



SUBJECT: Community Energy Plan – Ministry of Energy Funding agreement

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Capital Works

Report Number: CW-75-17

Wards Affected: not applicable

File Numbers: 210-09

Date to Committee: September 25, 2017

Date to Council: October 10, 2017

Recommendation:

Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign an agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Energy for funding to support the renewal of the Community Energy Plan, subject to the approval of the City Solicitor.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to obtain authority for the Mayor and City Clerk to sign a funding agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Energy to help support the renewal of the Community Energy Plan. This initiative supports the Strategic Plan, specifically:

A Healthy and Greener City

- Environmental and Energy Leadership
 - The city will work with community stakeholders to implement the Community Energy Plan and achieve the goals and objectives related to energy conservation, generation and availability.
 - The city recognizes that climate change is a significant issue and is working with the community and all levels of government towards the goal of the Burlington community being net carbon neutral.

Background and Discussion:

City Council endorsed the first Community Energy Plan for Burlington in early 2014. The vision for the CEP is:

To achieve a community that is efficient and economically viable in how it uses energy... to reduce its reliance on the use of energy, reduce its carbon footprint, and improve local energy security.

A commitment was made to report on the CEP annually and update it on a four year cycle to ensure information and actions remain relevant. A funding application was submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Energy under its Municipal Energy Plan program earlier this year in partnership with Burlington Hydro. Staff were advised in June that the funding application had been approved but only recently has had communication with ministry staff to begin the process for the funding agreement.

Strategy/process

Staff worked with Burlington Hydro staff to complete the funding application prior to submitting it to the Ministry of Energy.

Options considered

The Ministry of Energy's funding to support the renewal and implementation of Municipal Energy Plans, up to \$25,000, was considered the best option for the renewal of the Community Energy Plan.

Financial Matters:

Burlington was approved to receive \$25,000, the maximum allowable under the Ministry of Energy's Municipal Energy Plans funding program for either the implementation or renewal of a plan.

Total Financial Impact

The budget for the Community Energy Plan renewal is \$68,255.

Source of Funding

The following is a breakdown of funding sources:

Ministry of Energy	\$25,000
City of Burlington	\$10,020
Burlington Hydro	\$13,550
In kind – staff time	\$19,685
TOTAL	\$68,255

The City's portion will be funded from the Energy Initiative Reserve fund to support the update of the Community Energy Plan.

Other Resource Impacts

Not applicable

Connections:

The implementation of the Community Energy Plan relates to and supports the Official Plan, Transportation Plan, Cycling Plan, Smart Commute, and several other initiatives to conserve energy and reduce the community carbon footprint. It also supports the provincial Climate Change Action and Long Term Energy plans.

Public Engagement Matters:

Community stakeholders will be engaged through the review and update of the Community Energy Plan.

Conclusion:

The Burlington Community Energy Plan will be reviewed and updated to ensure the information and actions are relevant and current to provide strategic direction for the community to conserve energy and reduce its carbon footprint to lessen the impact on climate change.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendices:

Appendix A: Ministry of Energy Letter re: funding approval

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, Director of Finance and Director of Legal. Final approval is by the City Manager.