, job, and housing growth. The Official Plan Review process will develop forward-thinking policies to guide land use, growth, and development over the next 25 years.

The *Planning Act* requires that a municipality update its Official Plan at least every five years. The City completed its most recent review of the Official Plan in 2015. The Official Plan Review provides an opportunity to confirm the community's vision for the future and respond to recent and emerging changes in Stratford.

Your input and ideas are important for the City to undertake a meaningful review of its Official Plan. Future opportunities to get involved will be made available as the project progresses.

The City's current Official Plan is available for review online at: <https://www.stratford.ca/en/inside-city-hall/planning.aspx#Official-Plan>

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

The purpose of a Public Meeting is to share information and to hear and consider public comments on what revisions may be required as part of a proposed update to the City's Official Plan. This information and any comments made can then be reviewed prior to Council consideration of an updated Official Plan. Please note Council will not make a decision at the Public Meeting.

Your comments on this matter are important. Please call, mail, e-mail or fax your comments to:

Adam Betteridge, MCIP, RPP, Director of Building and Planning
The Corporation of the City of Stratford,
P.O. Box 818, Stratford, Ontario, N5A 6W1
Phone: (519) 271-0250 extension 5345
Email: planning@stratford.ca

All those present at the public meeting will be given the opportunity to speak. To speak at the public meeting, when the Mayor asks if there are any members of the public wishing to provide comments or ask questions, please raise your hand and once acknowledged, proceed to the podium to provide your comments.

To watch the meeting live please click the following link: <https://video.isilive.ca/stratford/live.html>

A copy of the agenda, including any attachments, will be available in the Council Calendar on the City's website by Friday, December 1, 2023.

Please note that comments and personal information collected in response to this notice will be used to assist City Staff and Council in preparing the updated Official Plan and will be form part of the public record.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED:

If you wish to be notified of the Council decision on the updated Official Plan you must make a written request to the City Clerk by way of email, in person or regular mail/courier as listed above.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Further information may be obtained by visiting the Planning and Building Services Division located on the 3rd floor of the City Hall Annex at 82 Erie Street, Stratford or by calling 519-271-0250 extension 5345 during business hours.

WINTER PARKING ENFORCEMENT HOURS

Running from November 1st to March 31st, winter parking enforcement hours will be in effect from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday (excluding holidays). This is a reoccurring change in parking enforcement hours that takes place each November in accordance with the City's Traffic and Parking By-law.

ALBERT LOT PARKING NOTICE – OCTOBER 30 TO NOVEMBER 3, 2023

During the week of October 30th, work will be undertaken to install four new EV charging connectors in the Albert Parking Lot. Due to the work that is required to set up these new charging stations, the pay by plate machine will be unavailable from October 30th to November 3rd. During this time, paid parking in the lot will remain in effect through use of the HotSpot App. Patrons who are unable or do not wish to use the HotSpot App may continue to pay for parking through other means at any on-street meter or nearby parking lots including Kalbfleisch, Upper Erie, and Lower Erie.

2024 BUDGET

Please be advised of the upcoming scheduled budget meetings listed below. All 2024 budget meetings of the Finance and Labour Relations Committee will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Details on the 2024 draft budget and related information will be posted to the City of Stratford website as available under '2024 Budget'. A survey will also be launched around the time the budget package becomes available, seeking resident feedback on programs and services. Agendas will be posted prior to the scheduled dates on the City of Stratford website under 'Council Calendar'.

- Thursday, December 14 at 9:00 a.m.

- Friday, December 15 at 9:00 a.m.

For any questions regarding the 2024 budget process, please feel free to phone 519-271-0250 ext. 5202 or email stfdbudget@stratford.ca.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

The City of Stratford is looking for a diverse range of volunteers to lend their unique voices and perspectives to help guide the City's decision-making by joining various advisory committees and boards. Community members serving on an advisory committee provide advice and feedback to City Council in a variety of areas, including but not limited to the environment, accessibility, active transportation, heritage and safe communities. Boards have the autonomy to make decisions for the good of their organizations.

Why serve on an advisory committee or board? Volunteering makes a difference in our community and is a great way to give back. It's also an opportunity to help influence decision-making in your local government and be part of democracy in action. You will learn new skills, build your understanding of how municipal government works, and make connections with other passionate members of the Stratford community.

These opportunities are open to Stratford residents and eligible electors who are at least 18 years of age (with the exception of the Youth representatives who can be under 18 years). Additional qualifications may apply depending on the advisory committee or board you are interested in. Experienced and new members are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in volunteering on one of the City's advisory committees or local boards listed below, please complete and return no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2023, an application to the attention of the City Clerk through the following:

Email: clerks@stratford.ca

In-person or mail to:

The Corporation of the City of Stratford,
Attention City Clerk,
Clerk's Office, Ground Floor, Stratford City Hall
P.O. Box 818,
Stratford, ON N5A 6W1

The application form is available through the City's website or by pick-up at the City Clerk's Office.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. The purpose of this Committee is to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities and to provide for involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to full participation in the community. Three (3) citizens positions are available for appointment for 2-year terms.

Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC)

Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the ATAC is to serve as a forum for the public to raise their viewpoints on particular active transportation issues and/or other findings and to bring these interests to the attention of the appropriate staff, departments or standing committees. The ATAC also acts to educate, promote and enhance active transportation in the City of Stratford. There is one (1) citizen representative position available for a 2-year term.

Board of Park Management

Meets on the second Monday of the month at 3:30 p.m. The Board of Park Management deals with matters regarding the maintenance, improvement and expansion of the City's park system. There is one (1) citizen position available for the remainder of a 4-year term (November 14, 2026) concurrent with the term of Council.

Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee

Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 12:00 p.m. The mandate of the Communities in Bloom Committee is:

- foster civic pride, environmental protection and beautification, through community participation;
- to improve the tidiness, appearance and visual appeal of neighbourhoods, parks, open spaces and streets;
- to focus on environmental awareness and preservation of heritage and culture;
- to co-ordinate a host program as required;
- to be financially sustainable.

There are three (3) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

Energy & Environment Advisory Committee

Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. This Committee provides advice to Council on matters relating to waste reduction initiatives, water and energy conservation and preservation of natural areas. There are four (4) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms and a youth representative for the remainder of a one-year term ending August 31, 2024.

Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Heritage Stratford deals with matters relating to the promotion of architectural designing and conserving of heritage architecture and heritage designations. There are five (5) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

Downtown Stratford Business Improvement Area (BIA)

The Downtown Stratford BIA Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:15 p.m. The BIA deals with matters concerning promotion and beautification of the downtown core. To be eligible for appointment, you must be a downtown property owner or business operator. There are two (2) positions available for the remainder of 4-year terms concurrent with the term of Council to November 14, 2026.

Provincial eligibility requirements for persons who may be appointed to the Downtown Stratford BIA are:

- persons who own property that is in either the commercial or industrial property class in the designated city centre and who are shown on the last revised assessment roll;
- persons who operate businesses, either owning the business premises or holding them under a lease requiring the payment of property taxes;
- persons operating businesses in leased space under a gross lease entered into on or before June 11, 1998;
- nominees of persons who qualify under (a), (b) or (c).

Incorporated members shall be represented only by a named person so designated in the corporation's official designation letter for that purpose filed with the City of Stratford.

Stratfords of the World - Ontario Committee

Meets periodically throughout the year at the call of the Chair. The mandate of the Stratfords of the World Committee is:

- to encourage community partnerships which provide additional opportunities;
- to assist with the recurring reunion program with other Stratfords every two years;
- to ensure that the annual Friendship Flower Bed is updated;
- to be financially sustainable.

There are three (3) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

Additional information regarding these advisory committees and boards is available on the City's website or upon request from the City Clerk's Office, 519-271-0250, extension 5237.

LEAF & YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Leaf and yard waste will only be collected in the following forms:

- 110 L Kraft Paper bags
- Certified Compostable bags
- Re-useable Container with label attached

Clear Plastic Bags are NOT accepted and will be left at the curbside. Leaf and Yard waste is accepted at the landfill depot during regular landfill hours.

The next Leaf and Yard Waste collection weeks are:

- October 30 – November 3
- November 6 - 10
- November 13 - 17
- November 20 - 24
- November 27 – 30



FALL HYDRANT FLUSHING NOTICE - REMINDER

Hydrant flushing started on September 26, 2023 and is expected to be active for another two weeks. Each morning the City will update on its social media outlets, where the flushing areas are for that day. General areas are provided however impacts from flushing can sometimes be evident on streets outside of the flushing area. Flushing watermains and hydrants can sometimes lead to discoloured water in the lines. If you experience discoloured water please refer to the City website for information on how to correct the issue <https://www.stratford.ca/en/live-here/discoloured-water.aspx>

ATTENTION STRATFORD PROPERTY OWNERS PROPERTY TAX – 2023 FINAL LEVY DUE DATE OCTOBER 27, 2023 – FINAL REMINDER

For your convenience, property tax payments by cheque may be deposited in the mailbox at City Hall, Rear Entrance. Payment at your bank or on-line/telephone banking is also available. Please make cheques payable to "City of Stratford" and mail to P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1. Pre-authorized payment is available monthly or quarterly, call to inquire. Contact: Tax Department, 519-271-0250, extension 5212.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
Oct 30	Special and Public Meeting	RE-SCHEDULED	

Meetings are open to the public to attend with the exception of In-Camera sessions (please note the adjournment into the In-camera Session is open to the public to attend and observe). Agendas can be accessed from the City's website. Please check the City's website for the Sub-committee, Committee, Council and Advisory Committee Meeting Schedules as these schedules are subject to change.

The Town Crier is available on the City of Stratford's website.

www.stratford.ca