

REGULAR MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 – 4:30 p.m.

Township of South-West Oxford

Council Chambers

Present: Mayor David Mayberry; George Klosler (community representative), Cathy Reeves (community representative); and Bill Riley (community representative)

Regrets: Chair Jim Pickard, Councillor Valerie Durston, Works Superintendent Adam Prouse, David Schell (community representative);

Staff: Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk Denny Giles
Facilities Technician Darryl Nutt

Guests: None

Call to Order

A quorum was not present, and no votes will be taken associated with Committee business. Members present continued with a discussion regarding the Committee and ideas for the future.

Motion to Accept the Agenda

No resolution due to quorum not present.

Minutes

No resolution due to quorum not present.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Purchase of Electrical Audit/Monitoring Device – Update

Facilities Maintenance Technician Darryl Nutt advised that the Brownsville Library hallways and corridor had been connected to the device, and that there is \$300-\$400 a month in savings when certain items aren't running.

Discussion Items

Darryl Nutt advised that Salford Hall was undergoing an audit on electricity, and that the water heater is estimated to cost \$87.00/month to operate and the boiler is estimated \$48.00-\$50.00/month

Updated Thermostat Regulating Policy

It was noted that ecobees still need to be installed in the fire halls.

The Committee noted a potential change under section 1.6 of the policy which should indicate a differential in optimal temperature during occupied and unoccupied times as a lower temperate setting would be required in the winter to minimize heat use, and a higher temperature setting would be required in the summer to minimize air conditioning use.

The Committee discussed funding opportunities for in-depth energy audits which a grant available from the Federal government would see 80% of the cost covered. Salford Hall and Mount Elgin Hall would need to have these audits completed by WalterFedy. Grant funding won't be known until April or May.

Ideas – What should the committee be looking at?

The Committee discussed other initiatives for environment and energy innovation, including:

- The age of the boilers at community centers (Salford, Mount Elgin).
- Folden's Hall doesn't have air conditioning, which is often asked for by renters of the hall.
- Installation of a dishwasher at Folden's Hall (which may be addressed in the 2027 capital budget as the plan is for a full kitchen renovation).
- Recycling of pens/pencils/markers (Staples offers a program)
- Placing a green cone at Township facilities instead of the green bin for organics collection
- Allowance of native gardens under the Tidy Yard By-law, inclusive of setback requirements for where a native garden could be located
- Long-term incentive programs to aid people in doing 'green' projects.
- Recycling of masks and PPE for firefighter uses
- Solar panel usage and the break even point due to rising rates

A member inquired as to how much energy the digital sign located in front of the Mount Elgin Community Centre costs in electricity. The committee discussed solar panels and the option to install them at Township facilities to help further reduce electricity costs.

New Business

Adjournment

Quorum not present. No adjournment of meeting needed.