

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF COUNCIL of the Township of North Frontenac, held Monday, January 28, 2008, at the Upstairs Multi-purpose Room above the Fire Hall, Plevna, ON.

PRESENT: Mayor Ron Maguire; Councillor Wayne Good and Councillor Fred Perry – Ward 1; Councillor Wayne Cole - Ward 2 and Councillor Bob Olmstead – Ward 3.

ALSO PRESENT: Cheryl Robson, CAO/Treasurer; Brenda Defosse, Clerk/Planning Coordinator; John Ibey, Public Works Manager; Angela Millar, Deputy Treasurer / Tax Collector; Steve Riddell, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief, David Young, Chief Building Official (CBO) and Corey Klatt, Recreation/Economic Development Program Coordinator.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Councillor Lonnie Watkins and Deputy Mayor Jim Beam.

The Mayor called the Meeting to order and asked for Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and none were declared.

MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Maguire explained that today's meeting is to consider updates/changes made to the draft 2008 and 2009 budget.

Mayor Maguire explained at the County of Frontenac draft budget meeting last week he introduced in all, four money related resolutions which were defeated, tie votes. (Central Frontenac Township's Mayor Janet Gutowski supported these resolutions). The resolutions related to supporting Pine Meadow Nursing Home and Rural Routes Transportation Services. Both are social services belonging in the County's arena.

Mayor Maguire advised a fifth resolution put forward from the Warden Jim Vanden Hoek that \$10,000 be provided to Rural Routes for the next few months to come up with a business plan or some other way to make it work. However he indicated he did not want to see Transportation programs become a long term commitment for the County of Frontenac.

Mayor Maguire confirmed North Frontenac had hosted the first Joint Meeting of the neighbouring municipalities (Mayors, Deputy Mayors and CAOs) and discussed a lot of issues in common, including both of the above items. The group agreed to meet quarterly to co-sponsor resolutions and to give all more clout with AMO and the Province. The Group is to consider forming a Northern Rural Caucus of Eastern Ontario, once this is clarified with the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus (i.e. some separate objectives and to assist the EOWC – work with them and help each other).

May need to go to the Ministry with respect to Long Term Care Facility funding, advising that it is now 10 years after amalgamation and this is the situation and this is how it has evolved and is not working and point out the drawbacks of the system. (i.e. County requirement to have one home, especially located within the City of Kingston that is not used by our taxpayers – north/south division concerns).

Good asked if the Ministry could override the County. The Mayor confirmed the above route would be the way to go and the Ministry could work with us.

Cole asked if Addington Highlands have a similar situation. The Reeve of Addington Highlands advised he did not have enough data however suspected the situation was probably the same, pending Lennox and Addington County budget.

Grant allocation concerns continue (i.e. Township pays the County based on weighted assessment but grants are based on per capita – permanent population only).

The Mayor may circulate a resolution to other municipalities, asking for their support and consideration at the next Joint Municipalities quarterly meeting in March or April as there is more strength in numbers. These meetings may include other small rural municipalities in the future.

The Warden's Address was circulated to Council for information purposes as the Warden will be attending as a delegation at the January 31, 2008 Council meeting.

CAO/TREASURER'S BUDGET REPORT

The Department Heads are all present to explain any details and answer questions.

At the end of this meeting John Ibey, Public Works Manager is prepared to show the "GRIPPS" Pavement Management System to Council and any interested Department Head.

2008 Proposed Draft Budget:

2008 Education tax rates for residential properties are to stay the same.

2008 County tax rates - draft budget being discussed again in February 2008.

Municipal share – this is the second draft proposal. First pre-budget meeting was held on December 12 and 14, 2007. Today's draft is still with very preliminary figures for discussion purposes only. The CAO and Department Heads continue to seek advice and basic guidelines/direction from Council for the CAO and Department Heads to fine tune this draft and schedule another 2008 draft budget meeting with Council in February 2008.

On December 12th and 14th we reviewed each Departments proposed 2008 and 2009 draft budgets line-by-line. To start off the CAO reviewed the major proposed changes since that meeting as follows:

- Financing of vehicles proposal;

Good noted that a V-8 may have the same fuel efficiency. The PWM will look into this when determining the specifications in the proposed tender. The CAO would prepare a Township Vehicle In-house Policy as previously discussed with Council. The PWM explained that vehicle pricing may be reduced now due to the US dollar.

- Possible Grants for Students/Adults;

- Accessibility requirements;

The proposed budget only shows the stair lift under the JEPP Grant application (45% Grant) and this grant decision will not be known until late in 2008. It was the consensus of Council that even if the JEPP Grant is denied that a stair lift is required to provide public access to the Upstairs Multi-purpose Room above the Fire Hall in Plevna.

Specific Departments – changes since December 11, 2007 meeting were discussed.

It was noted that the Kaladar Barrie Fire Department budget is pending the Joint Fire Board and it will be circulated to Council for consideration as soon as the Chair receives the 2007 “actuals” which are not yet available but once available, the Board is to hold a Special Meeting to consider the Draft Budget.

The CBO had advised the CAO that the Ontario Building Code permits him two weeks to issue a permit (normally does not take this long). However, the Code only permits 48 hours to complete an inspection, which creates a concern for small municipalities during Christmas vacation, sick leave, vacation leave, training, etc. The CBO is looking into these details and will provide the CAO with an explanation on how we should handle this.

Producing one township map (layout and printing) for resale was proposed by different departments in past years, but suggest only one map (i.e. duplication, lack of interest in selling advertising spaces, etc.) Good is to provide the REDPC with a sample from other municipalities. The REDPC will talk to Land O' Lakes Tourist Association to find out about GPS in the Township of North Frontenac – i.e. points of interest do not show up on GPS units at this time. The 2008 Construction Projects proposal was reviewed in detail. The PWM explained rotomilling and pavement padding proposed for Harlowe Road.

It was the consensus of Council to only complete general maintenance in 2008 on Head Road, with ditching and rock breaking and gravel proposed for 2009.

The Road Department's total increase is mainly due to the fact that the 506/609 Reserve Fund was depleted in 2007.

Copies of Totten Sims Hubicki (TSH) 2008 estimates and details for Waste Management were circulated to Council. Some items are estimates only, pending Ministry of Environment requirements and Certificates of Approval details. TSH to further explain the details of the 2008 budget to Council in March/April when they present the 2007 annual Waste Management reports.

Possible MNR Grants pending or the draft 2008 budget with the required enhancements would see a large increase and extra monies added to taxation in 2008. Good expressed his concern with this program costing the taxpayers monies. The Mayor explained that Council need to review the previous study and look at all options and Economic Development spin-offs created by this program. The REDPC will review the Marketing Strategy for the Crown Land Stewardship Program and prepare a report. (i.e. proposed revenues and initiatives versus actuals; permit fees charged (a proposal to increase this

requires MNR approval etc.) Lack of enforcement and limited program enhancements are mainly due to limited funding. The REDPC is holding off accepting OnRes Campsite reservations until Council reviews the report at the February Council meeting.

Note: The CBO left the meeting at this time to conduct inspections.

It was the consensus of Council that the old MTO “green” signs shall be removed from the road side by the Public Works Department once they are deteriorated, as the municipality cannot afford to replace these. However, if lake and/or boat launch signs are removed or require repairs, they shall be replaced by the PWM. The PWM shall look at the 911 numbering for the property at the northeast corner of Road 509 and Gulley Road.

It was noted the Clar/Mill and Barrie Community Hall signs are in poor visible shape and the REDPC is to add monies to the draft 2008 Community Halls’ budget for replacement.

It was reported that the speed sign in Mississippi Station is missing and the PWM is to look into this. The Cemetery Task Force will look into the signs at the Cemeteries (i.e. Robertsville).

Olmstead suggested we charge businesses for signs posted in the Township, much the same as signs posted on Hwy. #41 have to be paid for, annually. The Clerk was directed to draft a “Sign” By-law for Council’s consideration.

It was the consensus of Council that the balance of the paving to be carried out at 6648 Road 506 (Municipal Office/Public Works yard) to be included in the 2008 paving tender document.

The PWM is to determine if or when the MTO are paving Highway 41 in Cloyne in 2008, will the Township be able to obtain paving at the Barrie Community Hall at a reduced rate. Then the REDPC will have to adjust the Community Halls draft 2008 budget to include this for budget discussions. Also, proposed paving at the Barrie Fire Hall will have to be coordinated by the PWM when he receives the details from the Kaladar Barrie Fire Chief.

Perry explained his concern that it appears Council is treating Wards differently and not equal. (i.e. Barrie Community Hall repairs were covered by that Wards Reserve Funds and the Harlowe Community Hall air conditioning was paid for by the Community Group). It will have to be discussed in detail at the next budget meeting. The CAO/Treasurer will provide Council with the legislation on Reserve Funds.

The Clerk will obtain information on possible parking tickets being issued (i.e. Municipal Act and/or Solicitor’s advice) and enforcement of this proposal only for Tappins Bay due to the expensive proposed dock repairs.

It was noted that today’s discussions are only proposals and the 2008/9 budget is still just a draft that requires a lot of fine tuning as several items are still outstanding. Therefore, the bottom line is unknown at this time.

Next Budget Meeting

The next budget meeting was scheduled for February 29, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Note: Changed to Thursday, February 28th.

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Cole #44-08

THAT, Council instructs the CAO (PWM to provide specifications) to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for three sub compact mid-sized trucks; one 3/4 ton truck for PWM and three two ton trucks for the Public Works Department; and **THAT**, the CAO prepare a Township Vehicle In-House Policy that all employees shall comply with.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #45-08

THAT, Council authorizes the REDPC to apply for possible grants, not only for students for the Crown Land Stewardship Program, Public Works Department and Waste Disposal Sites, but also for adult grant programs; and **THAT**, these grant revenues and the township's share of these programs be included in the 2008 budget deliberations for Council to consider prior to the actual acceptance of these grants.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #46-08

THAT, Council instruct the REDPC to submit the 2008 Application to the Ministry of Natural Resources for the Bear Wise Program for solar powered electric fencing around the disposal footprint of the 506 Landfill Site.

Carried

Note: The Fire Chief and REDPC left the meeting at this time.

The PWM gave a presentation and demonstration on the Goldier Road Information and Priority Setting System (GRIPPS) Pavement Management System. It was noted that the system (i.e. traffic counts, construction projects completed, etc) need to be updated. The CAO and PWM explained that the County CAOs Group and PWMs Subgroup continue to look at Pavement Management Systems to determine if we should be doing this collectively and possibility through County Federal Gas Tax monies, if recommended to and approved by County Council. Unfortunately, there continues to be delays due to staffing concerns in other townships. Therefore, it was the consensus of Council that the CAO and PWM advise the County CAOs/PWMs that our township is going to request an estimate from Goldier now, on getting our municipality's GRIPPS system up to date and ongoing system maintenance costs, as we require these enhancements now for budgeting purposes. Also, our municipality is going to schedule a presentation as soon as possible with the Ontario Good Roads Association with respect to Municipal Data Works (MDW) to determine if this system should be used with respect to our Long Term Capital Plan being presented worked on. The GRIPPS system and/or MDW may qualify under the Township's Federal Gas Tax monies.

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #47-08

THAT, Council approves the draft 2008 Construction Projects in the amount of \$250,000 as defined in the January 28, 2008 preliminary budget and instruct the CAO and PWM to

prepare the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 2008 paving immediately to obtain the actual expenditures, if possible prior to the 2008 final budget being approved.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Cole

#48-08

THAT the meeting adjourns at 3:10 P.M. until January 31, 2008 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk