



MINUTES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, April 19, 2016
11:00 a.m.
City Hall Council Chambers

Present: Mayor D. Canfield
Councillor M. Goss (arrived at 11:15 a.m.)
Councillor R. McMillan
Councillor L. Roussin
Councillor S. Smith
Councillor C. Wasacase

Regrets: Councillor D. Reynard

Staff: Karen Brown, CAO
Heather Kasprick, City Clerk
Andrew Glasco, Community & Development Services
Rick Perchuk, Operations & Infrastructure
Lauren D'Argis, Corporate Services
Todd Skene, Fire & Emergency Services

Call Meeting to order – Deputy Mayor R. McMillan

Public Notices

Take Notice that as required under Notice By-law #144-2007, Council intends to adopt the following items at this Special Meeting of Council:

N/A

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature thereof

- i) On Today's Agenda
- ii) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance

Deputations

Approximately five (5) minutes per person/group.

Items:

1. 2016 Operating Budget Discussions

Lauren D'Argis referenced the Capital and Five Year Plan coming forward today for approval. For clarification purposes, she clarified that there was no duplication of the trails

brochure. The events centre costs initially showed \$25 million and it will now reflect the most recently presented amount. The recycling depot project the funding has been reduced and this will be reflected in the new budget for the capital budgets. Council previously approved staff to move forward with spending projects.

With the Water & Sewer budgets they will come forward for official approval in May, but Karen asked consensus that Council authorize staff to move forward with capital spending for projects in the same budget similar to capital plan.

Karen – take out one time items – taken out of reserve – special projects – tennis court fencing – hoping council give authority to move forward with those kinds of items since it won't be approved until May.

Rory – recruitment partnership – full 3 years coming out of reserves. \$25,000 per year for 3 years coming out of reserves.

Operating budget – April 4 requested changes. One time \$121,700 added up to. #25,000 KAHCWG – reduced LOWDC \$37,600 back to last year levels, Kenora Citizens Prosperity Trust fund – phase reduction in income over four years – improved \$45,000. Increased parking meter revenue \$60,000, \$2,500 clerks advertising budget – found WDO funding is wrong - \$100,000 added to it. audit reduced the number we brought in. wasn't as bad as I thought. Funding comes in very late for WDO

3% growth in our net tax levy. Residential tax rate decrease of 2.75% which for the average taxpayer with assessment increase 2.95% increase in tax bill.

Community prosperity trust fund – originally it said we could only take \$750,000 in income in 2016. Had a \$350,000 hit compared year to year. Finished year end for fund, being pessimistic. In reality going to come in \$920,000 in income that we could take in 2016. Phase in the \$180,000 shortfall over 4 years. Phase in the impact the fact that we aren't making the 1.1 over four years. Does not dip into the original principal. We maintain at 920,000 in income per year.

KDSB – went up \$132,000 what is the explanation of the increase. Louis clarification – part of the increase is because ambulance services with increased workload there. non-emergency patient transfer. Second, asset management plan with housing – way behind in reserves, asset management plan that had to remit – it meant an increase to get reserves back in order. Purchase of new building, seven plex, that is 100% on the property tax base, also some work done in auditing for housing need. Where there was a consultant for that. coordinator hired to do a complete audit for housing need in every community. OMPF funding affects one municipality and still waiting for an accounting which KDSB asked for – the end run is they cannot give them an answer. Supposed to be changes. Increases are as a result of the demand for different housing and Ontario Works costs are up.

Communications – work being done already recognized. Don't want to cut this budget.

Councillor Roussin expressed his concerns regarding the lack of dollars we are putting towards our infrastructure deficit to the level that was recommended in the asset management plan.

Rory – worry - but have a lot of confidence in our city management. staff have been telling us for years that we should be – but have confidence moving forward.

Sharon - Good fiscal management of our staff that we were able to go back to staff and get the reduction for taxpayers. Wish had more money to put aside.

Louis – do you believe we are getting enough money to do justice to our annual deferred deficit to look after our core services. Karen – no.

Thank you staff for doing a good job.

Adjourned at 11:41 a.m.