



ACTION

MINUTES
of the
Budget Committee
Of Council

Held Friday, March 13, 2009
City Council Chambers
8:00 a.m.

-
- PRESENT:** Councillor R. McMillan, Chair
Councillor D. McCann
Councillor W. Cuthbert
Councillor C. Drinkwater
Councillor C. Van Walleghem
Councillor A. Poirier (arrived at 8:48 a.m.)
Mayor Compton
B. Preisntanz, CAO
R. Perchuk, Operations Manager
W. Brinkman, Fire & Emergency Serv. Mgr.
K. Brown, Finance & Administration Manager
- REGRETS:** S. McDowall, Human Resources Manager
C. Neil, Recreation 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 March 13 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 D. McCann, Seconded by C. VanWalleghem & Carried:
THAT the Minutes from the last regular meetings held:
February 18, 2009
be confirmed as written and filed.

D. DEPUTATIONS:-
N/A

E. REPORTS:

1. Review of Major Impacts

Karen Brown distributed copies of the responses to the survey included in the 2009 Community Workbook, printed in the November 2008 Our City flyer. There were only two responses received to the survey.

A detailed discussion took place on the impacts on the 2009 municipal budget, and resulting impacts to City taxpayers.

2. Discussion of Options

The Committee was presented with a number of options for reducing the impact on the taxpayer in 2009. Committee recommended as follows:

- Eliminate the purchase of bottled water for municipal buildings.
- Committee directed administration to contact the various external organizations and request that they resubmit their budget based on a request of the 2008 approved budget amount plus 2% growth for 2009.
- Potential elimination of the net increase for the LOTW Development Commission based on staff recommendation. Committee directed staff to determine the impacts of this reduction and discuss this matter with the Commission before a final decision is made.
- Reduction in allocation for a Special Events Coordinator to reflect 50% funding from external sources. Committee further directed administration to further review this position, including looking for opportunities for utilizing existing positions within the City to provide this function.
- Committee directed administration to develop a plan to address capital items at the current community clubs, independent of the 2009 budget process. Committee further directed staff to review the financial statements submitted by the various community groups, with the intent to re-evaluate the level of grants provided to these organizations in the 2010 municipal operating budget.
- Committee directed administration to come back with a recommendation to deal with the shortfall of interest in the 2009 budget as a result of the market interest rate reductions, and specifically with regards to the shortfall on the Kenora Citizens' Prosperity Trust Fund investment target shortfall.
- Committee directed that incremental policing costs for 2009 would need to be passed on to the taxpayer.
- Committee directed that the draft budget be increased to include an allocation of \$15,000 for the Olympic Torch Relay.
- Committee directed that any requests from the various youth groups for funding be placed on hold until such time as the various groups are working together and a final plan / request is presented to Council.
- Committee directed that the draft budget be increased to include an allocation of \$20,000 for the current Strategic Planning process.

**Managers
KBrown**

RPerchuk

KBrown

BPreisenz

JNabb

CNeil

BPreisenz

KBrown

KBrown

KBrown

3. Council Direction

Committee advised administration that the current impact to the tax rate is unacceptable, and directed administration to bring back a plan that would allow the 2009 tax rate impact to be no greater than 3.9%.

ITEMS ON HOLD:

N/A

OTHER BUSINESS

N/A

NEXT MEETING

- Friday, April 3rd at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

Moved by Councillor Cuthbert, Seconded by Councilor McCann & Carried:-

THAT this meeting be now declared closed at 10:15 a.m.; and further

THAT pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, authorization is hereby given for Council to move into a Closed Session to discuss items pertaining to the following:-

- i) **Personal matter about Identifiable Individuals**
- ii) **Labour Relations**

Committee reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

Council directed Administration to make changes to the budget in accordance with the in camera discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.