1. ROLL CALL

Present: Ken Burns, Councillor Antoski, Peter Mogk, Nicole DiFilipo

Regrets: David Takacs, Andrew Tonkin, Mark Steinacher

Also Present: Melanie Figueiredo, Selvi Kongara, Alicia Korslick, Leanne Knuckle, Beth Goodger

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

3. PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATIONS (list, if any, available at meeting)

None

4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 City of Brantford Stormwater Funding Option Review Update (no copy)

Moved by Ken Burns
Seconded by Peter Mogk

WHEREAS Brantford has $383 million in aging stormwater infrastructure without appropriate funding for maintenance and renewal, leading to accelerated deterioration, unpredictable failures, and increased costs for reactive repairs versus lower costs for preventative maintenance.

WHEREAS properly maintaining and managing storm water infrastructure is essential to protect the community from flooding, to maintain water quality in natural water courses and to prevent degradation of habitat;

WHEREAS climate change is leading to increased frequency and intensity of severe weather events and impacts to City infrastructure, and Brantford experienced significant flooding from heavy rainfall in 2017 and 2018;

WHEREAS council passed a resolution in September, 2017 requesting “Staff to work in consultation with EPAC to review and report back in 2019 on options for a Stormwater rate to provide a dedicated, stable, fair and equitable funding source, and incent better property management as recommended by the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario”;
WHEREAS the EPAC researched best practices in stormwater management funding across Canada including receiving presentations from the City of Guelph, City of Mississauga and the City of Waterloo and further consulting with the municipalities of Victoria, B.C. and Halifax, N.S. about their experiences on stormwater programs and sustainable funding approach;

WHEREAS the EPAC reviewed the results of the preliminary feasibility study on “Stormwater Funding Options Review for Brantford” (Study);

WHEREAS the Study reviewed existing stormwater program services and costs, existing funding sources, investigated various funding options and recommended that “Stormwater User Fee-Variable Rate” option will provide a dedicated, sustainable, fair and equitable source of funding for the stormwater program in Brantford;

THEREFORE the EPAC supports the recommendation of the Study and supports undertaking further detailed studies and public consultation in 2019 to develop a fair and equitable funding option and incentive programs for all Brantford’s residents and businesses; and

The EPAC also recommends implementing a public education and outreach program in coordination with community partners to increase awareness and understanding of municipal stormwater management, and the need for dedicated stormwater funding.

CARRIED

Beth Goodger thanked Committee for their feedback about the program, and Chair Ken Burns thanked staff for their collaboration.

4.2 Environmental and Sustainability Branding

Moved by Peter Mogk
Seconded by Cheryl Antoski

THAT the mascot character created by Nicole DiFilipo, approved at the May 24, 2018 meeting (appendix A), to be used as part of Brantford’s sustainability branding and messaging, BE NAMED “Champ”.

CARRIED

5. CONSENT ITEMS

5.1 Accounting for Green Infrastructure in Public Sector Financial Statements
– April 9, 2018 Memo

Moved by Cheryl Antoski
Seconded by Peter Mogk
THAT the memo BE RECEIVED for information  

CARRIED

5.2 Minutes

Moved by Nicole DiFilipo  
Seconded by Peter Mogk

THAT the following minutes BE ADOPTED:

5.1.1 Environmental Policy Advisory Committee – November 29, 2018  
CARRIED

5.3 Sub-committee Updates (if available)

5.3.1 BioBlitz – No Updates

5.3.2 Clean Brantford – No Updates

5.3.3 Canada Day Waste Diversion Initiative

Chair Ken Burns provided updates. The subcommittee met December 6 and reviewed 2018 Canada Day waste diversion practices. For 2019, the subcommittee would like to put emphasis on public education surrounding waste diversion, as well as aim to exceed the amount of waste that was diverted into recycling and compost in 2018. The subcommittee estimates they will need approximately 150 to 160 volunteers to achieve these goals.

Committee members also asked that Staff reach out to the Canada Day organization team to ask about the possibility of an EPAC member participating in meetings and planning.

6. RESOLUTIONS

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

8. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 24, at 5:30 p.m. – City Hall, Charlie Ward Room

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21pm.