

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF COUNCIL of the Township of North Frontenac, held Thursday, April 3, 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 Lonnie Watkins - Ward 2, Deputy Mayor Jim Beam and Councillor Bob Olmstead – Ward 3.

ALSO PRESENT: Cheryl Robson, CAO/Treasurer and Brenda Defosse, Clerk/Planning Coordinator.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Councillor Wayne Cole

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

CLOSED SESSION

Steve Riddell, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief also attended this Closed Session.

Moved by Councillor Perry, Seconded by Councillor Watkins #162-08

THAT Council retires to closed session at 9:20 a.m. to discuss:

- personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

Carried

OPEN SESSION

Moved by Councillor Watkins, Seconded by Councillor Perry #163-08

THAT Council returns to open session at 10:11 a.m.

Carried

John Ibey, PWM joined the meeting at this time.

CAO/TREASURER'S BUDGET REPORT –

2008 Proposed Draft Budget – Municipal Share:

First pre-budget meetings were held on December 12 and 14, 2007 (one session – two days); January 28, 2008; February 28, 2008 and March 20, 2008.

This is the fifth budget session called by the Mayor to enable Council to discuss the new Provincial Roads and Bridges Funding of \$1,362,831.

Prior to today's meeting the draft budget approved by Council in principle, is still subject to input at the Budget Public Meeting scheduled for April 10th at 7:00 P.M. at the Barrie Community Hall.

The draft budget circulated today shows an overall increase of \$110.90 or 8.93% on \$100,000 of Residential Assessment.

2008 DRAFT BUDGET AND NEW ROADS AND BRIDGES FUNDING

The CAO confirmed the funding received is not the same as funding under the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MIII) Application. North Frontenac was not successful in receiving funding under the MIII.

The CAO/Treasurer and Public Works Manager have discussed the new Roads and Bridges funding and wish to present the following options for Council to consider:

1. Mississippi Bridge – all previous grants applied for have been denied as the Engineer's Bridge Condition Report scored too low on the criteria/rate requirement of the grant.

Canada Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (COMRIF)

Requires 1/3 municipal dollars:

- January 8, 2005 (Intake One) – total expenditure \$616,667 (\$206 K = 1/3)
- September 28, 2005 (Intake Two) – total expenditure \$925,000 (\$308 K = 1/3)

Also, in 2000 the Township applied for OSTAR funding for this bridge, and it was denied.

2. Ardoch Road – Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MIII) - Denied February 15, 2008 – total expenditure \$750,000 – 100% dollars (no municipal funding required).
3. New "Roads and Bridges" Funding received on March 28, 2008 in the amount of \$1,362,831 - The CAO/Treasurer has discussed the new funding with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and at this time the grant details are still unknown. (i.e. Actual timing; conditions; etc.)

Staff Recommendation:

As the draft budget as of today shows a major increase due to the fact that the 506/509 Reserve Fund is depleted, the CAO/Treasurer and Public Works Manager recommend that Council use \$350,000 from the new Roads and Bridges funding to offset the 2008 budgeted expenditures for capital Road and Bridge Infrastructure Projects and reduce the tax rate increase on \$100,000 of Residential Assessment to \$34.66 or 2.84% increase (with the Municipal Tax Rate being \$45.23 or 6.53% increase); and that the balance of the new grant dollars be placed in a new Roads and Bridges Infrastructure Reserve Fund for future projects, once Council has completed our Long Term Capital Plan.

For example, the Township received \$2.4 Million in 1998 for 76 km of downloaded roads (506/509) and this is the first time the Township has received any additional roads/bridges funding; with the exception of the one time Move Ontario Provincial funding for Roads & Bridges in 2006.

Good stated he would like to see a tax rate increase around 4% and invest the grant balance in a Road Reserve Fund.

Watkins stated, if not restricted on the funding received, he would like to see a lump sum of the funding put into a Road Reserve Fund as well.

Perry stated he would like to see the construction work previously taken out of the draft budget put back in; to include \$40,000 for Ardoch Road and put the balance of the funds received into a Roads and Bridges Reserve Fund. The CAO clarified that the draft budget did not remove rehabilitation and paving of Ardoch Road as the MIII Grant was denied.

Watkins suggested investing in a stock pile of good "A" gravel for future use on the gravel roads.

The CAO added that doing this would change the draft budget, and the grant criteria may not permit this.

Moved by Councillor Perry, Seconded by Councillor Watkins #164-08

THAT, the Council of the Township of North Frontenac instruct the CAO/Treasurer to amend the 2008 draft budget that was approved in principle as amended at the March 20, 2008 Special Council Meeting; to include the new Provincial Roads and Bridges Funding to offset the Roads and Bridges Expenditures budgeted in 2008 to reduce the Municipal tax rate to 8% or less of an increase; with the balance of the new grant dollars being placed in a new Roads and Bridges Infrastructure Reserve Fund for future projects, once Council has completed our Long Term Capital Plan.

Carried

TENDER OPENING DATE – 7 TRUCKS

The CAO advised 5 tenders were received by the cut-off date yesterday. She advised if a decision is not made until the 17th of April there are concerns with meeting the delivery date by the bidders, as the 2009 trucks will be rolling out. We need to communicate as soon as possible with the bidders and she recommended opening the tenders earlier so a decision of Council can be made at the April 10, 2008 Council Meeting. Some bidders may want to be present for the opening and the CAO shall advise the five of the change in the Tender Document and that same will be opened on Friday at 1:00 p.m. if approved by Council.

Moved by Councillor Perry, Seconded by Councillor Watkins #165-08

THAT, to assist with the delivery date and to permit the notification of the Award by the CAO/Treasurer to be completed earlier, the Council of the Township of North Frontenac authorize the CAO/Treasurer and Public Works Manager to open the Proposal (Tender) Submissions for the Purchase and Finance of Seven Trucks at 1:00 P.M. on Friday, April 4, 2008 in the CAO's office; subject to the bidders being advised of this tender opening change; to enable the Public Works Manager to review the details and provide Council with a Comparison Report at the April 10, 2008 Council meeting explaining the difference in the tenders received, for Council consideration.

Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

MNR LUP – BIG GULL PROPOSAL FOR DOCKS AND PARKING LOT

The Clerk advised she had received a further call from Mitch Close of MNR asking if the Township had any concerns with this Proposal. I advised same had been provided to Council in their Agenda packages and no comments came forward. He then questioned the Applicant's use of the old Frontenac Road bed and the shoreline. I advised that Council was considering what MNR presented for the Crown land to be included in the LUP and that no request had been made for use of Municipal lands.

Council confirmed a request to use the Municipal lands should be presented to Council by the Applicant for their consideration, and confirmed a Licence Agreement would need to be entered into with the Applicant and Mississippi Valley Conservation comments should be addressed by the MNR as well. The Applicant will be required to bring the portion of the old road to be used up to standard and such construction to not restrict others from using the old Road. The Clerk shall respond to MNR as soon as possible. It was noted that the Township does not own docks (except one at Tappin's Bay) and cannot restrict the use of docks on municipal property.

ST. PIERRE ROAD

Olmstead recommended the St. Pierre Road be closed past the Church, close to the top of the hill. The PWM shall prepare an Administrative Report to Council to start the process.

HARRIET RIDDELL'S GRAVEL PIT

The PWM advised he had a conversation with Justin Bryant of MNR regarding Harriet Riddell's gravel pit. Apparently Cranes Construction was going to licence same however have changed their mind and are no longer interested in the pit. The PWM indicated to MNR the Township has interest in keeping the pit open for two or three years to extract. Further, Harriet Riddell is agreeable to working out an Agreement. The Licence would be obtained in the Township's name but the property would continue to be held by Harriet Riddell.

Good questioned the repercussions of closure of the pit, later. Council will need to know this before entering into an Agreement. The PWM was instructed to proceed with MNR's Application and then bring an Administrative Report and an Agreement with a Signing By-law back to Council to consider.

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER FOR CLAR/MILL HALL WORK

Watkins advised Brad Gunsinger to be added to the list of volunteers to do work on the Clar/Mill Community Hall. The Clerk confirmed same will be put on the April 10, 2008 Council Agenda.

SHARBOT LAKE MEETING, APRIL 1, 2008 – URANIUM MINE

The Clerk informed Council of an inquiry made at the administrative office yesterday, asking if any member of Council attended the meeting in Sharbot Lake on April 1, 2008 regarding uranium mining. Beam confirmed he stood in on the early session. The Clerk confirmed she would get back to the inquirer.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Watkins, Seconded by Councillor Perry #166-08
THAT the meeting adjourns at 11:35 A.M. until April 10, 2008 or at the call of the Chair.
Carried

Mayor

Clerk