

Report to Council

Report Title: Municipal Innovation Council Update

Prepared By: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer

Department: Administration

Date: July 14, 2020

Report Number: CAO2020-13 **File Number:** C11AD, L04

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2020-13 - Municipal Innovation Council Update, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and in doing so approves Fiona Hamilton, Clerk being appointed as the alternate to the CAO as the representative for the Municipality of Brockton.

Report:

Background:

As Council as aware the Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII) has created an opportunity for municipal innovation, within NII's Applied Research Hub. In August 2019, Saugeen Shores Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NII to coordinate the Municipal Innovation Council (MIC) on behalf of participating municipalities. A business plan, and concept document regarding MIC was drafted in partnership with area municipalities based on feedback from the senior staff of local municipalities; and the document reflected common goals, objectives and a funding model to suit potential partners.

Analysis:

The MIC is a three year pilot project model to find efficiencies, build smarter processes and ensure municipal services are sustainable. Similar models have been implemented across the province, as municipalities recognize the need to innovate in order to discover cost savings and implement efficiencies. A business plan, and concept document regarding Municipal Innovation Council are in place and work has begun.

The MIC will foster collaboration and transformation of municipal process.

There are four areas of focus:

- Construction and Infrastructure
- Municipal Sustainability

- IT and Digital Enhancement
- Liveable Communities.

The objectives and goals of the MIC are set for each area of focus by the participating municipalities.

The MIC will have access at no charge to NII resources, including their innovation teams and world renowned researchers. The collectively funded position of Innovation Officer will leverage NII resources to implement solutions for common municipal challenges. No funding will be directed to NII.

The funding model for the MIC includes a \$12,000 annual membership fee, plus \$2.50 per household (2016 census) due annually. The following eight partners have agreed to participate in the Municipal Innovation Council:

- Saugeen Shores
- Huron-Kinloss
- South Bruce
- Kincardine
- Northern Bruce Peninsula
- County of Bruce
- Arran-Elderslie
- Brockton

Initial joint priorities were set in January 2020 under the focus areas of E-Services, Waste management, Sustainability/Climate Change and Transportation. The MIC is working to move projects ahead within these focus areas over the next two and a half years. The initial start was somewhat delayed due to the staff time required towards the pandemic limiting the ability to meet. This also delayed the hiring of our Innovation Officer. However, that is now all underway and this staff person will be the key person working on MIC initiatives and coordinating our committee. A Terms of Reference establishing protocols was also established between the partners.

The key focus of the MIC was the intent for municipalities to identify and implement strategies that would improve efficiencies by modernization of municipal service delivery models. The use of the Provincial one-time efficiency/modernization grant was ideal to leverage for such a purpose. The MIC was successful in obtaining funding from the Provincial one-time efficiency/modernization grant and these are being utilized towards a Waste Management Service Review which is underway. The group has been meeting monthly since April to advance this initiative and look at further initiatives that fall within the four focus areas. The Waste Management review final document will be available in September and provided to Council at that time.

In order to ensure the continuation of initiatives and input from Brockton it is deemed advisable to have each Municipality appoint an alternate. I recommend Council appoint Fiona Hamilton, Clerk as my alternate on this committee. She will only attend in my absence as required.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? Yes
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? Yes
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? Yes
- Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? Yes
- Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? Yes

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes
- There are no additional financial considerations to this report.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer