



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission
Thursday, June 30, 2022 12:00pm
In-Person at 25 Messenger Drive

In attendance:

Ian Froude	Vice-Chair/City Councillor
Tolulope Akerele	Commissioner
Derek Coffey	Deputy City Manager, Finance and Administration
Ron Ellsworth	Commissioner/City Councillor
Kevin Breen	City Manager
Judy Powell	General Manager
Donna Power	Administrative Assistant

Regrets:

Kirsten Morry	Commissioner
Paul Walsh	Chair
Lynn Zurel	Commissioner
Maggie Burton	Commissioner/City Councillor

I. PROCEDURAL

The Chair (I. Froude) called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

II. AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Ellsworth; seconded by Commissioner Akerele. Motion Carried.

III. MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022 regular meeting as presented.

Moved by D. Coffey; seconded by Commissioner Akerele. Motion Carried.

IV. BUSINESS ARISING

There were no items for discussion arising from the minutes.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Radio System Replacement

The General Manager informed that at present Metrobus' radio system operates on older analog technology which will no longer be supported at the end of the year. Upgrading the radios will cost \$750,000. Metrobus wishes to submit an application for funding through ICIP to enable this upgrade.

MOTION: To proceed with an application for funding through ICIP to upgrade the radio system.

Moved by D. Coffey; seconded by K. Breen. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Charters

The General Manager noted that this agenda item was requested at the last meeting by Commissioner Burton, with the intention to discuss whether Metrobus should continue to offer charter service. Charters are a small piece of business which do not generate significant revenue but do fill a void in the market.

Commissioner Ellsworth and K. Breen both noted that if Metrobus no longer offered Charter service, this may impact the current requirement of having to pay provincial road tax.

ACTION: The General Manager will follow up with the Province to inquire about this and provide an update to the Commission.

3. General Manager's Report

The General Manager noted that the closing date for the GoBus RFP is July 8, 2022. Previously, Commissioner Morry and Chair Walsh were involved with reviewing bids for GoBus work; the General Manager will follow up with them to inquire if they are interested in participating in this RFP review. The General Manager inquired if there are other Commissioners who would also be interested. Commissioner Akerele expressed her interest in being involved. Commissioner Ellsworth noted that due to his relationship with potential bidders, he will recuse himself from all discussion and decision-making related to this RFP.

Commissioner Akerele inquired about the purpose of disposable passes. The General Manager responded that these are primarily sold to non-profit organizations who wish to offset transportation costs for their clients/customers on a per-trip basis. The disposable cards fill a void in situations where purchasing reloadable passes or issuing cash are not preferred.

4. Executive Summary Report

Vice Chair Froude expressed his pleasure with the increased ridership numbers for May, noting it was 11% high than 2019, which in turn was 12% higher than 2018. He believes market conditions are playing a role, but so too are improvements that have been made to the system. This is something to be proud of.

Vice Chair Froude requested updated information on the status of the GoBus eligibility assessments, to know if things are on track to meet the September deadline. He would like to see this within the next week and for it to show data for the past 3 months for comparison.

ACTION: The General Manager will follow up with the Manager of Accessible Transit Services to provide the information requested.

Vice Chair Froude inquired if Metrobus is receiving the 50% reduction in the provincial portion of gas tax recently enacted by the Province. The General Manager confirmed that yes, we pay 9.5 c/L vs. 16.5c/L with the temporary reduction.

Vice Chair Froude indicated that the Marketing Committee is set to meet next week. He will report any pertinent information back to the Commission at its next meeting.

5. Financial Statements for May 2022

The financial statements for May 2022 were table for members' information.

VI. OTHER

There were no additional business items to discuss.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Business concluded at approximately 12:18 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn the June 30, 2022 regular business meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Akerele. Meeting adjourned.