



**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THOROLD
PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

CL 21-2023

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Council Chamber / Video Conference

City of Thorold, City Hall, 3540 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, ON

Council Members Present in the Council Chamber:	Mayor Ugulini, Councillors D'Angela, Dekker, DeRose, Longo, O'Hare, Sentance
Council Members Present by Video Conference:	Councillors De Divitiis, Handley
Staff Present in the Council Chamber:	N. Debono, Deputy City Clerk, M. Dilwaria, Chief Administrative Officer, G. Holman, Director, Public Works & Community Services, J. Letourneau, Legislative Assistant, K. Scholtens, Manager, Economic Development, M. Trennum, City Clerk, M. Watson, Manager, IT
Others Present by Video Conference:	Leilani Lee-Yates, Director, Watershed Management, Natalie Green, Manager, Climate Change & Special Programs, NPCA

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ugulini called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor O'Hare read the Land Acknowledgement.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by: Councillor D'Angela

Seconded by: Councillor O'Hare

That Agenda CL 21-2023, **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

CARRIED

5. **Delegations**

5.1 **In-Support of Report CAO 12-2023**

5.1.1 Shahid Khan, and Salvatore Provvidenza, Northland Power

S. Provvidenza, Senior Manager, Commercial Operations, Northland Power, appeared before Council to speak in support of Report CAO 12-2023. Topics of his presentation included the following:

- Northland Power's corporate responsibility;
- Ontario's monthly power demand;
- Natural gas usage and its alignment with provincial and federal regulations;
- Key project information, and project location map;
- Project compliance with assessment and permit requirements;
- Overview of leading sources of greenhouse gases and air pollutants, and project emissions; and
- Overview of Northland Power's plan to displace natural gas with renewable natural gas.

5.1.2 Graham Guest, Niagara Renewable Natural Gas, Walker Industries

G. Guest, General Manager, Energy & Technical Services, Niagara Renewable Natural Gas, Walker Industries, appeared before Council to speak in support of Report CAO 12-2023. Topics of his presentation included the following:

- Overview of gas produced in landfills;
- Renewable Natural Gas ("RNG") overview; and
- Walker Industries' RNG project.

5.1.3 Kurt Vos, Great Lakes Port Management Inc.

K. Vos, Commercial Leasing & Property Manager, Great Lakes Port Management Inc. was unable to attend and withdrew his request to delegate. He advised in writing of his support for the Northland Power proposal.

5.1.4 Paul Veldman, and Justus Veldman, Bioveld Canada Inc.

David DeLeeuw, General Manager, BMI Group/Bioveld Canada Inc. appeared before Council to speak in support of Report CAO 12-2023. Topics of his presentation included the following:

- The work of the BMI Group; and
- Northland Power's history as a good corporate citizen and responsible industrial neighbour to the BMI Group.

5.2 In-Opposition to Report CAO 12-2023

5.2.1 Jack Gibbons, Ontario Clean Air Alliance

J. Gibbons, Chair, Ontario Clean Air Alliance, appeared before Council to speak in opposition to Report CAO 12-2023. Topics of his presentation included the following:

- The work of the Ontario Clean Air Alliance, including its current objective to phase out of gas-fired power plants;
- Municipal support for the phase out of gas-fired power plants;
- Provincial government plans to increase use of gas-fired power plants; and

- Alternative power options, including power management and renewable power sources.

5.2.2 Mark Freeman, Resident

M. Freeman, Resident, appeared before Council to speak in opposition to Report CAO 12-2023. Topics of his presentation included the following:

- Overview of climate change and its impacts;
- Ontario's current energy plan, and how it will lead to increased emissions;
- Alternative methods to meet provincial power needs;
- Information concerning RNG offsets and fossil gas pollution; and
- Canada's climate change accountability.

5.2.3 John Hamilton, Resident

J. Hamilton, Resident, appeared before Council to speak in opposition to Report CAO 12-2023. He noted the impact fossil fuel emissions have on the environment, and advised of the need to halt the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure.

5.2.4 Don Morley, Resident

D. Morley, Resident, appeared before Council to speak in opposition to Report CAO 12-2023. He expressed his concern with air particulates in the Thorold South area surrounding the Northland Power site.

5.2.5 Jordan Beekhuis, Resident

J. Beekhuis, Resident, appeared before Council to speak in opposition to Report CAO 12-2023. Topics of his presentation included the following:

- His education and work background in sustainable energy;
- His support for RNG, and opposition to new gas plants;
- The need for baseload energy expansion, rather than "peaker" energy expansion; and

- Cost considerations of the Northland Power proposal.

Members of council proceeded to ask clarifying questions for those appearing as delegates.

6. Correspondence

Moved by: Councillor Sentance

Seconded by: Councillor DeRose

That Council **RECEIVE** CL-C 19-2023, being the Written Submissions of Correspondence Respecting the Northland Power Council Request, and CL-C 20-2023, being the Written Submissions of Correspondence Respecting CAO 12-2023 received after the Agenda was Published and Before the Submission Deadline.

CARRIED

7. Items for Consideration

7.1 CAO 12-2023

Northland Power Council Request for a Letter of Endorsement.

Moved by: Councillor Sentance

Seconded by: Councillor DeRose

1. That Report CAO 12-2023, dated September 19, 2023, respecting Northland Power Council Request for a Letter of Endorsement, **BE RECEIVED**; and
2. That Thorold City Council **ENDORSE** Northland Power's proposal, as requested, and that staff **BE DIRECTED** to provide a Letter of Endorsement as part of the IESO application process on behalf of the City of Thorold, signed by the Clerk and Mayor.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (0).

No (9) D'Angela, De Divitiis, Dekker, DeRose, Handley, Longo, O'Hare, Sentance, Ugulini.

LOST

7.2 PWCS 93-2023

Community Tree Planting Event – Partnership with Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Moved by: Councillor Sentance

Seconded by: Councillor D'Angela

That Report PWCS 93-2023, dated September 19, 2023, respecting Community Tree Planting Event – Partnership with Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the partnership with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority to plant approximately 400 trees as part of Community-sponsored Events to be held on September 27th and October 28th, 2023, at the Lakeview Cemetery, **BE APPROVED**; and
2. That the City of Thorold's costs for this project **BE ALLOCATED** from the 2023 Tree Planting Program.

CARRIED

Councillor Information Request

Councillor O'Hare requested the invite to the community tree planting event(s) be circulated to all members of Council.

8. By-law(s)

8.1 Bill 152-2023

Moved by: Councillor DeRose

Seconded by: Councillor Dekker

That the following by-law **BE NOW READ** and **DOES PASS**:

Bill 152-2023 - A By-Law to Adopt, Ratify, and Confirm the Actions of City Council at its Meeting Held on September 19, 2023.

CARRIED

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Terry Ugulini
Mayor

Nicholas Debono
Deputy City Clerk

Matthew Trennum
City Clerk