



City of Kenora
Budget Committee Minutes
Tuesday, December 1, 2009
At 3:00 p.m.
City Hall Chambers

Action

Present: Mayor Compton
Councillor W. Cuthbert
Councillor C. Drinkwater
Councillor R. McMillan
Councillor C. Van Walleghem
B. Preisenzanz, CAO
R. Perchuk, Operations Manager
K. Brown, Finance & Administration Manager
W. Brinkman, Fire & Emergency Services
Manager (arrived late)
S. McDowall, HR Manager
C. Neil, Recreation Services Manager
J. McMillin, City Clerk

Regrets: Councillor D. McCann
Councillor J. Parson

A. Public information Notices as per By-law Number 144-2007
N/A

B. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof
1) On Today's Agenda
2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance
There were none declared.

C. Confirmation of Budget Minutes
N/A

D. Budget Committee Deputations:-
N/A

E. Reports / Presentations:-

Councillor McMillan, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Capital Budget Review

Projects Dependent on Long Term Debt Issuance

Karen explained that Council will have to decide if they want to incorporate these projects on the Long Term Debt list or move them forward to the Capital Budget.

Bridges:

It was questioned if any of the bridges could be shut down by the Ministry if the City does not include the work in the budget. The arch on the Winnipeg West Branch bridge is deteriorating on the lower portion and the Engineers have identified this for future failure of the bridge and should be repaired prior to the possibility of a shut down. Rick noted construction costs do increase by a certain percentage each year however we would likely have to petition the government as we likely cannot finance it ourselves. The most critical bridge to be repaired of the 19 we have is the Winnipeg River West Branch bridge and it should be debt financed for the repairs. Rick noted the information is based on the engineer's 2008 report.

Agreed to include the design of the bridge in the 2010 Capital Budget with construction to be included in 2011.

Performing Arts Centre:

It was agreed to retain this item on the list and may have to look at partnerships to finance the project but no expenditures expected in 2010. It was asked if there was any downfall in taking it off the list and it was mentioned this may be more of a private sector project then something to be established with tax dollars. Having it on the list doesn't tie Council to anything but public perception may be different. Councillor Cuthbert stated that while it may be needed or wanted by the community it should not necessarily be funded with public dollars.

Mayor Compton commented the name should be changed from Performing Arts Centre to Convention Centre or Auditorium. Councillor McMillan will review this with the Committee and if agreed Council would have to amend the By-law to change the name of the Committee on our documentation.

Agreed to keep it on the list perhaps until 2011.

Economic Development/Tourism:

Tourism is to be kept at 50% funding.

Railway Street:

Discussion ensued on providing a safe walking area along Railway Street, i.e. through the sidewalk program rather than a 'bumpy road' issue. Rick mentioned it had been looked at but it is difficult to determine where to start and stop with the rehabilitating of this road. It was noted the shoulders have been paved all the way to the tracks.

Rick noted Railway Street is a major arterial route and the entire roadway needs rehabilitating not just a sidewalk.

Infrastructure Phases 3, and 4:

It is not being recommended to put this on the list but only for tracking purposes.

- **Deleted Projects Listing (Index 10)**

Command Post area EOC Emergency Services Facility:

Deleted for insufficient funds.

Dog Pound:

It was noted the deficiencies have been met that were previously identified. Animal Welfare Committee took a tour of the facility recently and the Committee was very pleased with the facility other than for lack of heat; however it was explained during the tour the heat is not required.

Municipal Paving Program:

Karen reviewed other streets on the deleted list. Each year Operations does a 'conditions review' to determine which projects should remain and those that should be deleted.

Agreed to leave the Railway Street program on the long term debt list.

City Hall Roof Replacement:

The dollar value is based on the original quote received however John Nabb could get further information on a quote as it was felt the original quote was quite high.

Agreed to reduce the dollar amount to \$100,000.00.

IT Purchases/Budget Software:

Upgraded next year for the Accessibility Standards; covers IT needs for the entire city.

Phone System:

It was noted the new phone system will apparently pay for itself three times over in the following five year plan.

Fire & Emergency Services – New Facility:

Chief Brinkman reviewed Fire & Emergency Services Departmental items:

Squirter Truck

New 100' platform truck vs. current 75' Squirter was discussed, noting that the current one is 33 years old. Referred to the new pricing for replacement and that purchase would be through the States and therefore

in American dollars. Chief Brinkman advised that surplus equipment is typically sold from Department to Department if required.

Downtown Surveillance:

Agreed this item is to remain.

Roads:

Rick Perchuk reviewed Operations Departmental items:

Rick advised of three identified streets: First Avenue South; Fourth Avenue South and Matheson Street.

Surface Treatment:

Ongoing project – colour-coded map is not yet completed but will be made available.

Sidewalks:

This item is tied into the paving program.

Buses:

Rick is obtaining numbers from the Transit Committee with a recommendation for a new city bus, approximately \$300,000; however not confirmed.

Compressor:

This is required for equipment operation throughout the Operations Centre and is not for life support purposes.

Vehicles:

Tandem sand truck combination will be required to replace old JM Western Star. One half ton being used in fleet from KPS. Pool has been set up so staff wanting to book vehicles can do so through Share Point. Two KPS vehicles were used to replace two vehicles in the fleet that have been retired. It was questioned if we are reducing vehicular size, i.e. Smart Cars for example; instead the City has been doing the 'hand me down' theory from other departments and circulating them through the system from one department to next. Rick confirmed we are not expanding our fleet only replacing what we have already.

Boat:

The former KPS boat will be traded in for a larger style boat to accommodate the bear wise program and for going to Coney Island for example for garbage pickup, moving equipment over to Coney Island for sewer and water works, etc. It was asked why we do not contract commercially for things such as this periodically. Sometimes Operations does but can't move the bear traps due to their size.

MNR may provide funding assistance by utilizing the boat from time to time for trapping bears.

GIS Engineering Computers:

These units have dropped in price significantly.

Recycling Vehicles:

It was explained we have gone from 6 collection trucks down to 2 but difficult when we lose one truck to maintenance, and require a third vehicle and could use the oldest one as a backup. Rick mentioned the problems with these particular truck engines and having to take them to Winnipeg for repairs. Would likely get a different type of engine as the last two have caused problems but there have been no problems with the actual type of truck.

Recycling Building:

Rick explained a compacting trailer is required for recycling material for haulage to Winnipeg. Councillor Van Walleghem questioned the cost of recycling and that it is cheaper to send it to the landfill site, however Rick explained this is not the right thing to do and that we are required to recycle as part of our C of A and our operation which has been mandated.

Mayor Compton left the meeting at 4:49 p.m. to attend a 5:00 p.m. meeting.

Anicinabe Park Washrooms/Showers/Change Rooms:

Rick highly recommends that we proceed with this project to maintain the quality of the Park. From a business case it does not make sense due to the cost of replacement (\$300,000); however we have to make the facility accessible as well.

Coney Island Band Shell:

This request is from the Coney Island Association meeting this past summer. Cost could be reduced likely if partnerships are formed and that it would likely be worthwhile.

Colleen reviewed Community Services Departmental items:**Fire Panel in Complex:**

Currently not zoned and is a health and safety issue; has to be brought in line for regulation purposes.

Fitness Equipment:

\$10,000 for equipment replacement, particularly for treadmills as they do wear out.

Recreation Centre Parking Lot Paving:

\$250,000 – towards the lot paving, while \$400,000 – for storm sewer works from Reserve to go along with paving project at the Recreation Centre parking lot.

2. Long Term Debt Impacts and Treatment

For discussion at next meeting.

3. Draft Budget Schedule

For discussion at next meeting.

Items on Hold:

N/A

Next Meeting:

- **Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

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