



ACTION:

Finance & Administration Committee MINUTES

Held Tuesday, January 10, 2006
City Council Chambers
3:30 p.m.

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PRESENT: Chair, Councillor McMillan
Member, Councillor Szajewski
Councillor Compton
Councillor Wasacase
B. Preisentanz, CAO
J. McMillin, City Clerk
K. Brown, Finance & Administration Manager

REGRETS: Vice-Chair, Councillor Poirier

A. PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICES AS PER BY-LAW NUMBER 14-2003

Take Notice that as required under Notice By-law No. 14-2003, Council hereby advises the public of its intention to adopt the following by-law at its

January 16 meeting:-

- To amend the 2005 Capital Budget to provide additional funding for the purchase of vehicles for the Kenora Police Service.

B. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was none declared.

C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Compton, Seconded by T. Szajewski and Carried, that the Minutes from the Finance & Administration Committee held November 30, 2005 be confirmed as written.

D. REPORTS:-

1. Endorsation of Resolution – Veterans' Recognition Program

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT as recommended by the Kenora Police Services Board, Council give three readings to a by-law to amend Schedule "G" to Traffic By-law Number 127-2001, to provide an exemption to vehicles displaying an Ontario Veterans license plate from the provision of 'penalties' for expired time at a meter; and further

THAT Council give three readings to a by-law to amend Section 7 - "General Regulations" to Parking Lot By-law Number 18-2002 to provide for the same exemption in municipal parking lots where "automated pay stations" exist.

Discussion:

It was noted the Kenora Police Services Board is standing by their original position to proceed with the by-law exemption for Veterans.

Councillor Compton questioned how will this kind of provision be policed? What about the abuse of a Veteran's relative using the plated vehicle and receiving the benefit? Councillor Wasacase explained this is an opportunity to honour our Veterans in some small way, and he noted the by-law would basically be self-policed on a complaint basis when someone reports a problem.

It was questioned if we know how much parking revenue the City would be losing, noting there are some 18,000 plates across the province, of which many could possibly come through our area. Councillor Compton explained there are some 21 year olds who essentially would be eligible for the Veteran's plate and the free parking for the rest of their life; he believes the City should be finding alternate revenue rather than giving it away. Councillor Compton requested there should be further research done on the concept and at the very least, contact with the Town of Midland where the request originated.

The Clerk will contact the Town of Midland before the Council meeting to ascertain any impacts they may have as a result of the by-law. The Clerk suggested that once this information is received, Council decide on the following recommendation and if approved, a by-law be presented at the end of January.

J.McMillin

AMENDED RECOMMENDATION:

THAT as recommended by the Kenora Police Services Board, Council provide an exemption to vehicles displaying an Ontario Veteran's license plate from the provision of 'penalties' of the City's Traffic By-law for expired time at a metered stall or parking lot.

Recommendation to go forward to Council approving in principle and subject to information being received from Midland.

J.McMillin

2. LOW Labour Action Centre – Funding Agreement

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT three readings be given to a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement between The Canada Employment Insurance Commission and The Corporation of the City of Kenora with respect to the Lake of the Woods Labour Action Centre.

Recommendation approved (by-law only).

P.Grouda

3. Purchase of Property – Mount Evergreen

HOLD for closing.

4. Endorsation of Resolution - Energy Policy Resolution

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association has developed

and adopted an Energy Policy for Northwestern Ontario, and

WHEREAS the policy was developed in conjunction with municipal leaders, the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce and representatives of major industries across the Northwest, and

WHEREAS the recommendations contained within the policy are designed to reverse the trend of mill closures while at the same time providing incentives for the establishment of new energy hungry industries in the region, and

WHEREAS the recommendations contained within the policy are also designed to stimulate new investment in new forms of energy production in the Northwest

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Corporation of the City of Kenora endorses the NOMA Energy Policy and calls upon the other orders of Government to implement the recommendations, and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Municipal League, NOMA and AMO, and further

BE IT Resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to area MPs & MPPs, Ontario's Minister of Energy, Minister of Finance and Premier.

It was requested that Dave Sinclair comment on this resolution, following which it can proceed to Council for consideration.

**D.Sinclair/
J.McMillin**

5. 2006 Municipal Insurance

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council of the City of Kenora hereby maintain insurance coverage for 2006 with the Frank Cowan Insurance Company on a month by month basis; and further

THAT request for proposals to provide annual insurance coverage for the City of Kenora be requested from other insurance carriers for the balance of 2006.

Discussion

It was questioned how long is month to month; what will it cost during this time, and what are we doing in the meantime?

It was discussed that a review with Cowan is currently underway, and that 'due diligence' is being carried out with other providers. The 'month to month' timeline is difficult to assess, however Bill believes that there should be a recommendation to Council by the end of February on how to proceed on a forward basis. In the meantime, the other carrier(s) require more time to put together a proposal.

Recommendation approved.

J.McMillin

6. Great West Life Benefits Provider Contract

Karen Brown advised the City has received the contract but minor changes are being addressed by her department with Great West Life. A report will be forthcoming and if in order, a by-law will be presented to authorize the execution of the agreement either on Monday, or it will be held until January 30.

**K.Brown/
J.McMillin**

7. NOMEAF – Re-appointments

It was noted that as done last October, Council supports the appointment of Councillor Ingrid Parkes to the Northwestern Ontario Education Fund Award (NOMEAF) Board though the NOMA Board.

As no resolution is required, the Clerk will advise Ken Taniwa of NOMA of Council’s support of this appointment.

J.McMillin

**8. Staff Parking
RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council of the City of Kenora hereby support the development of a policy for staff parking based on a cost recovery basis; and

THAT alternate parking options be identified for staff currently utilizing the Parkade facility; and further

THAT the Parkade be reconfigured for public parking on a daily and monthly operation.

Discussion:

Bill explained his report refers to various parking that is being provided to City staff, noting that at what cost should this parking be provided? The recommendation in his report is to develop a policy on a cost recovery basis for all staff parking throughout the City. He noted an important item is the opportunity to free up parking at the Parkade by relocating staff to a different parking area and to relieve the pressure at the Parkade. Recently there had been some consideration to add another floor to the Parkade, but by re-locating staff this may address that concern, thereby not having to spend the funds to add the floor. Bill explained this should move forward fairly quickly, and that staff parking could be paid for through payroll deduction.

Councillor Compton questioned why the City wouldn’t opt for the additional floor when it can be paid off relatively quickly as the original Parkade was? Bill agreed this could still be an option, or perhaps erecting a floor of parking at the McClellan lot adjacent to City Hall. He indicated the concept for the additional floor at the Parkade would require a business plan to determine the cost recovery over say a 20 year period.

The policy will come forward to Committee for review and recommendation to Council for ratification at an upcoming meeting.

Recommendation approved (resolution).

J.McMillin

9. 2006 Budget Process

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council of the City of Kenora hereby adopt a public consultation process as part of the 2006 budget process which would incorporate the following components:

1. public consultation session
2. written submissions
3. City portal on-line survey ; and further

THAT a budget consultation policy be developed by June 2006 to address active citizen participation in the annual budget process for the City of Kenora.

Recommendation approved.

J.McMillin

10. KPS - Capital Budget Request – Vehicles & Equipment

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT in accordance with Notice By-Law Number 14-2003, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to amend the 2005 Budget at its January 30th meeting; and further

THAT Council give three readings to a by-law to amend the capital budget to authorize an appropriation from the police capital projects reserve in the amount of \$29,991.03 to fund the purchase of the police cruiser purchased in 2005, but originally budgeted for in 2004.

Recommendation approved (resolution and by-law).

**J.McMillin/
P.Grouda**

11. FCM 69th Annual Conference

Awaiting receipt of Agenda - HOLD

12. Members – Urban Native Affairs Committee

Hold for list of interested persons.

OTHER BUSINESS

City representative on Children’s Charter (Health Providers Group)

Councillor McMillan will circulate the e-mail information on the above request for Council’s consideration of a municipal appointment for this Committee (either a Councillor or a staff.)

HOLD

**Councillor
McMillan/
Council**

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 3:30 p.m.

MOTION REQUIRED ADJOURNING TO CLOSED MEETING:

Moved by T. Szajewski, Seconded by C, and Carried:-

THAT this meeting be now declared closed at 4:15 p.m.; and further

THAT Council adjourns to a Closed Meeting to discuss the following matters:

- Potential litigation;
- Acquisition of land.

NO ACTION REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.