REGULAR MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025 – 4:30 p.m.

Township of South-West Oxford <u>Council Chambers</u>

Present: Chair Jim Pickard; Mayor David Mayberry; Councillor Valerie Durston;

Works Superintendent Adam Prouse; and Cathy Reeves (community

representative).

Regrets: David Schell (community representative) and George Klosler (community

representative)

Staff: Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk Denny Giles, Acting CAO Julie

Middleton

Guests: Bill Riley (community member, interested in Committee)

Call to Order

Chair Jim Pickard called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Bill Riley introduced himself and provided the Committee with some information on his background.

Motion to Accept the Agenda

Resolution No. 1 Moved by Adam Prouse

Seconded by David Mayberry

RESOLVED that the agenda for the meeting of the September 3rd, 2025 Environment and Energy Innovation Committee be approved,

as amended.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

<u>Minutes</u>

Resolution No. 2 Moved by Cathy Reeves

Seconded by Adam Prouse

RESOLVED that the minutes of the June 4th, 2025 meeting Environment and Energy Innovation Committee meeting be reviewed and approved.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Electrical Audit Updates & Follow-Up –Beachville Museum

- Beachville Museum Updates:
 - o Darryl is working on obtaining this information from Tim Smith

Consideration Heat Pump at Mount Elgin Community Centre

Adam contacted Black and MacDonald, they are not recommending a heat pump and think a boiler is the best option. Additionally, he asked Rick's Heating and Cooling to quote both a heat pump and boiler. They have provided a quote for the boiler (\$22,900), but have not yet provided a quote for a heat pump. Black and MacDonald will not quote the heat pump, only the boiler, as provided.

The Committee asked why Black and MacDonald would not quote the heat pump option. Adam advised they don't recommend a heat pump and don't feel it makes sense to have a heat pump, so they will not provide a quote for it.

Mayor Mayberry suggested a meeting with Patrick Darby (who works for WalterFedy as an energy consultant) who also sits on Smart Energy Oxford.

Film Plastic Collection Stats (Follow-Up)

At the previous meeting, the Committee requested the bale plastic stats and shipping destination. Andrea Coverdale, Coordinator of Waste Management, noted that the program was rolled out in June 2023. The plastics are shipped to Switch Energy Corp. in Listowel. The 2025 numbers are in line with the first two years of the program:

Year	Sum of Net TNS
2023	5.27
2024	7.82
2025	4.56

The Committee inquired about EPCOR, but there is no update at this time.

Township Facility Energy Usage – January to June 2025

The Committee reviewed the energy consumption at all Township facilities for the first half of 2025. The following items were noted/of concern:

- Municipal Office usage was quite high for July; main purpose would likely be air conditioning due to the hot summer.
- Works Shop usage increased in June/July, no specific changes other than managing through a hot summer and air conditioning requirements.
- Brownsville Hall down significantly since unplugging the freezer.
- Mount Elgin Hall increase for July as well, due to air conditioning needs.
- Salford Hall the usage numbers have doubled and will need to investigate the reasoning (potentially the thermostat).
- Beachville Fire Station saw significant increase, seek potential cause from Fire Chief.

Correspondence

Save On Energy – Retrofit Program Update

Shared for information, but mainly residential and therefore nothing that the Township could apply for at this time.

The Committee suggested adding information regarding the Save on Energy- Retrofit Program to a future edition of SWOX Talks.

Discussion Items

• List of goals from March 2025 minutes below:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Status</u>
Electrical audit at the Public Works Shop	Complete
Fans for Public Works Shop	Not proceeding: cost prohibitive
Consider air source heat pumps at other facilities	Considering Mount Elgin
Electric options for Township fleet	Exploring options wherever possible
	Adam sat in on a lunch with International, advised that a

	research facility in Ohio for electrical vehicles is being closed.
Encourage purchase of electric school busses	Lang's busses replacing with electric
Replace all lights with LED	Swapping with LED as we replace
Monthly comparison for Mount Elgin Hall	Complete
Zero Waste Parks	Hall and Park Board initiative
Explore options for ice removal (pickle juice)	Not proceeding at this time
Province amending endangered species act	No update
Tree planting	Any projects for 2026 budget?
Soil erosion – public education re: fence rows	Send communication material to staff
Consider making culverts larger	No change at this time.
Consider review and update of servicing standards	Falls in line with above.
Consider use of red wriggler worms	Not proceeding at this time.
New net zero municipal office/child care facility	Ongoing as project enters design stage.
Public education and awareness	Communication is ongoing
Organic waste collection implementation	Will commence Jan, 2026
Flood risk forecasting model	Staff work with Conservation Authorities for municipal drainage projects (best practices)

New Business

New Municipal Office/Daycare/Library Facility

Committee members inquired as to whether the new facility will be net zero, similar to the Upper Thames Conservation Authority Building and the Oxford County Building. Members would like to see solar panels included, or the option to add them at a later

date to the new facility, so there would be a requirement to ensure the rooftop can support it. The Committee inquired if there had been consideration given to a green roof on the new facility.

Mayor Mayberry suggested staff investigate the Green Municipal Building Fund in search of any available grants to help offset the cost of the new facility.

Adjournment

Resolution No. 3 Moved by Valerie Durston Seconded by David Mayberry

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Environment and Energy Innovation Committee adjourn at 5:37 p.m. to meet again on October 8th, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried