



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission
Thursday, July 21, 2022 12:00pm
In-Person at 25 Messenger Drive

In attendance:

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

Regrets:

Kirsten Morry	Commissioner
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I. PROCEDURAL

The Chair (P. Walsh) called the meeting to order at 12:11 PM.

II. AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.

The General Manager noted that items 1 and 2 are referencing the same discussion and requests that this discussion be moved to the in camera meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Zurel; seconded by Vice Chair Froude. Motion Carried.

III. MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the June 30, 2022 regular meeting as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Akerele; seconded by Vice Chair Froude. Motion Carried.

IV. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the minutes to discuss.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Fare Collection – Taxis (GoBus)

Prior to the use of tablets in taxis (which began January 2022), it had been challenging to collect fares paid by Go-Cards from GoBus customers traveling by taxi because there wasn't a way for the cards to be read. The upgraded fare collection system has enabled these fares to now be collected. Referring to the table on page 8 of the meeting package, data representing 10-ride passes shows an increase from \$2.00 in January 2022 to \$3,786.20 in June 2022. Data from monthly/30-day passes is not included, but the new technology does validate that customers are reloading their passes each month.

2. General Manager's Report

Funding application for Radio Replacement: Commissioner Zurel inquired about the risk of not having the radios replaced before the end of the year (when support for the current radios terminates). The General Manager responded that there isn't a risk that the radios will stop working since the core of the system is not impacted, only the radios themselves require upgrading from analog to digital technology.

Electrification Plan: The General Manager commented that feedback has been provided to CUTRIC on the scoping plan, which has taken longer than anticipated. Vice Chair Froude asked if this delay will impact any purchasing decisions, such as the plan to purchase hybrid buses. The General Manager responded that it should not have any impacted since there is no plan for further purchases before the electrification plan is completed (which is expected in the first quarter of 2023).

Accessibility Plan: Vice Chair Froude inquired what information is being waited on from the Province and how reliant we are on that in order to begin the work of creating an accessibility plan. The General Manager commented that the Province indicated they will create templates to support employers in developing their plans and that the scope of the plan will not be limited to the building and bus shelters. The information from the Province will help outline what is required under the legislation. Vice Chair Froude expressed that he would prefer not to wait for the information from the Province since he doesn't anticipate receiving much that would meet our needs. Commissioner Burton indicated that she would like to see a working draft of the plan sooner than later in order to ensure we are going down the right path. K. Breen inquired if this is something that can be done in-house or if outside expertise will be required. The General Manager commented that yes, the plan is to do this work in-house, though without further information from the Province, it is unclear what exactly the legislative requirements are.

Fare Collection on Taxis: Vice Chair Froude noted the increase in the number of “insufficient” transactions, inquiring if this is a result of greater usage of the system and what happens in these situations. The General Manager informed that the customer is asked to pay cash if their card is not loaded. The responsibility for fare collection falls to MVT and the taxi company as the fares are retained by MVT.

Stop Announcements: Commissioner Akerele noted the completion date of Dec 31, 2022 and inquired if there is anything that can be done prior to funding. The General Manager responded that preparation of the RFP can begin but it cannot go to market before funding is approved.

3. Executive Summary Report

Chair Walsh noted there continue to be challenges with completing the GoBus eligibility assessments. The General Manager commented that the Manager of Accessible Transit Services is in constant contact with Telus and recently learned that their lead person on this contract is leaving.

Chair Walsh inquired if there was any update from the recent Marketing Committee meeting. Vice Chair Froude responded that he will provide an update at the next Commission meeting.

4. Financial Statements for June 2022

The financial package for June was tabled for the Commission’s information. Commissioner Zurel expressed thanks for the Finance team for compiling the information and noted that there were no surprises in the June statements, which is good news as it means the Commission is kept informed in a timely manner.

VI. OTHER

1. August 2022 Meeting

The next regular meeting of the St. John’s Transportation Commission is scheduled for Thursday, August 18, 2022 at noon.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Business concluded at approximately 12:42 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn the July 21, 2022 regular business meeting of the St. John’s Transportation Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Zurel. Meeting adjourned.