



Minutes of the Business Licence Appeals Committee

**March 24, 2026, 5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Guelph City Hall, 1 Carden Street**

Council: Councillor L. Busuttil
Councillor K. Chew
Councillor C. Downer
Councillor D. Gibson
Councillor M. Richardson

Staff: M. Irish, Legal Counsel, Litigation and Risk
G. Meades, Manager, Legislative Services/Deputy City Clerk
E. Barber, Board and Committee Coordinator
G. Brennan, Council and Committee Coordinator
P. Power, Council and Committee Coordinator
A. Sandor, Council and Committee Coordinator

Also Present: N. White, TMA Law
P. Nepali
A. Thornton, Legal Counsel, City of Guelph
I. White, Junior Legal Counsel, City of Guelph
C. McKeown, Supervisor, By-law and Security, City of Guelph

1. Call to Order

Garrett Meades, Manager, Legislative Services/Deputy City Clerk, called the meeting to order (5:00 p.m.).

1.1 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures.

2. Election of Chair

Garrett Meades, Manager, Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Business Licence Appeals Committee.

Moved By Councillor Downer
Seconded By Councillor Chew

1. That Councillor Linda Busuttil be appointed as Chair of the Business License Appeals Committee for a term ending November 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

Voting in Favour: (4): Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, and Councillor Gibson

Carried (4 to 0)

Councillor Busuttil assumed the position of Chair.

3. Business Licence Appeals Committee Orientation Presentation

Matthew Irish, Legal Counsel, Litigation and Risk, presented and guided the Committee through the Business Licence Appeals Committee Orientation.

4. Break

The Committee recessed (5:09 p.m.). The Committee reconvened (6:00 p.m.).

5. Public Meeting to Hear Complaint Under Section 32(a)(iv) of the Business Licence By-law - 6:00 p.m.

Chair Busuttil introduced the Public Meeting to Hear a Complaint under Section 32(a)(iv) of the Business Licence By-law.

5.1 Complainant

Nancy Smith, TMA Law and representative for the appellant, Pramila Nepali, introduced themselves and presented to the Committee.

Witness

Nancy Smith, TMA Law, called the following witness:
Pramila Nepali, Applicant

Nancy Smith, TMA Law, questioned the witness.

Ian White, Junior Legal Counsel, Municipal Law, questioned the witness.

The Committee moved to closed session to consider the objection from Nancy White, TMA Law that the line of questioning from respondent Ian White, Junior Legal Counsel, was not in order (6:38 p.m.):

As per Section 9(1) (b) of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, intimate financial or personal matters or other matters may be disclosed at the hearing of such a nature, having regard to the circumstances, that the desirability of avoiding disclosure thereof in the interests of any person affected or in the public interest outweighs the desirability of adhering to the principle that hearings be open to the public.

Chair Busuttill called the hearing back to order (6:44 p.m.).

Matthew Irish, Legal Counsel, noted the Committee overruled the objection and allowed the question.

5.2 Respondent

Allison Thornton, City of Guelph and representative of the Issuer of Licences, introduced themselves and presented to the Committee.

Witness

Allison Thornton called the following witness:

Corey McKeown, Supervisor, Bylaw and Security, City of Guelph

Allison Thornton, Legal Counsel, Land Use Planning, questioned the witness.

Nancy Smith, TMA Law, questioned the witness.

5.3 Complainant Response

Nancy Smith, TMA Law, presented their response.

6. Authority to move into closed meeting

Moved By Councillor Richardson

Seconded By Councillor Downer

1. That the Business Licence Appeals Committee now hold a meeting that is closed to the public, pursuant to the Statutory Powers and Procedures Act, to consider:

Business Licence Appeals Committee Complaint - Parking Agent Licence

As per Section 9(1) (b) of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, intimate financial or personal matters or other matters may be

disclosed at the hearing of such a nature, having regard to the circumstances, that the desirability of avoiding disclosure thereof in the interests of any person affected or in the public interest outweighs the desirability of adhering to the principle that hearings be open to the public.

Voting in Favour: (5): Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Gibson, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (5 to 0)

The following items were considered:

6.1 Call to Order (closed meeting)

6.3 Business Licence Appeals Committee Complaint - Parking Agent Licence

6.2 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest or General Nature Thereof

7. Open Meeting

7.1 Recommendation to City Council

Moved By Councillor Gibson

Seconded By Councillor Richardson

1. That the Business Licence Appeals Committee pass the following recommendation, to be referred to the April 21, 2026 City Council meeting:

"That the Private Parking Agent Licence (application #25-308946), as submitted by Applicant, Pramila Nepali, be refused."

Voting in Favour: (5): Councillor Busuttil, Councillor Chew, Councillor Downer, Councillor Gibson, and Councillor Richardson

Carried (5 to 0)

Nancy White, TMA Law requested an opportunity to ask a question of the Committee. Chair Busuttil declined the request for an additional question.

8. Adjournment

Moved By Councillor Richardson

Seconded By Councillor Downer

1. That the meeting be adjourned (8:03 p.m.).

Carried

Mayor Guthrie

Garrett Meades – Deputy City Clerk