

## Meeting Transcript - February 3, 2026 (CM)

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Mayor Bryan Paterson 6:28

Well, good evening. Everyone say, Go a knee, Boo ju n do watch a quay, quay as the Mayor of the City of Kingston, I offer these words in the spirit of this gathering, let us bring our good minds and hearts together as one to honor and celebrate these traditional lands as a gathering place of the original peoples and their ancestors who were entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. It is with deep humility that we acknowledge and offer our gratitude for their contributions to this community, having respect for all as we share the space now and walk side by side into the future. So we were just meeting in committee, the whole closed meeting, we did discuss several items, including a potential City Campus acquisition mediation, update collective bargaining, update with the Kingston Professional Firefighters Association, as well as an update to to report number 14, clause one in closed session. So I will ask for a motion to waive our procedural rules and have the clerk report please.

City Clerk Jaynes 7:31

Moved by Councillor Tozzo, seconded by Councillor Stephen, that council rise from the Committee of the Whole closed meeting that the rules of bylaw number 2021, 41 be waived in the city clerk report all those

Mayor Bryan Paterson 7:40

in favor opposed, and that's carried

City Clerk Jaynes 7:43

and moved by Councillor Tozzo, seconded

City Clerk Jaynes 7:45

by councilor Glenn, that council approved the purchase of 60 Rigney Street for \$6.5 million 1.3 million for facility upgrades and 200,000 for related closing costs, and authorize the director business, real estate and environment to execute any documents requisite to the waiver fulfillment of conditions contained in the agreement of purchase and sale and to surrender and to the surrender of any existing leases at the property. And that council approved the use of internal boring of up to 8 million from the municipal reserve funds as a temporary funding source for the and that the city treasurer be directed to execute a promissory note to establish appropriate interest in repayment terms. And the council authorized the mayor and city clerk to enter into lease agreements between 1760551, Ontario Inc, and the corporation of the City of Kingston for the premises located at 60 Rigney Street.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 8:28

All those in favor, opposed, and that's carried. Okay, we've already approved the addendum this evening. Are there any disclosures of pecuniary interest? Okay, seeing none. We have no presentations, but we do have several delegations. So first, I'll invite Joe Gratton to appear before council to speak to new motion number two regarding public consultation and engagement practices related to new supportive and emergency housing solutions. And just a reminder to our delegations, you have five minutes, and then we'll open up to questions from members of council. Members of Council. Mr. Gratton

Joe Gratton 9:13

Perfect. Thank you, Mayor and members of council. The last time I stood here, I was hopeful I would be heard today, I'm simply frustrated. I'm here today to speak in support of the motion regarding consultation and public engagement on supportive and emergency housing. To date, this process has been a disaster, and it's clear changes are required. Residents have been stonewalled when seeking basic information. We

raise legitimate questions about site selection, operational impacts, zoning compliance, program effectiveness and neighborhood compatibility, we were told our concerns were unfounded, yet no evidence has been provided to support these claims or address the issues we raised. While it may appear the issue began with the selection of the Palmerston site, it goes back much further. Here. At some point, council made a decision to decentralize supportive and transitional housing from the downtown core into suburban neighborhoods. I've searched for when this decision was made, I've asked staff and reviewed Council agendas and reports. No one's been able to point to a Motion report or recorded debate where this shift was openly discussed or approved. That is the root of the issue. This appears to have been done quietly, without public debate at the very point when residents could have truly held their councilors accountable, instead of a transparent discussion explaining why this approach was necessary, the decision simply appeared supported only by vague references to the city's strategic plan that do not clearly apply here. To date, no concrete facts have been provided to justify this approach. During previous meetings, we were told that supportive housing is welcomed in other communities and that our concerns are unfounded. We were shown a chart indicating that approximately, and I might have it not quite right, 95% of supportive housing units are located downtown. This raises the obvious question, if these facilities are a positive addition to the neighborhoods, and if there are no services and affordable housing options are downtown, and if there are no neighborhood issues, then why does it matter that most units are located in the core? The reality is this, there are impacts, and councils decided that every district must share them, regardless whether this distribution serves residents or communities that may be a policy choice but has never been openly debated or justified with evidence, meaningful consultation must happen before locations are announced. And in the neighborhoods being impacted, communication must be exhaustive and proactive. Reports buried in council agendas are not engagement. Announcing a finalized location and then dismissing criticism is nimbyism is not engagement. This is exactly what happened here after the announcement. Residents sought information on operations, site selection, zoning compliance, outcomes and costs. What we received were vague, high level responses, outright refusals and very few facts. Residents were forced to file freedom of information requests to get the information we were asking. Despite that, the city has failed to meet legislative timelines, resulting in complaints to the province. Since I've read this, there is more, but I have received some submissions, however, they mostly been incomplete and provided very little detail. At some point, the city has adopted a zoning interpretation inconsistent with its past practice. Bedroom provisions exist to control residency, sorry, residential intensity where built form standards alone are insufficient. Excluding rooms based on operational intent undermines that purpose. Treating a non compliant building as compliant based on intent erodes transparency, consistency and public confidence. Finally, I want to address the repeated responses to urgency a housing crisis and the need to move quickly. At the August 12, 2025 council meeting, this council meeting this council rejected a 40 bedroom Development at 92 Napier Street, setting concerns about neighborhood impact, family character, despite that project actually meeting zoning requirements, yet comparable intensity is now permitted in my neighborhood through administrative interpretation. If appealed, this will be a significant waste of taxpayer dollars to fight an appeal, and will also drive up the cost of housing as the developer will need to recoup their cost. Councilor Glenn during that meeting noted it's a student focused housing in the middle of one of the last family focused neighborhoods in the district. The contradiction is impossible to ignore. I would like to know what makes that neighborhood worthy of protection and mine not? I support the motion before you consultation, transparency and accountable. Accountability are not obstacles to housing solutions. They are essential to getting them right. Thank you for the opportunity to speak, and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 14:00

Thank you very much. Are there any questions? Councilor Osanic, go ahead.

Councillor Lisa Osanic 14:04

Thank you Your worship and Mr. Gratton for your delegation. I just wondered, based on the consultation engagement you saw for December 19 onward, how do you think that could have been improved?

Joe Gratton 14:21

Thank you for the question. I'd like to start with a few points on accountability, because this is where the current process fails most clearly. By waiting until specific neighborhoods are selected and announced. Council effectively eliminates any meaningful way for residents to hold decision makers accountable once it reaches that stage, the discussion is no longer about policy. It becomes about defending a predetermined site. The result is a familiar and unfair dynamic, 11 councilors supporting a decision that has already been made, while one district councilor and their resident are left isolated. This is not. Ability it is divide and conquer. The proper time for debate was when council decided to decentralize supportive and transitional housing into suburban neighborhoods. That was when councilors should have explained their positions, justified the approach with evidence, and allowed residents citywide to engage. Instead, that policy direction appears to have been adopted without recorded debate, a clear framework or public scrutiny. As a result, residents are now forced into reactive, site specific disputes, where outcomes feel predetermined by the time a neighborhood is named or a location is named, the question shifts from Is this the right policy to Why are you opposing it that framing is both misleading and unfair. This problem was compounded by the lack of a clearly defined program, policy criteria. Had Council established a framework in advance, outlining objectives, siting criteria, operational models, zoning implications, performance measures and mitigation strategies, residents could have offered informed, constructive input instead, when asked basic questions about effectiveness, costs, enforcement and long term outcomes, these answers were not available. This tell us, tells us the policy was not fully developed before implementation began. At this very council meeting, Council is discussing a detailed policy framework for student housing, density limits built form guidelines, partnerships and neighborhood compatibility with far more scrutiny than the supportive housing program, even the local MPP has weighed in. Meaningful engagement requires involving the public when input can still shape decisions, not after choices are finalized. It also requires council to stand behind its decision transparently, rather than deferring difficult conversations until they can be localized and contained. This is not about delay. It is about restoring accountability, credibility and public confidence in how these decisions are made,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 16:59

okay, seeing no other questions. Thank you very much, sir. Okay, our next delegation will invite Nick Graham to appear before council to speak to new motion number four regarding the Student Housing Strategy.

Nick Graham 17:18

Your worship and councilors. My name is Nick Graham. I'm a Kingston resident and a board member of the Sydenham District Association. I'm speaking today on behalf of five community associations that represent Kingston's inner districts, the Sydenham District Association, the Kings court Community Association, the McBurney Park neighborhood association, the Portsmouth community District Association and the Williamsville Community Association. There is an urgent need for the City of Kingston

to clearly signal to residents developers and post secondary institutions that student housing will be addressed through a coordinated and strategic approach as a group of five impacted neighborhood associations, we strongly support motion four, brought forward by Councillors Glenn and Cinanni to develop a student housing strategy. We have talked with many residents who are deeply worried about the erosion of established neighborhoods and the need to better provide accommodation for students permanent residents are particularly concerned about the studentification of downtown neighborhoods. Equally importantly, we have heard from student representatives expressing the urgent need for quality housing that is affordable, safe and close to campus. Further developers deserve clarity around the design and location of proposed student focused housing projects that are critical to addressing Kingston's housing crisis. Post Secondary students account for approximately 20% of Kingston's population, and so we're pleased to see that the first draft of the new official plan recognizes the impact student housing has on the overall supply and demand for housing in the city. The draft official plan states, quote, an intentional strategy and focus must be made to address the unique housing pressures associated with post secondary students. End, quote, there cannot be a complete City of Kingston housing strategy without specifically addressing student housing. Student housing demand is closely associated with the shortage of family and affordable housing in Kingston. Growing student demand has increased pressure on the housing market. This has contributed to the conversion and displacement of family homes and affordable rental units. These pressures are increasing. The Queen's student Queen's University student population has nearly doubled from 17 and a half 1000 in the year 2000 to 35,000 last year, according to Queen's Own information, roughly 80% of these students live off campus the 2023 24 City of Kingston, growth. Study predicts the post secondary student population will increase by another 38% over the timeline of the Official Plan, placing yet more pressure on neighborhoods at the same time, these new students deserve housing that is affordable, well maintained and close to campus. A student housing strategy can help stimulate development of student housing stock, reduce approval timelines and possibly bring in provincial or federal funding, while reducing pressure on existing affordable housing and neighborhoods. In support of the proposed motion, we argue that a student housing strategy needs to include data to inform action, particularly around how many students live in our communities, policies to protect and preserve housing stock for families and long term residents, advocacy for expanding on campus student housing, clear guidance for off campus, purpose built student housing, and collaboration between The City of Kingston and educational institutions. In summary, the status quo can only result in continued conversion of family neighborhoods into student neighborhoods. Shortage of quality student housing for students living close to campus, reduced availability of affordable housing for kingstonians and degradation of property standards in affected neighborhoods, a student housing strategy will help address these problems, leading to improved student housing protection of neighborhoods and faster and lower risk opportunities for developers. The five associations representing Kingston's core, therefore strongly urge the adoption of this motion. Okay.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 21:41

Thank you very much. Are there any questions from Council? Councillor Glenn,

Councillor Conny Glenn 21:47

thank you and through you, Mr. Graham, thank you very much for coming to delegate today. I just would like you to please just list the five district associations, if you don't mind, so that everybody's aware of who you're representing, because I think it helps to be clear,

Nick Graham 22:03

yeah, so the Sydenham District Association, the Kings court Community Association, the McBurney Park neighborhood association, the Portsmouth community District Association and the Williamsville Community Association.

Councillor Conny Glenn 22:17

Thank you very much, and your support and theirs are appreciated. Applause.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 22:22

It. Okay, seeing other questions. Thank you very much. Thank you. Okay, our third and final delegation this evening will invite Julie Sharrard to appear before council to speak to new motion number two regarding public consultation and engagement practices related to new supportive and emergency housing solutions.

Julie Sharrard 22:55

Thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening. My name is Julie Sharrard. I've been a Kingston resident for 27 years, and I've lived three doors down from one of Ryan Dale's transitional housing residents since it opened in 2010 I honestly don't know what the public process looked like when the residents opened in our neighborhood. I don't know whether there was resistance or concern at the time. It may have happened at a point in my life when I wasn't paying close attention to civic affairs, and it definitely happened before social media amplified fear and worst case scenario assumptions like it does today. What I do know is this, Ryan Dale's arrival felt no different than any other house being brought or sold in my neighborhood. People moved in, life continued. The only noticeable difference was a small sign that appeared in the window for nearly two decades, I've had zero issue with residents, not once. I've heard, never heard, of problems involving them in our neighborhood. If anything, there's been a positive and welcome presence adding to the diversity and humanity of our community. The house itself has always been well maintained, and the residents have always been respectful and kind. I've read the comments from people who are worried about safety and property values. I can speak from my lived experience, homes in our neighborhood have continued to rise in value and sell without difficulty. Living next to Supportive Housing has not harmed our neighborhood in this way, there's also a financial reality that we cannot ignore. Study after study shows it's cost far less to house people than to leave them unhoused. In Canada, supportive housing typically costs around \$30,000 per person per year. Leaving someone unhoused can cost 55,000 to over \$100,000 per year through their use of emergency services, hospital visits, policing and shelters, housing people is just not is not just compassionate, it's fiscally responsible. I understand the change can feel uncomfortable, especially when people imagine worst case scenarios and focus only on the negatives, but my lived experience has shown me that those fears do not match reality. Supportive Housing can and does exist peacefully in residential neighborhoods. As a mother, I've had to explain to my child why people are living on the street. I've also had to explain that what ryandale is and why it exists, one of those conversations is much easier to have, and it makes me feel better about who we are as a community. My hope is that when supportive housing is introduced into communities that may not traditionally welcome it, the process centers on sharing real experiences, like my family's clear information and honesty, rather than fear. Neighbors deserve reassurance, but future residents deserve dignity. I choose to be Ryan Dale's neighbor. I chose to make my house our family's home with Ryan. Ryandale as part of my neighborhood, we trick or treat at their residents, just like we do at every other house. We baked cookies for them. Ryandale residents have stepped in to help neighbors in moments of distress, staff and residents have cheered on my child as she learned to ride her bike. It's the people in the neighborhood, including the residents of ryandale, who make it hard to even imagine leaving ryandale is an example of giving people a hand up and setting them up for future success. I'm

grateful for ryandale. I'm grateful ryandale is part of my community, and I'm proud that the City of Kingston is trying to do better by continuing to choose housing humanity and evidence over fear. Thank you for your time.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 26:10  
Are there any questions Council,

Councillor Greg Ridge 26:13  
rich, hi. Thank you so much for your delegation. I just, I just wanted clarification on one point, how long have you been living next the ryandale house, just

Julie Sharrard 26:23  
for its entire existence, since it's opened in 2010 in

Councillor Greg Ridge 26:26  
2010 Okay, so that was what I was looking for.

Julie Sharrard 26:29  
Yeah. So as I mentioned, I was not aware of what the public involvement was in the decision to open there, but I do know and will repeat this, that they are a very welcome part of my neighborhood and have been nothing but a positive presence. And I think that having them as part of my neighborhood is a really good exposure for my family to what a community should be.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 27:01  
Thank you so much. Thank you. Councilor Hassan,

Councillor Jimmy Hassan 27:08  
thank you. Your worship and through you. My question to the delegation is, have you noticed or heard from any of your neighbors saying that the value of the houses in your neighborhood is gone up and down, and they are worried about it in the future as well. If that could happen, maybe down the road,

Julie Sharrard 27:32  
I would say that is a non issue in my neighborhood, the value of our houses have continued to rise and sell in very short period of time since purchasing my house almost 20 years ago, it has tripled at least in value, and I have seen other neighbors list their houses and sell within a very short period of time. A lot of that data should be available publicly, but it's not a neighborhood that struggles to sell properly, struggles to sell property when they're priced at fair market value.

Councillor Jimmy Hassan 28:06  
My second question is, if I may ask you, to share with us your advice to the other community who is worried about such things, what you advise as a mother, as a neighbor, for that supportive housing in your neighborhood, what they should do? The fear we heard, and we continue to hear from the resident in the neighborhoods where we are trying to put those houses is rise every day or every time when we try to do that. So I'm seeking your advice to them, what you say as a mother and as a neighbor, they should be worried about it, or they should not be.

Julie Sharrard 28:44  
They should not be worried about it. I think that as a community and like a larger world, we spend a lot of our time focusing on the negatives, and sometimes people choose to live in fear. I have had nothing but positive experiences interacting with the residents of the house and seeing how they've stepped up to help my neighbors and

how they've welcomed my family, whether it's out trick or treating or watching up for my child. I think at the end of the day, we just have to remember that we all have pasts and that not everyone has had the benefit of the past that we have had that have led us to own residences in these neighborhoods. That's a huge privilege, and I think that being able to share our neighborhood with people who do need this hand up is good for us all. It's eye opening, and I think people will be pleasantly surprised by how this can enrich their neighborhood.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 29:53  
Okay, thank you next councilor.

Councillor Ryan Boehme 29:56  
Boehme, thank you, your worship and through you. Thank you so much for appearing to. And sharing your story. If it wasn't for the sign that you mentioned, would you even know that it was a supporting, supportive housing residents?

Julie Sharrard 30:07  
No, I wouldn't know. Like, honestly, it makes me a little sad that there's this debate going on about one of these houses, because I would gladly welcome another one into my neighborhood. The property is always very well maintained. The individuals who work at the property are engaging in our neighborhood, and I honestly have more day to day dialog with a lot of the residents there than I've had with other neighbors who've lived in my neighborhood for 10 plus years. I think that it's easy for us to take for granted the roofs over our head. And I think the residents there don't take for granted the opportunity that they're being given, and that translates to how they interact with the members of my neighborhood. Would it be

Councillor Ryan Boehme 30:58  
fair to say you don't see them as residents of supportive housing, but you see, oh, they're my neighbors, your neighbors. That's good people.

Julie Sharrard 31:04  
Like I would bake them cookies at Christmas, like I would bake my other like they are my neighbors, and they are people who deserve to be welcomed and be part of my neighborhood. That's why I'm here tonight. Thank you so

[FLAG: Otter heard speaker "Unknown Speaker 31:17" saying "much for sharing. Thank you." — likely Mayor Paterson (next line 31:19 is Mayor), possibly Councillor Boehme (just finished question at 30:58)]

Mayor Bryan Paterson 31:19  
Thank you, Deputy Mayor Cinanni,

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 31:24  
hey, thank you so much for coming here and speaking about this and sharing, and I can say that I've gotten emails from you, but it was never about this, no. So I was wondering if there's like, my four way stop though, yeah, well, that's put that on the record. That's coming. I can order it

Julie Sharrard 31:44  
on Amazon, but this might be an easier way to go here anyway.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 31:49  
So I was wondering, is there, like, a something that you can share, like, as you mentioned, about, like, how they, they're, you know, they come out. And then if

there's something that needs help. You know, like, what's one positive moment that really struck you? Like, that stays with you?

Julie Sharrard 32:07

Well, I'm gonna give you two. Okay, very impactful to me, but we live on a busy street, and there's a lot of traffic, and I have a small child who at one point was learning to ride a bicycle, and in between my house and Ryandale is an apartment building, and when we would be getting ready to go for bike rides, she would go out and lap the apartment building while I would be getting the last bits together to leave. And so they can't see me when I'm in my driveway. So she was out doing this, and I went out to join her, and three of the residents were out on the street because they were worried she was by herself, and they were worried that a car wouldn't see her if she came out too fast and went off the sidewalk onto the road. And so they were out there, basically standing to make sure that she didn't go too far, and they were cheering her on. And it like it made me proud that this was how they were choosing to take care of us as a neighborhood. Another instance was my neighbor was out walking his dog one day down out of eyesight of his house, and he happened to fall and break his leg in a way that damaged multiple bones, and they were the first people out to respond. They took care of the dog, they got his wife. They exemplify everything you want in a neighbor.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 33:31

Thank you. So I guess if there was one thing you could tell people you know about being a neighbor for 15 years that you feel is the most important thing that people should know. What would that be?

Julie Sharrard 33:45

You don't get to choose your neighbors. Anyone can buy a house and move into your neighborhood. And I think that if you go into it with a negative mindset, you're just going to continue to look for the negatives, and I think give it an opportunity to succeed and be pleasantly surprised. I wouldn't change a thing about where I live. I choose to live there. We continue to look at properties in many of your districts, and I don't think I could leave because of my neighbors, and them being one of them, I really can't like I could sit here and say a lot of positive things about them, but I think at the end of the day, people really just need to give people a chance. And I think it's a lot easier to again, have the dialog about as a community, why we're choosing to house people instead of some of the other unfortunate living situations that are currently happening in the city. Thank you. You're welcome.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 34:55

Thank you. Councilor, Glenn,

Councillor Conny Glenn 34:57

thank you and through you. Thank you so much. I'm heartened to hear of how good your neighbors are and the compassion that you have for them. So you mentioned maintenance. Suffice it to say, would you be able to say that you don't have to worry about garbage on the street and about them picking up recycling bins and garbage cans at the end of the day.

Julie Sharrard 35:24

So we've had quite the winter, and as residents of Kingston, we are responsible for shoveling in front of our houses, even though a lot of people don't understand that responsibility, and I always find it entertaining that on our walk to school every day, I know that as soon as I get to their house, from their house to my house will be clear, because that is the pride that they take in the residence that they live

in, that by 55 in the morning it has been out, it has been shoveled, it's clear. Their driveway is always clear. There has never been an issue with garbage. It's always been returned to where they store their garbage bins. We had an instance where our garbage wasn't collected. One day they put our garbage into their bin. These are not concerns I have. These are concerns I have with other people who live in my neighborhood, who have purchased their houses and own their houses as residents, but not with the people who are living in ryandale or the people managing

Councillor Conny Glenn 36:31

that property. Might have a couple things to teach the students. Suffice it to say, though, do you find the inclusivity of all of the different sorts of people who live in the city a benefit to you and your

Julie Sharrard 36:47

family? Yes, I love

Julie Sharrard 36:49

how diverse our community is. I think it'd be very it'd be very hard for me to move out of my neighborhood and to give up all of the things that I love about living in the area. That I do. I was a student in town before I transitioned to being a townie, and I loved that phase of my life, but this phase of my life is so much better, because I have such a better understanding of what it truly means to be a Kingstonian and of how I love, how the city has diversified during my time here, there's been a lot of changes that I've celebrated, and that would be one of the changes. And I think that raising a small human I would not change anything about how street smart she is, and how compassionate and caring, and how she understands the privilege that exists in our home, and how we should want to share that with others in our community, because that's really the only way that we all succeed.

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 37:55

Councillor Tozzo, thank you. Mayor Paterson, through you. Thank you very much for your delegation, and I hope your counselor is listening that you get some traffic coming on your street. I question I have is I really appreciate your stories. Have you had any complaints about the neighbors and then surrounding neighbors in the area, about the Ryan deal in your neighborhood? No, when

Julie Sharrard 38:19

this became a hot topic, the in the last few months, I was approached at school, pick up one day by another parent, who asked me if I was one of their neighbors. And I said yes, and they actually had no idea that their house backs on to ryandale, like they can go to their back fence and peek over their back fence and it is ryandale there. They had no clue, and they've lived there for over five years. So I don't know why any of my neighbors would have a concern with their presence in our neighborhood. I would say that we have concerns maybe with some other residential units, but not Ryan Dale. I truly just hope that people give this plan a chance. That's the message I'm trying to convey.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 39:12

Okay, seeing no other questions. Thank you very much. Okay, so we have no other delegations this evening. Are there any petitions to present? Okay, seeing none. We have no deferred motions. We have no special motions, we have no briefings. So we will move on to reports. First up, we have Report Number 13 from the Cao, moved

City Clerk Jaynes 39:34

by Councillor Chaves, seconded by councilor Boehme, that report 13 from the CAO

consent be received and adopted.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 39:41

Okay, there is just the one clause cemetery bylaw amendments. Okay, we will call the vote. Please. Thank.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 40:14

And that carries okay on to report number 14 from the Cao i i moved

City Clerk Jaynes 40:22

by councilor Glenn, seconded by councilor McLaren, that Report 14 from the Chief Administrative Officer recommend be received and adopted.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 40:30

Okay, we just have the one clause, The Tragically Hip final concert, 10th Anniversary planning. Councilor Stephen

Councillor Wendy Stephen 40:37

Thank you, Mayor Paterson, I would last the clerks to please put up a deferral.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 41:01

Okay, so we have a motion to defer. Yes. So moved by Councillor Stephen, is there a seconder seconded by councilor ridge that the item be deferred and staff directed to provide additional information regarding planned city events and activations related to the 20, 26/10 anniversary celebrations of the final concert the chair final concert of The Tragically Hip to council not later than March 24 2026 council meeting. Okay, so rules of debate. It's one minute for a motion to defer councilor Stephen, you have the floor.

Councillor Wendy Stephen 41:35

Thank you. I'll talk fast. The Tragically Hip are a Kingston band, and the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the final concert should be an exciting and celebratory opportunity for the community to come together and to look forward to the events and programming that is yet to come. In closed session, council had the benefit of learning more about the still confidential events and programs that are currently being planned for here in Kingston. Staff have indicated they're not able to discuss activation details, as negotiations are still ongoing, and while there's some risk to approving the funding or sorry to not approving the funding this evening, but that risk really needs to be balanced with council and communities ability to better understand how this requested money will be used ahead of the funding approval. So this motion will hopefully allow staff to return with additional information that can allow Council and community to consider this opportunity with greater insight into what this investment will bring to Kingston.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 42:26

Okay, thank you. Is there anybody else on the motion to defer Council?

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 42:31

Tozo, thank you, Mayor Paterson, through you. Yet again, I find myself in an unusual position where I'm agreeing with a motion to defer I think that there is a lot of uncertainty with regards to what this money is being used for. I certainly have heard considerably from the community about some of the inappropriateness that this money is being spent, considering that there are other really important issues in the community, especially related to food insecurity and housing and homelessness. My hope is that when we do defer this motion, I agree that I think it's appropriate that

we get the public some more information that it can be clarified at that time. So I'm hoping for staff to come back and just provide some more assurances to the community that this money is being well spent, and also some idea of where the money, the this \$350,000 is going but yeah, I think to the community, your voice certainly. We've heard you, and we hear some of the frustrations. And I just, you know, I think we sometimes have to choose between what something popular for the community and whether to spend this money or Thank you. Thank you,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 43:39

[FLAG: Otter heard "Councilor, Miss" — likely "Councillor Amos" because Amos speaks immediately after (43:41); possibly Councillor Osanic if Mayor was addressing her in passing]

Councillor Don Amos 43:41

Thank you, Mayor Paterson, through you like Councillor Tozzo, I want to echo a lot of his comments. I received a number of emails and concerns from my constituents about the amount that was being used. Was really It appeared to be a slightly open check with the inability for council to show their governance and due diligence and what an understanding publicly of what the 350 was being used for. So I am prepared to support the deferral, knowing that I had a a large amount or grave amount of concerns with the original motion. So I look forward to further information coming forward. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 44:22

Thank you. Councilor Boehme,

Councillor Ryan Boehme 44:25

thank you your worship and through you, just to reiterate what was said before, I think the optics of this are very hard to swallow, especially with the current climate out there, so I'll vote in favor of the deferral and hoping that we can understand and maybe reset the narrative on the benefits that go with this, but without that, I don't think this is something that I could support down the road, but willing to see what a deferral could bring to change sort of how this is perceived in the public, which I think we're all getting emails on. I know I sure did. Thank you.

Councillor Jimmy Hassan 44:55

Councillor Hassan, thank you, Your worship through you. I'm agree with my colleagues. I think we need a little bit more information to be a little bit more consultation so we are able to let our constituents know that how it's going to work and what is the reason, legitimate reason is behind I heard the briefings in camera meeting and also concern from the colleagues too. So I am preparing myself as well to support this, definitely for the more information, and thank you for Councillor Stephen to bring it forward.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 45:33

Thank you, Councillor Osanic. Thank you

Councillor Lisa Osanic 45:35

Your Worship. Yeah, just like my colleagues, I support this deferral, and I hope when it does come back at the end of March that staff can have permission to give more information to the public about what this money is being spent on, or else it's really hard to approve this and sell it to our constituents. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 45:57

Okay, thank you Council. McLaren,

Councillor Jeff McLaren 46:01

thank you. I won't be supporting this because I don't support spending this kind of public money on a party. This is bad use of public funds, regardless if they come from property taxpayers or from other taxpayers, they're all the same. So I wouldn't be supporting this in the future, and I think we should vote it down now.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 46:20

Thank you. Next is Councillor Oosterhof,

Councillor Gary Oosterhof 46:29

sorry, Mayor Paterson, yeah, I just want to thank the mover as well and the secondary. I think that this is just a good cause for pause and make sure that we're spending the money wisely, and I will support this to borough. Thank you,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 46:45

Deputy Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 46:48

I'll just be brief. I want to thank councilor Stephen to bring this, make sure that we have all the information. Won't really say too much more about this, but yeah, I'll be supporting this motion.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 47:05

Anybody else on the motion to defer? Councilor Stephen, okay, we will call the vote on the motion to defer please.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 47:40

All right, our systems seems to be frozen. So,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 47:53

okay, that carries by a vote of 12 to one. Councilor McLaren opposed, Okay, moving on. We have nothing from Committee of the Whole information reports. Just raise your hand if you have any questions. Number one annual update on planned road projects, including road condition information. Councilor Osanic,

Councillor Lisa Osanic 48:11

thank you. Your Worship. One question to staff. So we see in this planned road list, there's a lot of like our major roads that will get work done this summer if there's a residential road with multiple multiple potholes all in the same location. What option do we have as a councilor? We can send you the list, Commissioner Semple, of where public works could try to do more than just filling a pothole, but maybe I don't know what the terms would be, but a dig and fill of like a more substantial area. Mr.

Mr Ian Semple 48:51

Semple, thank you, and through you, Mr. Mayor. So certainly, Councilor Osanic, the conditions on our roads can change. And certainly, when potholes are forming, they can change quickly. So sharing information about areas where there is concern, either through contact us or by sending it into city staff, is very much appreciated if there's an area that requires more extensive repair than pothole that is assessed by our teams in Public Works and in engineering, and they can determine the best approach to address that at the time. It may not, you know, within the scope of works that are being completed, the works that are outlined in the report tonight speak to a lot of preventative measures, which is an important approach that that we're

continue, that we're taking, and continue to escalate with our roads, but those reactive repairs will also be necessary. So I think in informing us about those locations, so that we can complete an assessment, and then the teams would be able to determine what the best approach would be. I. I can't dream of

Councillor Don Amos 50:03

Thank you. Patterson, through you, it's noted in the in the report that we are contributing \$75 million towards road repair, and in in the report, it we are hovering around the 50% mark. Is it safe to say that if we as a council or councils, moving forward, dip below that \$75 million mark for a number of years, are we at jeopardy of putting our roads at even worse conditions like the 75 is a nice boost. But is it? If we treat this as a one off, are we still going to see a large decline in our roads. Commissioner Semple,

Mr Ian Semple 50:44

thank you. And through you, Mr. Mayor, I'll maybe ask Director Follwell that's that's on the call joining us virtually to speak to these pieces as it relates to what the investments are and as part of our overall asset management approach.

Luke Follwell 51:01

Yes, hi, thank you. And through you, Mr. Mayor. So in the recent asset management plan that Council adopted, we talked about proposed levels of service, and in the road transportation Asset Management section, we it was identified that approximately \$58 million would be identified over the next 10 years on an annual basis for the road assets, in that preventative maintenance, in that rehabilitation type of work that was was just recently spoke about, and that's what's forecasted over the next 10 years. So the yes, the bump is appreciated, certainly in 2026 but even still at that, you know, \$60 million on an annual basis, we will see our overall road condition decline over that 10 year period. So we'll still be within the fair category, hovering around that 50 point mark, but it is something that, although the significant investment will be there, we will see a slight decline in that condition.

Councillor Don Amos 52:03

Thank you, Director Follwell, so just I want to make sure I heard your number right. I believe you said 58 million is kind of the status quo number that we're aiming at. So the 75 million is a good jump. So councils moving forward, I guess we know the benchmark, and if we want to have basically stop the decline of our 50% road road infrastructure. So appreciate the report, very sobering, but at least this year, we're heading in a positive direction. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 52:41

Okay, thank you. We'll continue on information. Report Number two, quarterly report, tourism, Kingston q4 2025, we had no information reports from members of council, miscellaneous business. So moved by Councillor Tozzo, seconded by Councillor Chaves. So first we have a motion to appoint a councilor to the sustainable Kingston board until this coming November. Is there a volunteer?

Mayor Bryan Paterson 53:15

Okay, so seeing no volunteer, Madam Clerk, can I see you for a moment?

Mayor Bryan Paterson 53:33

Okay, so, given that there's no volunteer, I'm going to ask for a mover to defer the appointment to the sustainable Kingston board until the new term of Council. Moved by Councillor Chaves, seconded by councilor Amos. Do we need to see that up on the screen, or do I've captured it properly? Okay, we'll just do that by hand, vote all

those in favor opposed, and that's carried. Then our second item, miscellaneous business that, as requested by Chrystal Wilson, Our Livable Solutions City Council proclaim February 14, 2026 as a Warm Hearts Day in the city of Kingston, all those in favor opposed, and that's carried. Okay, on to new motions. We have four new motions this evening. So first moved by councilor Boehme, seconded by Councillor Tozzo, whereas the City of Kingston has deep military roots and a strong tradition of honoring service and sacrifice to veterans, and whereas Remembrance Day ceremonies are an important opportunity for residents to gather, reflect and pay tribute to those who have served and whereas the city recognizes that parking enforcement activity during the core hours of these ceremonies may unintentionally discourage or inconvenience residents attending these important events, therefore, be it resolved that council direct staff to pause all parking enforcement annually on members day between 10am and 12pm to support. Community attendance at ceremonies, and that this direction applies specifically to Remembrance Day and not extend to other dates or events, in order to maintain clarity and avoid unintended expansion beyond the scope intended by council. Councilor Boehme, you have the floor.

Councillor Ryan Boehme 55:15

Thank you. Your worship and through you. Just to keep it short tonight, always try to write the motions so they are self explanatory. We are a military city. This is something that we can do. After this past Remembrance Day. I've got numerous sort of notices of people who are one or two minutes late getting back to their vehicle and had a parking ticket from attending a ceremony. And it's kind of one of those frustrating things where I feel like this is something quite simple that we can do to just pause these tickets during that timeframe to recognize the fact that the freedoms and liberties we enjoy today and the sacrifices that were paid for them, we definitely want to increase attendance at these ceremonies and make sure that people are not having this hassle or Fear and they're truly involved and engaged at those ceremonies, and not worrying about, you know, running back through whatever conditions present themselves to try to avoid a, you know, two minute late parking ticket. So that's essentially the cusp of this. And I hope we can be unanimous on this. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 56:18

Thank you. Anybody else on new motion number one, okay, we will call the vote please.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 56:37

Okay, hand votes. It is all those in favor opposed, and that's carried Okay. On to new motion number two, moved by councilor Osanic, seconded by councilor ridge. Whereas the City of Kingston is committed to addressing homelessness and housing insecurity through the development of supportive housing sites and other emergency housing solutions across the city, whereas meaningful, timely and inclusive public engagement is essential to building trust, transparency and community understanding when new supportive or emergency housing sites are being created, whereas recent community feedback has identified concerns regarding the approach to community engagement on the three new supportive housing sites, therefore be resolved that council direct staff to review current public consultation and engagement practices related to new supportive and emergency housing solutions with a specific focus on communications and engagement with near neighbors and the staff be directed to bring forward recommendations to council by July 2026 on improvements to these processes, including, but not limited to consideration of the timing and methods of information Sharing with your neighbors, the scale and format of engagement meetings, confirmation of the role of the site operators in these engagements, and the processes for receiving, responding to and reporting back on community concerns. Councilor Osanic, over to you.

Councillor Lisa Osanic 57:53

Thank you. Your Worship. This motion is to look for improvement in the process. I'll be really interested to see how like what the comparison is of how we're doing it compared to other cities. I know that we're not the only city that is buying housing in neighborhoods for supportive housing, so I'll be really interested to see how that comparison comes out, also, if it is decided that we're allowed under a human rights based approach to continue to, you know, give notification to neighbors, doing the flyers in the mailboxes, then the process that comes back to us, it is going to have to be that we do that notification on a Monday, not on a Friday and not during the last two weeks of December, even if that means that a house closes during the last two weeks of December, we wait until January on a Monday to give that notification, Just to really keep that transparency open. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 59:03

Thank you, Councillor Ridge.

Councillor Greg Ridge 59:06

Thank you Your worship and through you. So yeah, I was very happy to work with Councillor Osanic on this motion and to second it. And I really appreciate her leadership on this. This is this, this issue about communications, especially when sense with the sensitive nature of the supports or the emergency services that are being provided in the neighborhood, is a is one that I've heard many times from constituents. And I think that this is an iterative process. This is something where we learn from what we've done, and then we improve the process over and over again so that there's an acceptable standard operating procedure that we can move forward with. So I'm happy to support this. I'm happy to work towards an ideal solution or an ideal operation that works for everybody. So yeah. Thank you very much. Applause.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:00:01

Thank you. Councilor tozo,

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:00:03

thank you, Mayor Paterson, through you, I actually have a question for staff. So what is our current process right now? I have a general idea, but it would be nice to just formalize that for our decision making. And then what are we directing you to change or reviewing? Because I always like to know what I'm voting for when I put my hand up, applause.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:00:24

Uh, Commissioner camp, thank you.

Commissioner Campbell 1:00:27

And through you, I'm certainly happy to get us started and an unscripted review of the process being delivered off the cuff. Currently, the process is that council acquires properties enclosed when the negotiation period itself then closes and we take possession of the site. We release that information publicly that protects the city's negotiating position. After the information has been released publicly, it was released through a door drop in many instances, we then establish and invite people to community meetings near neighbors are invited into community integration and engagement sessions that are scheduled shortly thereafter. The intent of those meetings is to establish, you know, information sharing and make sure that the community can follow along with the project and understand how they can be involved moving forward at the time that the drop the door drops are made, there is also a get involved Kingston project page, which is launched at the same time that becomes the

location where FAQs are updated and continuously updated as we move towards those community meetings and the eventual operations of the sites. I'm likely missing some elements in there, but in terms of what this motion is requesting, I believe that staff are understanding it to be a consideration of after the property has been acquired, how do we communicate that acquisition with neighbors? How do we educate the broader community? How do we engage operators in, increasingly, in the dialogs with community around those sites. How do we also educate community around what is and isn't open to engagement and consultations who ensure transparency on what they're actually being asked to consult on, and also assuring them of the timelines by which the project will be moving forward, so that they know what to expect and when to expect it and where they can get that information. I certainly welcome Commissioner Carbone or our director of communications to offer any additional thoughts.

JC Kenny 1:02:32

Thank you, Commissioner Campbell, and your worship. I just want to mention, I would say, adding to what Commissioner Campbell is talking about. We are learning through this process as well, and we definitely learned in terms of timing, how we will take we will scrutinize that more so when we're communicating and when we're meeting with near neighbors, we want to be able to do it at a time that works so we hear you loud and clear. Also, Councilor Osanic about the timing, and we learned from that. We learned, we learned. We've learned a number of lessons, but what we're really doing is we're trying very hard. We have a, actually two meetings tomorrow night where we're meeting with near neighbors, and that's what we're trying to do more and more, and keep everybody involved with the process. But as Commissioner Campbell pointed out, we are bound by the municipal act. We cannot we as soon as we can legally start to communicate and do some engagement on our get involved page and with neighbors and with the broader community where we are, that's, that's how we're proceeding.

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:03:44

Thank you. And that's, I think a nice clarification is that our process of purchasing houses in closed session is likely not going to change to this. I'm going to say just a few quiet things loud and I think it's worth noting where we get our direction from as a council for the policy that we give to staff, we get our direction from the public. So when we run for election, we knock on doors, and we hear from 1000s of people who give us direction of where they want the City of Kingston to go. And you know the number one thing I heard at the doors when I was knocking homelessness and housing. So I think it's worth knowing that the policies that we put forward, and this comes becomes a challenge every time we deal with shelter related issues or housing related issues or density related issues, is the public is kind of getting what they're asking for when they when we put these policies forward. So for as far as what the policies that we're putting forward, I fully agree that we can communicate things better, but we are delivering what you told us to do when we ran for election in 2022 and when we knock on doors later this year, we will deliver what you tell us to do. If you're asking for us to solve homelessness, we're going to throw everything we possibly can to solve homelessness. Your Worship. If you're asking us we need more housing, you. Are going to get housing. We listen to the public, and we are the most local accessible levels of government. So I would just say to the public, you're getting what you're asking for. We can certainly do this better. We can work with neighbors, but if this is your top priorities at the door, you know, kind of be careful what you wish for your worship. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:05:22

Okay? Thank you. Councilor. Glenn,

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:05:25

thank you and through you. So I'd like to thank my colleagues for bringing the motion. I do believe that transparency and good communication are critical to the success of so many things we do. However, all that being said, we have to also be careful to be respectful of the rights of others, and those rights are something we all share. So I have a friendly amendment to this. I noted that councilor Osanic mentioned human rights. So if I could have the amendment put up, I sent it to you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:06:13

So where is this amendment?

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:06:18

Okay, so I thought it had been provided to clerks. Can I read it then?

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:06:27

So do you have it in an email form? Can you just quickly send it to them? The

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:06:50

Council. Glenn, once you've sent it, if you want to read it and start to speak to it, that's fine, and the clerks can just kind of work away and then get it up on the screen.

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:06:57

So I send it now it's fine, okay, so it'll be coming up in just a moment. Just let me get down to it. So basically, in the direction to staff is to insert after processes, so improvements to processes that are consistent with a human rights based approach to housing and related services for vulnerable residents. So that's the addition. I think it's fairly self explanatory that as we're reviewing this, we simply want to make sure that we are respecting the rights of everyone. We've heard a lot of suppositions about people moving in. We've actually had a lot of people inquire about things that you would never inquire about of other neighbors, what kind of background they have, what's their medical condition, you know, who are these people? Those aren't questions you get to ask of anybody who moves in next door to you. I know sometimes you might wish that, but that's not the world we live in, and there's a reason for that. People are entitled to their privacy. They're entitled to their dignity. So I want to make sure that we are consistent in providing that no matter who is moving in next door,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:08:28

okay, so the motion to amend, as councilor Glenn has read, it's just adding the text that's in bold into the paragraph. So that's moved by councilor Glenn, seconded by councilor Osanic, okay, okay, the amendment is on the floor. Does anybody wish to speak to it? Councilor shaves

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:08:53

actually leave that to stop, please. Okay. Do

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:09:11

okay, just looking at that, where states that are consistent with human rights based on approach to housing and relative services for vulnerable residents, why vulnerable shouldn't be based on individuals. Everyone just wondering why we're limited into vulnerable residents.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:09:33

Well, I guess you can ask, you can ask the mover. I

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:09:40

think it was just maybe to clarify that in this instance, when we are looking to provide supportive housing, we are talking about vulnerable residents, but yes, it applies to all residents.

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:09:54

Okay, just want to make that clear. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:09:57

Okay, thank you. Any other discussion? Uh, so if not, we will call the vote on the amendment. All those in favor opposed, and that's carried. Councilor Glenn, was there anything else you wanted to say to the motion?

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:10:17

No, I think that the motion is a good one, and I'm looking forward to seeing it proceed.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:10:22

Okay. Thank you. Next is councilor Hassan.

Councillor Jimmy Hassan 1:10:28

Thank you worship and through you. Thank you, Councilor Osanic and Councillor Ridge for bringing this very important motion forward from last three years since I'm part of this the council, I have heard a lot of time over and over, the same concern of engagement process is not clear. It's not good enough for the public. Also, I learned a lot of things. A lot of the issues or ideas are pointed out in last meeting to the delegation, even today, the one of the delegate, he described how the public want to see it. I basically just want to urge the staff, I know we have a very good process in place to get the public engaged. And quite often is public is not engaged until something happening into the particular neighborhood like happening now in that neighborhood we were discussing in the last meeting for the housing issues. But I also realized, and Commissioner Campbell also recognized that we have still some gaps, we still can improve this public engagement, and we can provide a little bit more awareness to the public how they can get that engaged. Also, Councilor tozo has highlighted that at the doors in the during the campaign, we was asked a lot about this housing issues, and now we are trying to do this one, and we are facing a lot of challenges every neighborhood we go, whether it's a student housing even, or the transitional housing or supportive housing. I have been recognizing and facing these challenges throughout the last three years in every neighborhood the some of the neighbors are not happy with it, and some of the neighbor is is very happy with it. So I don't know what is our direction should be the clearly, we are trying to do what we promised during the campaign. We are trying to do our job what we heard on the doors, and now we are facing the a lot of challenges and criticism also, which is, as I said, beauty of the democracy, you know, the we can get information through the criticism, and then we also can improve through the criticism. And this is motion is just for for that, because a lot of criticism has been coming forward for our process to get engagement buying the property, and after that engagement is need to be improved. So if we are in the future, doing such project, I think is buying the property in camera, that is okay, but deciding where we're going to do, what we're going to do, how we're going to do it, that that parties need to be improved to get the public engagement. And I'm very happy, and I'm very thankful for the this motion, to see it and happy to support it. And I hope that we will bring those improvement because we also all promise to our constituents that we will work hard to make our government more transparent, our process more transparent, and that's what we need to

do. And this is motion clearly stating that we need to be little bit more transparent when it's come to the public consultation. Thank you very much.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:13:52  
Okay, thank you. Next is councilor shaves.

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:13:57  
Thank you. I do support this motion, and I do understand the frustrations from residents, as been stated before. Seems like we doing closed sessions, behind closed doors, secret sessions. However, I also know that we're also handcuffed by the procedures and everything that we can do, basically behind closed these type of purchases are done behind in closed session, and we're not able to discuss the details until the final approval is done. And then it comes to open session and we make the final approval. And generally speaking, there's gonna be a question to staff, generally speaking, when it comes from closed to open, which is matter of hours, if that, generally speaking, are the details of the operation of the supportive house available to be shared at that time.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:15:02  
Aye. Commissioner Campbell,

Commissioner Campbell 1:15:05  
thank you, and through you, I'm happy to start and if director Hartley has anything to add, when council made the decision to purchase these properties in closed session, there was an immediate reporting out on the district where the property had been purchased, and the Get Involved Kingston page launched and went live with information about supportive housing. Then when the properties actually closed and the city took possession of them, is when the specific addresses were released and the door drops were initiated, providing specific information to those adjacent neighbors. I would add that in the interim between that announcing in open session about the purchase in the district to the release of the specific property address. Certainly, rumors began very quickly, and individuals began to question whether or not it was a property near to them. And that's one of the timeline pressures Council, I think would like staff, to consider, is, how do we balance that window in which concern and uncertainty can grow against the timing of releasing information? So in this instance, the information was released as soon as the property closed, to clarify some of those misconceptions and those rumors. But we also have heard and appreciate that there has been questions around a Friday versus a Monday or before a holiday or after?

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:16:32  
Okay, I just look waiting for another response. Okay. We're not just talking about the recent purchases. I'll bring up 928, Sydenham road at that point in time, when we brought it forward, there was very little information that we could share. We didn't know the OP, the operator for the facility, or what programs they operate. Was that correct?

Commissioner Campbell 1:16:53  
Thank you. Interview, yes, that is correct,

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:16:58  
and it wasn't just until recently that regards to the operator that had to go for tender, did it not? And that was a that was a bit of a process. Spec, it hardly

Jayne Beggan-Hartley 1:17:16

through you, Your Worship. Yes, that would it did go to an RFP process.

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:17:22

And how long did that take from the decision in Council to approve the purchase to actually having an operator

Jayne Beggan-Hartley 1:17:33

just referring back to my notes,

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:17:36

it was at least a couple months.

Jayne Beggan-Hartley 1:17:37

Yeah, it needed to go through that process where we had to do the evaluation, we needed to check references, and then go through the two step in terms of what the costs were and the final decision.

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:17:49

So that's where I find the stumbling block is. I love to be able to give information out, because, as you know, we spoke at great length as I wanted to get a public engagement session done as quickly as possible, to get as much information out there. But there wasn't any to give. And that I'll be blunt, made it very hostile, because again, the rumors came out. People had their ideas of what a shelter is and the operations, but there wasn't anything to share at that time. Like I said, I support public engagement and sharing information, but the concern is what information we have when we have it and when we can share it. I love to hear what information comes back. Like I said, I'm going to support this, but the legislation ties up our timeline, so when we can share, when we share it, because, like I said, closed session, an hour later, we're in open session, and it's out there, the media picks it up, and that information is out there, and then that's when the rumors start, and we're behind the eight ball, right off, right off the hop, because the next day or that night, it's Already in the media, and people are already talking and but we don't have that information to share, and that's where the problem lies in. We can't delay from closed to open because then staff can't do their work to figure out the operations and the plans for that shelter or the supportive housing until the formal approval is done in open session.

Jayne Beggan-Hartley 1:19:23

Correct? Through you Your Worship? Yes, that's correct.

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:19:28

I think that's where the biggest issue lies in there's that timing in between and when the information gets other sources to the public and people start thinking the worst of in the base of the stigma of those who are homeless. So thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:19:47

Okay, thank you. Next is councilor Boehme.

Councillor Ryan Boehme 1:19:51

Thank you. Your worship and through you just following that up, fear grows without the lack of information. So I'm going to just paint a little. Story on this. So closed session, you're essentially sworn to secrecy. You have information, you cannot make it public, or you are in breach of your code of conduct, and there will be an investigation, and we know how that plays out, so you'll have information as a councilor at times that you're unable to share with the public. That can be quite

frustrating, especially when somebody from the public reaches out to you and says, Hey, what do you know about this address? And it's the exact address that you can't share, and it's confidential and you're going because it's being discussed at the local gym. This isn't just vague. It might be in this area of the district, this address was known long beforehand, before the city had any official statement, and you're sitting there going, oh dear, what do you do at that point? So you basically, kind of try to get information out as best as possible. And so to say that we can do things better, we have to do things better, that information has to be put out there. We tend to do things, unfortunately, with many things lately, in a very reactive role when it comes to communications, and it's very frustrating. So I would say that we as councilors do have a role to communicate with the public. That is very true, but it is not solely our role, and this information has to come properly. It has to be timely, and it has to be good, pertinent information. So when people are curious about supportive housing, if we were going this path, we should have done a lot more information. We should have had information sessions. You know, all along the way, there should be annual information sessions on supportive housing, showing the successes across the city, build the support for it, don't roll it out and then call something an engagement session, which is not, to be honest, really an engagement session. It's more of an after action report. It's kind of like the decision's been made. Now give us your opinion on it, and I can fully understand people's frustration with that, because it's no longer engagement at that point, it's information. It's now, I'm going to provide you answers to questions that I could have provided you beforehand. I'm sure you have concerns, but we should be pushing that information out. We should be proactive in our communications. Unfortunately, lately, it feels like we're being reactive in our communications. We've got to do a better job with that. There's lots of lessons learned here. There's frustrations from the public. I know there's frustrations from Council, and it's not our job solely to wear this. This is something where we as a city, we have a strategic priority. We need to do better with our communications. They need to be timely. They need to be pertinent. They need to answer the real concerns, and they need to have information like from the delegation who has lived experience of being beside supportive housing and doesn't call it supportive housing. It's my neighbors. That's information people need to hear, and somebody when they take the time to appear as a delegation through no gain of their own, to show up and share that story is super powerful. That's one of the most powerful delegations I've heard in the last while, because they stand to gain nothing from this. They spent their time here to share their experience. But why is that being done reactively? And we're looking for that this is something where staff can go out and get those stories, get those success stories, push that out to the public, get rid of the fear moniker that is now associated with this. You put you put information out, you make a decision. You call something engagement, that's not really engagement, and then you provide a bunch of information after the fact. People are rightly upset, and they have a right to be. We need to do better with our communication. I'm fully, wholeheartedly supporting this, and this is not just with this issue. We need to, need to do better communication across the board as a city, whether it's district specific, whether it's specific newsletter, what's going on in your area, however we do it, it's been a challenge. I've been on council many years now, and it's always been a challenge, and we always seem to have that same challenge. So maybe we need a new approach. Maybe this is something that can segue into a better communication overall. In the end, it's let's call it what it is. These are information sessions now. Supportive housing can be successful, but we also need to set it up to be successful and not create these additional challenges for ourselves, and actually have the public realize this is a successful model. We shouldn't have to convince them. They should already know, because we've done the legwork ahead of time. So I'll be supporting this. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:24:37

Okay. Thank you. Next is councilor McLaren,

Councillor Jeff McLaren 1:24:45

thank you listening to everybody here. This was quite interesting. Yes, I do agree that we need to listen better and provide better information. We need to listen to people's lived experience. But this motion also seems to be forward looking only, whereas there's a lot of evidence, a lot of information that we have that comes in the past from how not to do things, which we can also learn from, and also current neighbors, they matter too. And so as we listen to our constituents, I did get a few concerns raised, interestingly enough, not necessarily by my own constituents. They came to me, which was interesting, from some of your districts, asking for their concerns to also be considered. And the way that this is phrased, it looks like it's a future focused motion. Let's look at the future and see what we can do, but it's important to learn from our mistakes. It's important to understand our history, and insofar as we understand our history, we can do better in the future. So I would like to move an amendment, which I've given to the clerks, and I'm hoping for a seconder to support it from

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:25:59

the floor. Okay, thanks, Council. McLaren, I'm just going to pause your time. Right there. So, okay, okay, so, so it would add to the first operative clause the words that are in bold so it would read, therefore, be it resolved that council direct staff to review current public consultation engagement practices related to both new and existing supportive and emergency housing solutions, including shelters currently in operation and those undergoing transition or wind down, with a specific focus on communications and engagement with near neighbors. Is there a seconder seconded by councilor Glen councilor McLaren, you have the floor. I'll restart your time if you want to say anything more to your amendment.

Councillor Jeff McLaren 1:26:56

This essentially came from a lot of people who were very close to existing shelters, and who felt that we made several mistakes. And as they were reading it, they expressed concerns to me, saying that, you know, maybe they could listen to us one more time or try to at least, it would be at least a decent thing to do. So, in addition to my earlier comments, that's the last one. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:27:20

Okay, thank you. Is there anybody that wishes to speak to the amendment? If not, we will call the vote please. So I guess still doing hand votes. Should deputy clerk, okay, all those in favor opposed, and that carries by a vote of 10 to three, Councillor Boehme, Tozzo, and someone else over here I can't Oh, yeah, Councillor Chaves, yes, sorry, opposed. Okay, so we're back to the motion now as amended. Council McLaren, you still have three minutes and 40 seconds on the clock. If there's anything else you wanted to say,

Councillor Jeff McLaren 1:27:59

no, no, I support this good idea.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:28:01

Okay, thank you. Anybody else? If not councilor Osanic, you have the last word no? Okay? We with that. We will call the vote on new motion number two, as amended, all those in favor opposed, and that's carried, Okay, on to new motion number three, and I'll ask if Deputy Mayor Cinanni will take the chair and lead us through that. Thank you.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:28:27

I take the chair and so new motion number three, which is Kingston Police Service Board appointment, moved by Mayor Paterson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cinanni, whereas Kingston Police Service Board, kpsb is is composed of seven members, including one community appointee, three provincial appointees, the mayor and two members of municipal council. And whereas Gail MacAllister was appointed as a community member on December 3, 2023 for a term ending in November 14, 2026 but she submitted her resignation effective January, 21 2026 and whereas the kpsb currently faces significant turnover, with one provincial seat vacant, A second provincial appointee, Christian Leuprecht, completing his term on February 1, 2026, and a resignation of the community appointee. Whereas maintaining three vacancies simultaneously on seven member board compromises governance stability and the retention of critical institutional knowledge, and whereas it is vital to ensure consistent leadership and strategic continuity within the high stakes environment of police oversight. Therefore, be it resolved. Kingston City Council waive section 3.1 point one point C of the public appointment policy requiring a public recruitment process and appoint Christian Leuprecht to the. Kingston Police Service Board for a term ending in November, November 14, 2026, and you have floor.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:30:08

Thank you, Deputy Mayor. I do think the motion is relatively self explanatory, but just to provide additional context, the seven member board that oversees police services, there are four citizen members. Those four citizen members do a lot of work, working on different subcommittees and the different issues and policies that relate to policing, as has been said, one of those members is relatively new, and three members that have experience are all stepping off the board within a span of three months. In addition to that, that happens at exactly the time that there is now a new chief coming in, there's an enormous amount of organizational change. And so this motion is simply trying to preserve some of the institutional knowledge and memory and experience during a very critical time of transition. So I understand that this is not normal practice. I'm only bringing this forward because I see this as exceptional circumstances, and so for that reason, based on that rationale, I ask that council would support this so that we can keep one of those citizen members with experience to be able to kind of carry things through until the end of this term. Thank you.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:31:23

Questions councillor shaves,

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:31:26

thank you. I will support this. I have one question, not sure if it's actually directly related to this, but is related to the Police Services Board. Why are we not using the current reserve list to fill all the vacancy for the community member,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:31:44

Mr. Mayor so councillor shaves, I fully recognize that this is going against our usual approach and policy. That's why it's coming forward as a motion of Council, essentially to override that process. Again, the rationale for that is that through this approach, we can preserve one of the existing citizen members that has experience, given the enormous amount of turnover happening all around about the board and the staff level, that's essentially what

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:32:13

are they not a provincial member.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:32:16

So the member in question is a provincial member that we are simply moving to the community member post to keep them on the board. Their provincial appointment expired at the end of January.

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:32:33

Okay, then I guess that changes my decision and not going to support this, because we have a reserve list. I think we should be using reserve list. I understand if we didn't have one, but we actually have one that was done back in 2024 So,

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:32:55

okay, actually one more point, if I could make before You, carry over the person on the reserve list meets a lot of the criteria for diversity, female of ethnic background and LGBT community. So thank you. Councilor tozo,

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:33:18

thank you, Mayor, Deputy Mayor through you. Okay, so question I have for the mover, so are the other people who are stepping down. They're provincial appointees. Is that correct?

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:33:33

Yes, so of the three citizen members, two of them were provincial appointees whose term has ended within three months of each other. The third member was a community appointed Member appointed by council who has resigned.

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:33:50

So the province be appointing one or two more public members. I'm just not clear from the motion, yes.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:33:59

So when provincial appointment is up, then there will be a new member appointed by the province, or a new member will be appointed by the province. That person will be new to the board without any experience.

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:34:13

Okay, thank you. I'm fine to support this, because I think continuity on a board and experience and a board, especially with new members, is a good thing. Having a third member, Councilor shaves, I do take your point. Having a new member that represents diversity is a great thing, but I've attended boards with totally new members, and it can be quite a challenge if there's not that institutional knowledge. So I'm fine to support this.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:34:36

Anyone else? Oh, Councilor Hassan. I

Councillor Jimmy Hassan 1:34:44

thank you your deputy worship. I just want to add it to the few comments with the councilor schieves concern. Yes, it is the process, and usually council have been doing that way that as his worship explains. That Police Services Board has been going through a lot of the changes, and we have a new police chief and couple new members, and the person the is recommended in this motion to appoint as a public appointee, he been on the board for at least, I think four or five years, I'm not sure I am on the I think this is my fourth year, and he was there before me as well. His knowledge, his experience, is extremely high and among all of us, and His

direction is always very ethical and very educational and very supportive. This is very crucial time for the Police Services Board, because we have a new chair, new police chief, and couple new members. We need somebody who has the experience to continue the projects and the work we have started in the beginning of the years, last year, and it's still we need, need to do. So we need his support. So that's why I think the his worship has brought this name up, and I'm very happy that we have, we will be able to have him, the person who designed he was a council appointee. So that's why the council is trying to point another, the person, or continue to that person on the board as a public appointee, but the province will appoint somebody else later on. So I think I'm happy to see this motion and happy to support this motion. Thank you very much. Councillor, Glenn,

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:36:37

thank you. And through you, I think I have a few questions now. So with regards to the people who are sitting kind of in the queue, if you will, as potential community members, what do we know about their potential skill level and or background to be able to hold this role, other than just names on a list?

City Clerk Jaynes 1:37:02

Yeah, thanks for the question, Councillor, can I can try and answer that. So, I mean, all we can say is that this person, you know, people on a reserve pool, they submitted an application, just like anybody who was appointed to, you know, to any board or committee, and they were selected by the nominations committee to be in that reserve pool based on on their application.

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:37:27

Okay, so they were vetted, then, according to some criteria, I'm assuming we considered them competent enough to do this.

City Clerk Jaynes 1:37:37

Yes, I mean, their application was reviewed against the other applications that would have been reviewed for the same position, and they were recommended by the nominations committee for appointment to the reserve pool.

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:37:52

Okay, thank you. So I guess where I'm going with this. I do respect and understand a need for continuity. However, we're not getting rid of all the experienced people. I also do believe that there is a need on boards often time for a fresh perspective, and perhaps this is an opportunity for that. We've heard concerns from the community about what's going on. We just received a report that was sent to us on the perception of our police service, and there seems to be some work that needs to be done. I actually share councillor shaves concern about whether we have enough equity and diversity here. This is not going to negatively impact the core services of the police, but it can change the culture of what we have here in Kingston. So I'm not sure that I can support this. When this has been brought to my attention, I'm going to hold it there as I think there's some other comments that are coming. Thank you.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:39:06

Anyone else wish to speak? Oh, yep. Councillor.

Councillor Jeff McLaren 1:39:10

McLaren, thank you. There seems to be something troubling here. Yes, we are breaking our policy here, and that's also troubling. So the chair has resigned, and the result is that the mayor is going to resign as well. That doesn't seem to be the best thing to do, Mr. Mayor, if I recall you were, you've been on the Police Services Board for

all for two except for two years since you've been become mayor. So that's like, what, 1213, years, or something like that. And councilor Hassan, you were on for two years before I came off. So you've been on for six years. I think you guys got the institutional knowledge. Well done. I think you do. So what strikes me as odd is that the two highest. The two people with the highest authority, the chair and the person with the highest level of institutional knowledge, are leaving the board when we have a perfectly valid and procedurally correct person to put on there that fits the diversity criteria. I believe that councilor shaves is exactly right. We need more diversity. And the way we're doing it, we are missing an opportunity there. I'm just curious, do either of you two feel that you don't have the institutional knowledge to carry this

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:40:34

forward? Mr. Mayor, thank you. Councilor McLaren, I take your point. What I would say is that the four citizen members perform a lot of additional work that the members of council on the board do not. So I am a member of the board. I do have institutional knowledge, but I cannot. I do not have the capacity to be able to replace a citizen member with experience. That is the big challenge.

Councillor Jeff McLaren 1:41:13

Well, I think you probably should step up. That's part of your job. On the board anyway. Thank you. All right,

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:41:20

I don't think that was called for but is anyone else?

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:41:31

Anybody else wish to speak?

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:41:36

Sorry, I'm gonna call a point of privilege on that your work, Deputy Mayor, that was absolutely not called for.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:41:44

Yeah, I would agree. Now I don't know what to do about that, because I don't have that experience. But okay, all right, there we go. Does anyone else wish to speak? Um, so I got a message. So is this something we could take a recess to look at who is on the reserve list, or I'm just asking for clarification on things like that.

City Clerk Jaynes 1:42:23

Yeah, as the chair, it's up to you whether you would like to call a recess. The only thing I would point out to council is that the member on the reserve list, our protocol would be to contact that person. We don't even know whether they would accept so just pointing that out, I

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:42:50

don't know. I think, I think it's fine, like technically, all right, so let's just go. Is there anyone else last chance? But you can't, you've already

Councillor Paul Chaves 1:42:59

speak. Can we defer this until we find out?

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:43:05

Yeah, I'll just call it recess. Then we need a break anyway, because it's almost nine, so five minute recess.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:54:13

Okay, everyone can have our seats. We're gonna come back and she's over there. Begin.  
You

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:54:46

Okay, anyone else? Okay? Councilor Osanic,

Councillor Lisa Osanic 1:54:51

thank you, Mr. Deputy worship, I would like to move to amend this or sorry to defer this. Motion to our next meeting, which is February 17, to allow our clerk's office to contact the person who is on the reserve list, if that's what we call it, to see their availability, availability of joining the Police Services Board.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:55:20

Thank Okay, so do I have to read that? No, all right, so you had your hand up, yeah.  
Councilor Boehme,

Councillor Ryan Boehme 1:55:33

Thank you, Deputy, your worship and through you, yeah, I believe there's provincially mandated training. So without the timeliness of this, this is time sensitive in my mind, and that person would not have the ability to answer that whether they can join or not and or do that training in time, so they essentially miss the next meeting. So I think we need to deal with this tonight to be honest. Thank you. Councilor tozo,

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 1:56:03

thank you, Deputy Mayor. Through you, I'm also going to agree that it's not appropriate to defer, in my view either. We appoint this person in I want you to keep in mind the appointment is until November, so we're talking like a few months of an appointment here. I think from a citizen appointment, having knowledge and experience for that short level of appointment would be appropriate. If we're talking a longer appointment, I'd probably say, let's go back to nominations and do this. Nominations and do this. It's a short appointment. I think having that institutional experience is fine. I'm not going to defer this. I think we have the information. If we vote down this motion, it'll go back to nominations. We'll go the reserve list. It'll happen anyways, and we can deal with that when the time comes. But I think either we kind of have to vote up or down and then make either, like, go that way, that route or not, but I don't think a deferral is appropriate this time. See, I'm back to my old self, not liking deferrals. Did you miss me?

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:56:48

Yes. Okay. Councilor Ridge,

Councillor Greg Ridge 1:56:53

oh, thank you, Deputy Vice Mayor. Chair and through you, I so part of the reason that I am introducing another motion this evening is about timeliness, and that timeliness specifically has to do with the ability to get a person sworn in for the role in to complete your training, and that training has to be completed and reported to the province before they can sit on the board and vote as A board member. And so for that reason, I cannot support this deferral. I think that it's important that we have that sense of continuity, and we will be, I'm sure, discussing issues around diversity and representation in the very near future. So thank you. Councilor, Glenn,

Councillor Conny Glenn 1:57:40

thank you. I supported the deferral because I don't think that expediency should

outweigh getting the board composition Correct. Missing one meeting will not be a huge threat to the Police Services Board or its work, and I think the fact that community members have put their names forward, they should be given consideration and the respect they deserve for being willing to serve. So I think that we're rushing this and we don't have to

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 1:58:09

anyone else wish to speak. Okay? So I'll call the vote, or does this procedure? Does the mover get to speak again now. Okay, all right, so I will call the vote for the deferral. All those in favor, opposed, and that fails with Councilor Osanic Glen and shaves. I did notice online. Anyway, okay, so we'll move on to the original motion. So you still have some time left. No. Okay, so anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Okay, so you have, like your time left to speak. Thank you,

Mayor Bryan Paterson 1:59:00

Deputy Mayor. I think I'm just going to say this. To say this. I appreciate all the comments and the points made for and against this. I fully recognize that there is a trade off that we are dealing with. So every point, whether you agree with this motion or not, very valid. I am bringing this forward because, based on my experience on the Police Service Board, knowing where the organization is at, I'm putting this forward because I think this is the best thing for the organization right now. The individual that we are attempting to retain is an expert in police governance. He is a very valuable member. I wouldn't be doing this if we were only losing one or two. It's simply because we're losing three members. And so this is, in my view, taking the bigger picture. This is the best move, I think Councillor Tozzo made the point this is just for a matter of months, just to be able to get those other new members up to speed. So. We can then continue on, so I offer it for council's consideration. I appreciate the debate and discussion around the table again, this is what I think is, is the best move for the community as a whole. Thank you.

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 2:00:12

Okay, I'll call the vote all those in favor and opposed, so there's two opposed. So that be councilor shaves and councilor Glenn, and that passes. So I return to chair.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:00:31

Okay, Deputy Mayor, thank you for navigating that one that was, that was a tricky one. Okay, back to New motions number four, moved by councilor Glenn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cinanni. Whereas Kingston is home to a significant post secondary population, including students attending Queen's University, St Lawrence College and the Royal Military College, which together contribute to Kingston's economic, cultural and social vitality. And whereas the absence of a coordinated student housing framework has contributed to pressures in the broader rental market, including reduced availability of long term rental housing for families, seniors and workers, whereas purpose built student housing, when appropriately planned, can reduce pressure on the general housing supply, improve neighborhood stability and support affordability citywide. Whereas the City of Kingston has declared a housing emergency and is undertaking a new official plan that is intended to guide long term growth land use and housing supply in a coordinated and sustainable manner, whereas a student housing strategy or policies within the Official Plan would support land use certainty, infrastructure planning, neighborhood compatibility and alignment with post secondary institutions. Whereas other municipalities, such as Toronto Waterloo and Niagara region with significant post secondary populations have adopted student housing strategies or policies within their official plans to guide development, protect neighborhoods and support housing affordability. Therefore, be it resolved that council direct staff to develop a Student Housing Strategy following the

adoption of the new official plan, which only regulates the use of land and not its residents, to guide the delivery of student housing in Kingston and the Student Housing Strategy include consideration of zoning tools, density permissions and built form guidelines specific to student housing strategies to establish partnerships with institutions in the private sector to reduce pressure on the traditional rental market and enhance overall housing affordability measures to support neighborhood compatibility, safety and infrastructure capacity and alignment with the city's broader housing affordability and climate objectives. And staff report back to council in q2 of 2026 as part of the annual population, housing and employment, update a proposed scope, including cost and estimated timing for the completion of a student housing strategy. Councillor Glenn, you have the floor.

Councillor Conny Glenn 2:02:32

Thank you and through you. So I'm bringing this motion forward because student housing has become a citywide affordability issue the students are facing challenges as well as the broader community. Let's face it, we are a post secondary city. When we look at the number of students that actually come here every year, the students are a vital part of the city, of the economy the community, but also of our future. And the need for student housing has grown without a very clear, coordinated strategy, and we're feeling the impacts right now. We have one housing market that's trying to meet a very broad variety of housing needs, students, seniors, families, affordable housing, social housing. We're trying to fill all kinds of gaps. It's like, you know, putting our fingers in the proverbial dam and hoping that we can stop this, but without clear direction, we've seen what the outcomes are, studentification, rising community tension. We're talking about this on a regular basis, a loss of family, neighborhoods, rising rents, poor living conditions. A student housing strategy will help prevent those outcomes from continuing. Now. I want a moment to address the blame game that's often gone on around this issue. We've seen it, heard it, maybe even been a part of it, but students didn't create the housing shortage, neighborhoods and institutions didn't cause the market pressures. This is a system issue, not a people problem, so the system needs to be addressed, and that's why strategy is important. Council should really know that the call for a student housing strategy has garnered both broad and uncommon alignment. It's supported by five neighborhood associations, five out of 12. That's pretty good. We're almost at 50% of neighborhoods coming on board and saying, we want this. We've also got the support of Queen's University and student representatives, they're working together. And the great thing about it is they're holding hands. And when you're holding hands, you can't point fingers. So I think this is huge step forward. Yeah, I had to put something in, something good in there. That kind of consensus, though, is really worth acting on. A student housing strategy developed alongside of the Official Plan allows us to encourage purpose built student housing in appropriate locations, reduce pressure on traditional rental housing, improve neighborhood compatibility and work more effectively with our post secondary partners. It gives Council a policy framework, instead of forcing us into making. Active decisions. I know that staff are already working hard on trying to incorporate this, but this is going to give clarity. It simply addresses a long standing issue and creates clarity for everyone. Kingston can be a city that welcomes students, supports neighborhoods and their stability, protects housing affordability for everyone. And these goals don't have to be in conflict, but they do require intention for us to achieve those goals together. So this motion reflects collaboration, common ground and a practical way forward, and I encourage council to support it. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:05:36

Okay, thank you. Next is Councillor Tozzo.

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 2:05:39

Thank you, Mayor Paterson, through you. Thank you for this motion. I fully support it. I think it's really well needed, based on I attended the SDA Town Hall, and yeah, it was brought up a lot of great points. Also, one of the members spoke to the Kings court Association, and again, brought up really great points, because we are feeling less so student, student vacation in I can't say that word, more students in Kings court, which isn't so much of an issue now, but we are seeing this sort of spread of it. I just have one question, I think, for the mover or staff, whoever can field it, and a procedural question. So my first question is, do we get a sense of Queens being more proactive in dealing with student housing, I know there's a lot of ability they have to up zone and build are we getting a movement from Queen's University yet?

Councillor Conny Glenn 2:06:34

Councillor Glenn, I'll let you take that question, okay, seeing as I just met with them last week, what I can say is that they have actively been working with a consultant to review what they're going to do, so they're not ready to come forward with it in a public sense. But what I can say is they're taking it seriously. The letter of support came out of that conversation because they want to be able to collaborate. They recognize that the province has given them some opportunity, but it's not going to come as quickly as any of us would like, but there is work underway, and they are willing to collaborate to see us move forward.

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 2:07:16

Thank you, brilliant. Nice to see Queens is kind of moving on that. The other question I have is procedural. So I'm reading through this. I always like to know what I'm voting on. And it says that we're adopting a Student Housing Strategy following the adoption of the new official plan, but that we're supposed to report back in q2 of 2026 so it's my understanding that high noon on the Official Plan is June 30. So I'm curious how that correlates with the direction of to staff of reporting back, because technically isn't the reporting back date prior to the adoption of the new op

Commissioner Agnew 2:07:50

commission, I do thank you and through you Your Worship. So staff's understanding of the motion, the way it's drafted, is what we're reporting back on as part of the annual population, housing, employment update, and that would be within the q2 timeframe. Is a scope of work with associated with the completion of this, this work following the completion of the Official Plan. So it's just the scope of work for council's consideration with any resourcing that would be coming to you in q2 but the actual work associated with the Student Housing Strategy wouldn't commence until after the city is addressed the Official Plan. And you're correct that the date that we intend to bring that is June 30, 2026

Councillor Brandon Tozzo 2:08:35

Thank you. I have that marked in my calendars, and I apologize for being pedantic. I am wild and fun at parties, trust me. Okay, I support this. I think it's a good idea. I'm really interested to see what best practices we can get from other municipalities in this and, yeah, what strategy we can do to hopefully with our partners, to alleviate some of these housing challenges.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:09:00

Okay, thank you, Deputy Mayor Cinanni,

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 2:09:04

thank you. And through you, Mr. Mayor, yeah, I support this. You know, I was

approached a while back, I think before summer, about advice on how to get this going. So, and had a lot of questions. So I, you know, helped to try to guide and in going into, let them go in and try to figure it out and then come up with a solution. Because I know there's been in the past, there was like the different associations or different groups would be divided in what they what their thoughts were on, this kind of thing. So it's nice seeing that everyone's aligned now that, you know there's a common goal. I could say, like I live, I'm surrounded with students where I live pretty much so, like, the line keeps moving closer and closer. So my street is the line now and then it kind of spreads out a little bit. And I've heard. From a lot of neighbors. They don't mind having student neighbors, but it's becoming where they're a house with, like, you know, at least 10 students or more, and then there's cars everywhere on the street, and it, and talking to a lot of these students, is they couldn't find somewhere close to the university to live. So I think that this, this is an important plan to have. Another thing that I've talked to some people for about is they a lot of parents, they can't find housing, proper housing for their kids, so they end up buying a house, and then, you know, the it's, and then it's ends up being like, you know, their their kid, and then a bunch of friends or other people, and then all of a sudden this house, it doesn't go back onto the market after it just ends up being like a rental. They keep it as a rental. So I think having this plan and strategy can really focus on where can we build for students, and where where is appropriate, and where do the students want to be? And I think this is a really important plan, and I think it'll, in the long run, it'll guide our housing strategy in a in a better way. So I really hope you all support this, because I think it's really important, especially living in the middle of it. I see that it's kind of chaotic at the moment. So it needs to have a clear direction and clear because then we end up having, like people wanting to build student housing, that is, I think, way too far from the University, where it should be much, much closer, where people, where the students would actually benefit from the Student Life and the culture. So I hope you all support this. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:11:40

Okay, thank you. Next is councilor Amos.

Councillor Don Amos 2:11:44

Thank Mayor Paterson, through you, I too will be supporting the motion the Portsmouth District Association. We have had a number of conversations about this, as them talking to me as a councilor, their concerns, their ideas, they did give me a heads up that this was coming forward and that they did provide feedback and guidance and their thoughts through this process. So I appreciate them being included in this my district has is basically has all students, and we have St Lawrence College, we have a high school, lots of elementary schools, and we have queens West Campus. So this type of housing strategy is is greatly needed, purposeful built we've seen a number of the neighborhoods, specifically Polson Park, Kelvin and even the village have student pressures be brought upon it. And I think this is a good step in the direction, and like Councillor Tozzo, I look forward to the op and what this presents with student housing.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:12:52

Thanks. Okay. Thank you, Councillor Ridge.

Councillor Greg Ridge 2:13:00

Thank you, Your Worship and through you. So yeah, I will be supporting this motion, but I do have a question for staff and then a question for the mover. So the question for staff is, why has something like this not existed in the past, like in the original, the original, and I'm not asking, I'm not asking for clairvoyance or a

scene of the future, but I'm just curious, was this an opportunity for this brought up? And if so, what happened in those discussions? Perspective?

Commissioner Agnew 2:13:34

Thank you. And through you, without going through too much of a lengthy history, certainly, there have been multiple attempts at addressing this over time. More recently, within my time with the city, there was a period in 2016 2017 where there's discussions around an interim control by law to avoid that. The direction was to do the central Kingston growth strategy, which essentially is a post secondary student strategy, without it being called that. It was a secondary plan that addressed a larger geographic area, but it was, it was directed to staff in relation to the growing pressures of what was happening within the neighborhoods, the transition that was happening intensification within the larger lots that exist within some of those neighborhoods, particularly around our post secondary institutions, and mitigating the impacts. So there was three years spent on that secondary plan, working with the community, and it did result in a number of policy changes, some greater controls put in place, but also looking at up zoning in certain critical areas as a strategy to build more housing in the area to take pressure off the interior streets. But the community at the time was, I think, comfortable with a lesser form of density and height and. And the conversation and the evolution of the understanding of that in Kingston has continued to change. So three years ago, what was acceptable six stories? I think the community has come to see that six stories maybe isn't sufficient, and there needs to be a greater rethink. So I would say that this is a further iteration upon years of work trying to deal with this particular issue and putting the right strategy in place. And it's continued to evolve as the city's evolved. So you'll see some further iteration upon that in the work that's coming in the second draft of the Official Plan already that hasn't been made public, and then certainly happy to advance the continuation of this through the additional item of work that's the focus of the motion this evening.

Councillor Greg Ridge 2:15:45

Through you Your Worship. Thank you very much for that answer. That's very comprehensive answer. My next question is, for the mover, it's mentioned in the language of the motion and in the comments. What does appropriate mean? You sort of when, when appropriately planned appropriate location. Just curious that could be defined for me. Councilor, Glenn,

Councillor Conny Glenn 2:16:13

I haven't given any given, any prescription to the word appropriate. This is where in development of a plan we still continue to consult with the community, so I'm not here to determine what we're going to define that is, I think there's a lot to come on this, but when we talk about these things, we aren't giving enough consideration for are we integrating our neighborhoods? You know, one of the things that got brought up in conversation was, and you know, around the planning table, certainly, anybody who sits there has heard me and others say, you know, why are you just simply doing studio apartments in that development? Why aren't you doing ones that have more bedrooms in it? Because guess what, students can live in them, and families could live in them. So I think when we're talking about this, we need to be looking at appropriate in a number of different ways.

Councillor Greg Ridge 2:17:08

Thank you very much. So yeah, I will be supporting this motion. I think that this, this meeting in general, like speaking about this motion, but also this meeting in general has been very interesting, because we have in many ways been hemming around this idea of people zoning right, which is in violation of the Ontario Human Rights

Code. And so we have to be very careful in our conversations about this and about notifications to communities about supportive housing like these are all actually very similar in terms of what issue it is. And so while I am in support of this, I want to express that I think in our conversations about this, both this evening and in the future, that we have to be very careful about the language and the tact that we take with regards to this and other pieces. And so that's something that I'll be thinking about in the future, because students are represented here. And I think at the end of the day, if we're talking about economics through your worship, we're all at the end result of financialization of the housing market, where people who are seeking profit because they own property, are finding the best avenue forward for that which happens to be higher turnover, which happens to be students, and that's what's driving this, ultimately. And so I don't think a municipality in its entirety has a solution for this, but I think that we should try to address this however it can through through through tools. So thank you very much.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:18:44

Okay, thank you. Is there anybody else that wishes to speak? Councilor, Glenn, any last words?

Councillor Conny Glenn 2:18:50

I want to extend a few thank yous to staff, because I know that they've been having conversations with the community about this, so thank you, and thank you for the consideration that you're putting into the Official Plan. I have to extend thank you to the Sydenham District Association for their collaboration and to all of the other district associations for stepping forward into this conversation and not ignoring it. Although we have to be careful around human rights. We also can't ignore the 30,000 odd people that come in and out of the community every year. They're a reality, and I think that sometimes we're hamstrung from having a generative discussion about how we accommodate them in our quest for inclusion and in our quest for equity affordability, we do have to be able to have those discussions. So putting a student strategy in place allows us to address what is an issue for this city, and I think, to come to a point where we are providing housing for everyone. And. Um, the condition of student housing has been a grave concern of mine since I campaigned and it hasn't gone away. I see students being taken advantage of on a regular basis. So this is for them as much as it is for the broader community. They shouldn't be having to take out a mortgage as students literally before they ever get through school, because that's what they're paying on a regular basis, is mortgage payment, in my estimation. So a student housing strategy allows us to treat them like we want to treat everyone else here as constituents. We often forget that they are. We treat them as though they're aliens invading the city sometimes, and I think that that's inappropriate, and that's often how they're spoken of. Oh my gosh, those students who are all coming here. But the reality is, they're students with some power. They get to vote in two places at once, just for anybody thinking about the next municipal election. But I thank everyone for their support. I think this is a positive step forward to addressing what has been a massive challenge in this city. I'm looking forward to seeing the Official Plan and having this accompany it in a way that will move us forward. Thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:21:15

Okay, thank you. We will call the vote on new motion number four, all those in favor opposed, and that's carried okay to new motion number five, moved by councilor Ridge, seconded by Mayor Paterson. Whereas membership requirements of the Kingston Police Service Board the board are set out in the community safety and policing Act Section 31 and whereas ensuring diversity in the membership of the board is of critical importance so that the governance of police service includes different viewpoints and

is more representative of our community as a whole. Whereas the current board membership is entirely male, whereas the Board shall consist of the head of municipal council, or if the head chooses not to be or is ineligible to be a member of the board, another member of the municipal council appointed by resolution of the municipality, whereas Mayor Paterson chooses not to be a member of the board effective immediately. Whereas the next meeting of the Kingston Police Service Board is scheduled for February 26 2026 before which time, new members must complete legislatively mandated orientation and training. Therefore, it be resolved that councilor blank be appointed to the Kingston Police Service board in place of the head of municipal council for a term ending on November 14, 2026 I think probably what's best procedurally is I'll let the mover of the motion speak first, then I will call for volunteers to fill that name, and then we will have any further debate on the motion after that. Councilor Ridge, you have the floor.

Councillor Greg Ridge 2:22:38

Thank you. Your Worship. I think I followed that. I'm speaking first. So, yeah, I think, I think Mayor Paterson for seconding this motion, and for the clerks working with me to make sure that, because it was timely, it had to be introduced as quickly as possible, due to the requirements for training and to be sworn in as a new member of the Police Services Board before the next meeting. And one of the conversations that I had through your worship to you your worship was after reviewing the new motion that I noticed there was a distinct issue with regards to diversity and representation on the board, and I am very glad that we both agree on that. I hope that everybody else will also agree with that. And I think it's important. I think it's important specifically, when we're talking about policy choices that have to do with policing, that we have as broad perspectives as possible, and in this case, it's just changing one person to have literally one woman on the board. So I really hope that everybody supports this, and I look forward to the discussion, which I believe comes after the nomination. I'm not sure your worship. So thank you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:24:02

Thank you. Yes, I'm kind of making this up as I go along, but it seems to be the most, most logical way to do this. So I think at this point, what I will do is I will ask if there is a female councilor that is willing to put their name forward, or more than one. Okay. Councilor. Stephen, okay, so councilor Stephen, is in Okay with that being said, Is there any further debate or discussion on the motion? Okay? Councilor Glenn, go ahead.

Councillor Conny Glenn 2:24:35

Thank you. So first, I do want to thank you for recognizing what I think is a concern with who serves on our boards. I'm hopeful, though, that as those individuals move forward to continue serving, that they will strive for greater equity on that board. One woman on the board is important, but I don't want it to ever be a token position. It would be disrespectful to councilor Stephen, who is stepping forward to serve that it becomes that. So I want to see her succeed in the role and open the door for more women on the board, more diversity. So please strive for that with Ms. MacAllister leaving, I think that's a sad thing to see. I know that she was very committed to moving those sorts of efforts forward. So good luck. Best wishes, and let's see if we can move it a step forward.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:25:37

Is there anybody else who wishes to speak deputy mayor, would you take the chair? I take

Deputy Mayor Cinanni 2:25:45

the chair and recognize you.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:25:46

Councilor Glenn, I completely agree with what you said. Well, the challenge with the Police Service Board is that half of the members are not chosen by us, so that obviously is that hence the very complicated proceedings of tonight, trying to make this board work as best as possible. So but that being said, point very well taken. Thank you. I return the Chair. Thank you, Councilor Stephen,

Councillor Wendy Stephen 2:26:16

Thank you, Mayor Paterson, if this is indeed hopefully going to pass. I just want to say thank you for your service. It's it's been important to have you there, and I don't take this lightly. This responsibility is really important. Councilor Glenn, thank you for your support there, and I look forward to working with the Chair of the Board chief and see what we can do for policing here in Kingston. Thank you. Excellent.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:26:40

Thank you. Okay with that. We will call the vote then on new motion number five, all those in favor opposed, and that's carried. Okay, great. That takes us to the end of our new motions. Are there any notices of motion? Okay, seeing none. Madam Clerk asked for minutes, please,

City Clerk Jaynes 2:27:01

moved by Councillor Tozzo, seconded by Councillor Stephen, that the minutes of city council meeting, 20 2603 held Tuesday January 13, 2026 and city council meeting number 20 2604 held Monday January 19, and Tuesday January 20, 2026

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:27:16

be confirmed all those in favor opposed. And that's carried, and we have some communications. Is there any other business? Okay, Madam Clerk, across for bylaws, please.

City Clerk Jaynes 2:27:29

Moved by councilor Boehme, seconded by councilor Amos that, by law, numbers one through three be given their first and second reading.

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:27:35

All those in favor opposed, and that's carried.

City Clerk Jaynes 2:27:39

Moved by councilor Boehme, seconded by councilor Amos, that bylaws number excuse me, that bylaw numbers one through three be given their third reading. All those in favor

Mayor Bryan Paterson 2:27:47

opposed, and that's carried. Motion to adjourn, please, moved by Councillor Tozzo, seconded by councilor Boehme, all those in favor opposed, and we're adjourned. Thanks very much, everybody.