



## CLIMATE PROTECTION WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers – 77 Beckwith Street North, Smiths Falls

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### ATTENDANCE:

**Members' Present:** Councilor P. McKenna  
Mayor Shawn Pankow  
N. Morris  
D. Shewfelt  
L. Bradford (2:27 p.m.)  
P. Au (Remote)  
S. Gauthier (Remote)  
S. Brandum (Remote 2:13 p.m.)

### Regrets:

**Guests:** None

**Staff Present:** R. Grant, Planner I  
M. Elmsley, Planning Clerk  
T. Stewart, Summer Student

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

P. McKenna called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement. A quorum was present.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

*Moved: N. Morris*

*Seconded: D. Shewfelt*

*CARRIED: (6-0)*

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Climate Protection Working Group meeting from June 10, 2025, were approved as presented.

*Moved: D. Shewfelt*

*Seconded: N. Morris*

*Carried: (6-0)*

#### 4. DISCLOSURE OF MONETARY INTERESTS

None.

#### 5. PRIORITY ISSUES

i.) Focus Group Recap – Next Steps

R. Grant reviewed the Focus Group session held August 6<sup>th</sup> noting a small attendance, however the conversation was good. Competing events included Old Home Week and Bike Night. Next steps include updating the list of sustainability goals.

ii.) Visioning Session Prep

This next event is being held on August 19<sup>th</sup> and will be a different format where participants will be given 3 tasks to complete to give us feedback. R. Grant will lead the session.

iii.) N-ZAP Pilot Community Program

N. Morris outlined that this program has some overlap in the CAP, noting that N-Zap is a more robust “Climate Accounting” tools that model data driven solutions to climate change.

**MOTION # CPWG 2025-03**

“THAT the Smiths Falls Climate Protection Working Group recommend that, through staff, we apply to participate in the N-Zap Pilot Community Program”.

*Moved by: N. Morris*

*Seconded by: D. Shewfelt*

*Carried: (7:0)*

**ACTION:** R. Grant to sign up for the N-Zap Pilot Community Program and to advise if further approvals are required from Council.

The discussion continued regarding Next Steps for the Climate Action Plan. R. Grant advised that the M1 Baseline date is being reviewed, revising the Interim Report noting that committee member comments are due back to R. Grant by August 29<sup>th</sup> and he is preparing print material for the Visioning Session. A general discussion regarding the categories and dates for achieving goals in the draft report provided by the consultant noted that they are confusing. It was determined that the goal for achieving our target emission reductions is that deadline is 2029. The committee felt that setting target for 2050 was not practical.

The target suggested by the consultant is too low. The committee will discuss the targets being proposed in detail at the September 9<sup>th</sup> CPWG meeting. The group discussed the Asset Management Plan

recently approved by Council and how it will impact the targets. This strategic document allows for better informed decisions and CPWG can still make recommendations on it.

**ACTION:** The CPWG requested that the Chair, the Mayor and R. Grant arrange a meeting with senior management (C.A.O.) to review the link to N-Zap as it demonstrates how to incorporate climate lens into decision making process and get their feedback.

**ACTION:** Staff to circulate the link to the Council Meeting where the Asset Management Plan was approved, and the N-Zap link to the slide deck for more information.

## **6. Project Updates**

### **i.) Old Home Week**

L. Bradford advised that our participation at Wellnessfest was very well received by the people who stopped by the table. Most did not know that there was a CPWG committee citing the need for promotion. It was great to partner with the Health Unit, and our print material was well done. The people who signed the sheet can be added to our list of those who want more information. L. Bradford thanked R. Grant, S. Brandum and P. Au for help organizing and staffing the table.

## **7. ROUNDTABLE**

R. Grant advised round two of the Rural Transit Feasibility Study August 13<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm in Smiths Falls.

D. Shewfelt – Health Unit also sent letter to the Rural Transit Study to include on-demand and electric options. An update for the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Report was on the agenda for the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. D. Shewfelt is happy to provide this still on the 9<sup>th</sup> time permitting, otherwise it can be deferred to the next meeting. The Health Unit is looking to update their contact list for information on Climate Change – she will add the committee members to her list.

S. Brandum advised that Climate Network Lanark will make a presentation to Council on September 9<sup>th</sup>. On September 20<sup>th</sup> there is a National Seniors Rally on Climate Change (Seniors for Climate) with local activities planned in Perth – protest to happen on Highway 7 near Shoppers Drug Mart.

## **8. Next Meeting**

Tuesday September 9, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

THAT, the Climate Protection Working Group adjourns its proceedings at 3:56 p.m. and stand so adjourned until the next duly called Committee meeting.

*Moved: N. Morris*

*Seconded: D. Shewfelt*

*Carried: (8-0)*