



MINUTES

of the
Budget Committee
Of Council

ACTION

Held Monday, March 17, 2008
City Council Chambers
6:00 p.m.

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PRESENT: Councillor R. McMillan, Chair
Councillor D. McCann
Councillor W. Cuthbert
Councillor C. Drinkwater
Councillor A. Poirier
Councillor C. Van Walleghem
Mayor Compton
B. Preisntanz, CAO
W. Brinkman, Emergency Services Manager
C. Neil, Recreation Manager
R. Perchuk, Operations Manager
K. Brown, Finance & Administration Manager

**A. PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICES AS PER BY-LAW
NUMBER 144-2007**

Take Notice that in keeping with Notice By-law #144-2007 Council intends to approve the following at its April 14 Meeting:
N/A

B. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

- 1) On Today's Agenda
 - 2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance
- There were none declared.**

C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by C. Van Walleghem, Seconded by W. Cuthbert & Carried:
THAT the Minutes from the last regular meetings held:
October 22, 2007
October 23, 2007
October 30, 2007; and
November 13, 2007
be confirmed as written and filed.

**D. DEPUTATIONS:-
N/A**

E. REPORTS:

1. Major 2008 Operating Budget Impacts – High Level

Karen Brown provided a high level overview of the major operating budget impacts for 2008 on the operating budget, as well as an overview of items deferred to the 2008 budget deliberations. Council engaged in an extended discussion on these impacts, and the resulting impact on the City's tax rate, including the potential for a tax rate phase in, and the overall impacts of the KMTS transaction.

RECOMMENDATION

Council directed staff to update the draft 2008 operating budget to:

- include all items listed on the optional list, including a request from Triple Play which was inadvertently excluded from that list, and
- ensure any non-approved union rate increases were excluded.

It was noted that this would result in a tax rate impact of approximately 5.9%. The amended budget will be distributed to Council for their review and consideration.

KBrown

2. Council Direction

No final decision on an acceptable tax rate impact was made at this meeting. It was agreed that this would be further reviewed following a detailed review of the draft operating budget. The date for this review was scheduled for Thursday, April 3rd starting at 9:00 a.m. Further budget timelines will be developed at that meeting, although it was noted that certain tax related by-laws must be approved by April 30th.

3. Detailed Operating Budget Distribution

It was noted that the detail sheets for the 2008 draft operating budget will be distributed by March 20, 2008 to provide sufficient time for independent Council review prior to the April 3rd budget meeting.

KBrown

ITEMS ON HOLD:

N/A

OTHER BUSINESS

N/A

NEXT MEETING

- Operating Budget Meeting – April 3rd at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.