



Minutes of Guelph City Council

**December 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
Guelph City Hall, 1 Carden Street**

Council: Mayor C. Guthrie
Councillor P. Allt
Councillor C. Billings
Councillor L. Busuttil
Councillor L. Caron
Councillor E. Caton
Councillor K. Chew
Councillor C. Downer
Councillor R. Goller
Councillor C. Klassen
Councillor D. O'Rourke
Councillor M. Richardson

Absent: Councillor D. Gibson

Staff: T. Baker, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Clack-Bush, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Public Services
J. Holmes, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Environment
T. Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
D. McMahon, Acting General Manager, City Clerk's Office/City Clerk
C. Murray-Sprague, Council and Committee Coordinator
A. Sandor, Council and Committee Coordinator
J. Tang, Legislative Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Mayor Guthrie called the meeting to order (9:00 a.m.).

1.4 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures.

2. Confirmation of Open Minutes

Moved By Councillor Billings

Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. That the minutes of the open Council Meetings held November 13, 19, 26 and 27, 2024, and the Committee of the Whole meeting held November 5, 2024, be confirmed as recorded and without being read.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

3. Committee of the Whole Consent Report

Moved By Councillor Caron

Seconded By Councillor Downer

1. That the December 11, 2024 Committee of the Whole Consent Report and Council Consent Agenda identified below be adopted.

3.1 2024 Third Quarter Budget Monitoring Report, 2024-504

1. That the funding adjustments detailed in Table 4 of Attachment-2 of the 2024 Third Quarter Budget Monitoring Report dated December 4, 2024, be approved.
2. That a budget adjustment of \$448 thousand for PM0001 Paramedics Facility Renewal, be approved.

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (10 to 0)

4. Items for Discussion

4.1 Impact from Closure of Guelph Consumption and Treatment Services Site - 2024-407

Councillor Allt introduced Impact from Closure of Guelph Consumption and Treatment Services Site.

The following delegates spoke:

Brad Evoy

Amelia Meister

Mars Russell on behalf of Sarah Bayliss

Melissa Kwiatkowski

Mars Russell

Jean Hopkins

The following delegates did not speak:

Sarah Bayliss

Paige Hutchinson

Andrea Baker

Jill Francis

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. That Guelph City Council urges the Ontario government to continue to permit the operation and funding of the Guelph consumption and treatment site beyond the proposed termination date in March 2025.
2. That Guelph City Council encourages the Ontario government to maintain, if not expand, funding for the proposed Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) hubs.
3. That Guelph City Council encourages the Ontario Government to not take steps to prohibit the establishment of supervised consumption sites, including urgent public health needs sites (UPHNS).
4. That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Health Minister, AMO and to municipalities that currently have an operating consumption and treatment service and/or supervised consumption site(s).

Amendment

Moved By Councillor O'Rourke

Seconded By Councillor Richardson

1. That Guelph City Council urges the Ontario government to continue to permit the operation and funding of the Guelph consumption and treatment site beyond the proposed termination date in March 2025, **at least until the HART hub is fully operational.**
2. That Guelph City Council encourages the Ontario government to maintain, if not expand, funding for the proposed Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) hubs.
3. That Guelph City Council encourages the Ontario Government to not take steps to prohibit the establishment of supervised consumption sites, including urgent public health needs sites (UPHNS).
4. That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Health Minister, AMO and to municipalities that currently have an operating consumption and treatment service and/or supervised consumption site(s).

Voting in Favour: (4): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Billings, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Voting Against: (7): Councillor Allt, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Klassen

Defeated (4 to 7)

The clauses were asked to be voted on separately.

Moved By Councillor Allt

Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. That Guelph City Council urges the Ontario government to continue to permit the operation and funding of the Guelph consumption and treatment site beyond the proposed termination date in March 2025.

Voting in Favour: (9): Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, and Councillor O'Rourke

Voting Against: (2): Mayor Guthrie, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (9 to 2)

Moved By Councillor Allt
Seconded By Councillor Goller

2. That Guelph City Council encourages the Ontario government to maintain, if not expand, funding for the proposed Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) hubs.

Voting in Favour: (11): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (11 to 0)

Moved By Councillor Allt
Seconded By Councillor Goller

3. That Guelph City Council encourages the Ontario Government to not take steps to prohibit the establishment of supervised consumption sites, including urgent public health needs sites (UPHNS).

Voting in Favour: (7): Councillor Allt, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, and Councillor Klassen

Voting Against: (4): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Billings, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (7 to 4)

Moved By Councillor Allt
Seconded By Councillor Goller

4. That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Health Minister, AMO and to municipalities that currently have an operating consumption and treatment service and/or supervised consumption site(s).

Voting in Favour: (11): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (11 to 0)

4.2 In Support of Charter Rights and Freedoms

Councillor Caton introduced, Support of Charter Rights and Freedoms.

The following delegates spoke:

Brad Evoy
Amelia Meister
Katherine Nixon
Diana Chan McNally
Anna McGregor
Morgan Dandie
Mars Russell

The following delegates did not speak:

Sarah Bayliss
Paige Hutchinson
Michelle Bilek
Mireille Martinez
Andrea Baker
Jill Francis

Moved By Councillor Caton
Seconded By Councillor Allt

1. That Guelph City Council opposes the use of the Notwithstanding Clause as requested by a collection of Ontario Mayors, to circumvent the courts ability to rule on Charter Rights on the subject of encampment relocations due to municipal bylaws throughout Ontario.
2. Further, Council opposes the use of force in involuntary treatment of people with substance use disorders or mental illness who are protected under disability legislation, outside of the existing process.
3. That a letter be sent to AMO, OBCM, and the 12 municipalities included in the 13 mayor request letter for information regarding Guelph Council's opposition.

Councillor Caton raised a point of order suggesting that a question from Councillor Downer was out of order because this motion was not about the use of involuntary treatment. Mayor Guthrie ruled that the question was in order and allowed Councillor Downer to continue.

Amendment

Moved By Councillor Caton

Seconded By Councillor Allt

2. Further, Council opposes the **use of the notwithstanding clause** in the use of force in involuntary treatment of people with substance use disorders or mental illness who are protected under disability legislation, outside of the existing process.

This amendment was withdrawn by the mover and seconder.

Moved By Councillor Caton

Seconded By Councillor Allt

2. Further, Council opposes the use of force in involuntary treatment of people with substance use disorders or mental illness who are protected under disability legislation, outside of the existing process.

This clause was removed by the mover and seconder.

Main Motion

Moved By Councillor Caton

Seconded By Councillor Allt

1. That Guelph City Council opposes the use of the Notwithstanding Clause as requested by a collection of Ontario Mayors, to circumvent the courts ability to rule on Charter Rights on the subject of encampment relocations due to municipal bylaws throughout Ontario.
2. That a letter be sent to AMO, OBCM, and the 12 municipalities included in the 13 mayor request letter for information regarding Guelph Council's opposition.

The clauses were asked to be voted on separately.

Moved By Councillor Caton

Seconded By Councillor Allt

1. That Guelph City Council opposes the use of the Notwithstanding Clause as requested by a collection of Ontario Mayors, to circumvent the courts ability to rule on Charter Rights on the subject of encampment relocations due to municipal bylaws throughout Ontario.

Voting in Favour: (8): Councillor Allt, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, and Councillor O'Rourke

Voting Against: (3): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Billings, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (8 to 3)

Moved By Councillor Caton
Seconded By Councillor Allt

2. That a letter be sent to AMO, OBCM, and the 12 municipalities included in the 13 mayor request letter for information regarding Guelph Council's opposition.

Voting in Favour: (11): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (11 to 0)

4.3 Council Motion in Support of Solve the Crisis Campaign

Mayor Guthrie introduced Council Motion in Support of Solve the Crisis Campaign.

The following delegate spoke:
Brad Evoy

Moved By Councillor Klassen
Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. Therefore, be it resolved that the City Guelph supports Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) SolvetheCrisis.ca Campaign;
2. AND calls on the provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the humanitarian crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;
3. AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;

4. AND that the province appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as the single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs and equally as important, the mental health, addictions and wrap around supports that must be put resourced and put in place;
5. AND that the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan;
6. AND that this provincial task force reviews the current programs and policies developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, as well as programs and policies proposed by various stakeholders, to evaluate their effectiveness, ability to be scaled up, and to ensure that a variety of solutions are available, as there is no one-size-fits-all answer, and can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis;
7. AND that the federal government is included in these conversations;
8. AND that both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;
9. And that this Council calls on the residents of the City of Guelph to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolveTheCrisis.ca](https://www.solve-the-crisis.ca) and showing your support;
10. AND further that a copy of this motion be sent to:
 - The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
 - The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
 - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Local MPs
- Local MPPs and
- Ontario's Big City Mayors (solvethecrisis@obcm.ca and info@obcm.ca)

Amendment

Moved By Councillor Caton

Seconded By Councillor Allt

5. AND that the provincial government strike a task force with the broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, ~~the business community and the tourism industry~~ **and people with living experience of homelessness and substance abuse disorders** to develop a Made in Ontario action plan.

Voting in Favour: (3): Councillor Allt, Councillor Caron, and Councillor Caton

Voting Against: (9): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Defeated (3 to 9)

Amendment

Moved By Councillor Caton

Seconded By Councillor Downer

5.AND that the provincial government strike a task force with the broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry **and people with**

living experience of homelessness and substance abuse disorders to develop a Made in Ontario action plan.

Voting in Favour: (11): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Voting Against: (1): Councillor Busuttil

Carried (11 to 1)

Main Motion as Amended

Moved By Councillor Klassen

Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. Therefore, be it resolved that the City Guelph supports Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) SolveTheCrisis.ca Campaign;
2. AND calls on the provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the humanitarian crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;
3. AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;
4. AND that the province appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as the single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs and equally as important, the mental health, addictions and wrap around supports that must be put resourced and put in place;
5. AND that the provincial government strike a task force with the broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry and people with living experience of homelessness and substance abuse disorders to develop a Made in Ontario action plan.
6. AND that this provincial task force reviews the current programs and policies developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, as well as programs and policies proposed by various stakeholders, to evaluate their effectiveness, ability to be scaled up, and to ensure that a variety of solutions are

available, as there is no one-size-fits-all answer, and can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis;

7. AND that the federal government is included in these conversations;

8. AND that both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;

9. And that this Council calls on the residents of the City of Guelph to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolveTheCrisis.ca](https://www.solveethecrisis.ca) and showing your support;

10. AND further that a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
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- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
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- The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Local MPs
- Local MPPs and
- Ontario's Big City Mayors (solveethecrisis@obcm.ca and info@obcm.ca)

It was requested that clauses 5 and 6 be voted on separately.

Moved By Councillor Klassen

Seconded By Councillor Goller

5. AND that the provincial government strike a task force with the broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry and people with living experience of homelessness and substance abuse disorders to develop a Made in Ontario action plan.

6. AND that this provincial task force reviews the current programs and policies developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, as well as programs and policies proposed by various stakeholders, to evaluate their effectiveness, ability to be scaled up, and to ensure that a variety of solutions are available, as there is no one-size-fits-all answer, and can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis;

Voting in Favour: (10): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Billings, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Voting Against: (2): Councillor Allt, and Councillor Busuttil

Carried (10 to 2)

Moved By Councillor Klassen

Seconded By Councillor Goller

1. Therefore, be it resolved that the City Guelph supports Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) SolveTheCrisis.ca Campaign;
2. AND calls on the provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the humanitarian crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;
3. AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;
4. AND that the province appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as the single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs and equally as important, the mental health, addictions and wrap around supports that must be put resourced and put in

place;

7. AND that the federal government is included in these conversations;

8. AND that both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;

9. And that this Council calls on the residents of the City of Guelph to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting [SolvetheCrisis.ca](https://www.solvethecrisis.ca) and showing your support;

10. AND further that a copy of this motion be sent to:

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- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Local MPs
- Local MPPs and
- Ontario's Big City Mayors (solvethecrisis@obcm.ca and info@obcm.ca)

Voting in Favour: (12): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (12 to 0)

5. By-laws

Moved By Councillor Richardson

Seconded By Councillor Klassen

1. That by-laws (2024)-21002, (2024)-21003, (2024)-21011, (2024)-21020, (2024)-21021, (2024)-21027 and (2024)-21028 be approved subject to Section 284.11 (4) of the Municipal Act.

Voting in Favour: (12): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (12 to 0)

6. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Holiday or Merry Christmas and thanked his colleagues for all their hard work over the past year. He also thanked staff for all their hard work and is looking forward to 2025.

7. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Billings

Seconded By Councillor Busuttil

1. That the meeting be adjourned (11:26 a.m.).

Voting in Favour: (12): Mayor Guthrie, Councillor Allt, Councillor Billings, Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Caron, Councillor Caton, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Goller, Councillor Klassen, Councillor O'Rourke, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (12 to 0)

Mayor Guthrie

Dylan McMahon - Acting City Clerk