



MINUTES of the Budget Committee Of Council

ACTION

Held Tuesday, January 27, 2009
City Council Chambers
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor R. McMillan, Chair
Councillor A. Poirier
Councillor W. Cuthbert
Councillor C. Drinkwater
Mayor Compton
B. Preisntanz, CAO
K. Brown, Finance & Administration Manager
H. Kasprick, Deputy Clerk

REGRETS: Councillor D. McCann
Councillor C. Van Wallegem

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 January 27, 2009 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

N/A

D. DEPUTATIONS:-

- **Sharon Smith, Keewatin Branch Library** – addressed Council and thanked them for keeping the Keewatin Branch Library open and not declaring the building surplus in 2008. Committee is looking for the long term plans to keep the branch open and develop a strategy on how the services can be maintained. The group has raised \$13,500.00 in 2008 that will allow these dollars to help support the Keewatin Branch Library for years to come.
- **Barb Manson, Kenora Urban Trail Committee** – Parks budget has requested \$25,000.00 in their capital budget for trail

development. The trails system is an important component of the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy Plans.

- **Bill Kennedy, Community Clubs** – Community Clubs in general are in poor shape and they receive \$4,000.00 per year in grants and it simply is not enough. The clubs are run down so extensively and they cannot be rented to outside groups anymore due to the poor conditions. Central needs immediate work, this year, in order for it to be saved. There was 11 community clubs in years past and now there is only four. Mr. Kennedy would like to see the grants increased to \$6,000.00 each as the \$4,000 grants have not been increased for many years. He noted that they flood the rinks less due to the costs of the water and sewer, which ultimately is not safe for the kids. The group was also requesting Council to consider a one-time infrastructure repair for the buildings as well as free water for the flooding of the rinks. It was questioned that if the group approaches a service club such as the Kinsmen, would the City consider matching those funds that they receive from a service group.

E. REPORTS:

1. 2009 Budget Process & Schedule

April 30, 2009 the tax ratio by-law must be passed.

Over the next several weeks, department Managers are to have the department budgets submitted and completed.

There will be an open meeting for Museum, Library, Handi Transit to submit their requests and this public meeting date will be posted as well as the effected groups advised directly.

By the first of April the City will hold an open public budget meeting to present to the public the proposed budgets.

Karen will send out some suggested dates for mid February (week of 17th) for an open meeting.

2. Communication Plan

Open meetings will be clearly advertised and outlined what will be discussed and ample notice on the public meeting will be given.

Final date on the resolution of the budget will be advertised well and will provide the public time for their review.

In November the 'Our City' report was prepared and the Community Workbook on the budget was included which also included a survey for the public to complete and submit.

These surveys will be tallied and reported in the near future.

ITEMS ON HOLD:

N/A

OTHER BUSINESS

N/A

KBrown

KBrown

Moved by Councillor Poirier, Seconded by Councillor Cuthbert & Carried:-

THAT this meeting be now declared closed at 7:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

- To be determined