

MINUTES of a Special Budget Meeting for the Township of North Frontenac, held Friday, January 22, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the Upstairs Meeting Room of the Clar/Mill Fire Hall, 6648 Road 506, Plevna, Ontario.

PRESENT: Mayor Ron Maguire; Councillor Fred Perry and Councillor Wayne Good – Ward 1; Councillor Lonnie Watkins and Councillor Elaine Gunsinger – Ward 2; Deputy Mayor Jim Beam and Councillor Bob Olmstead – Ward 3.

ALSO PRESENT: Cheryl Robson, CAO/Treasurer; Brenda Defosse, Clerk/Planning Coordinator; Angela Miller, Administrative/Financial Coordinator; Corey Klatt, Community Liaison/Property Building Coordinator (CLPBD); Steve Riddell, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief; John Ibey, Public Works Manager (PWM) and Evan Sepa, IT Technician/Mapping Coordinator.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF
None declared.

3. MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

This is the last year of the term for this Council. This will be Council's last chance to collectively put our stamp on the direction this Township should be going in. We heard we have the darkest skies in southern Canada to view the Milky Way. A consideration could be a Darkest Skies Festival. One and a half years ago we had confirmation of this fact by a scientist who has been working very hard to put in an observatory on Mallory Hill; this is a green initiative which has been presented through different proposals. He is now searching for support of investments for the final One Metre Initiative proposal and has also approached the Township (i.e., in-kind and/or monetary). The population and tax base is not enough to carry the load by ourselves. Opportunities such as this are rare and unique and we have someone who is interested in putting large dollars into this area to bring in thousands of visitors. The cards are in our favour. Otherwise we only have control of about half of the tax revenue and half of that is spent on roads, with no real room to maneuver. The old adage holds true, if you want to make money you have to spend money. The tax assessment has been increasing annually. It may go up even more with the One Metre Initiative if it materializes.

4. COUNCIL INPUT ON 2010/2011 BUDGET

The Mayor then asked Council members for their input on the draft budget, advising we need a unified approach.

Perry suggested Anne Pritchard and David Smith of CFDC, and Ken Hook of Land O'Lakes Tourist Association to be in the audience for the delegation of Frank Roy regarding the One Metre Initiative, and in this instance permit them to be added to the Agenda for their input and questions. We cannot step back in light of the election ahead of us, we must continue to grow and increase the reserves, improve infrastructure and look at our needs.

Olmstead confirmed he did not want to see taxes reduced just because it is an

election year. Politics should be removed from the budget process.

Good agreed with Perry and Olmstead's previous comments, the Township needs to continue to grow.

Watkins agreed the Township needs to continue to grow but does not want to see a big increase in taxes. He mentioned a possible \$1,000.00 grant for a new proposed "Dragon Fly" festival.

Gunsinger agreed with the previous comments made by other Council members.

Beam stated he understood the sentiments of the Council members. He advised he could not just accept the budget as presented. The budgeting process should start with what we know, not a comparison to last year's budget but should look at the needs. He did not feel using the previous year as a baseline was a good method.

Perry asked the CLPBC to obtain quotes on note pad portfolios with the Township logo for Council and applicable staff.

5. TAXABLE ASSESSMENT COMPARISONS

Moved by Councillor Watkins, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #39-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the 2010/2009 Taxable Assessment Comparison Report; the 2010 Taxable Assessment by Ward Breakdown Report; and the 2010 Municipal Levy sample for using 2010 new Assessments and 2009 Tax Rates Report, for information purposes.

Carried

6. FEDERAL GAS TAX ALLOCATION 2005-2013

Moved by Councillor Watkins, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #40-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the 2005 – 2013 Federal Gas Tax Allocation breakdown for information purposes.

Carried

7. ONTARIO MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP FUND (OMPF)

The Township received an increase of \$51,065,009 in assessment using 2010 Assessments times the 2009 Municipal Tax Rates = \$364,120 additional dollars raised, but lost \$127,400 in OMPF.

8. INSURANCE RENEWAL

Moved by Councillor Watkins, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #41-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the information from Paul Dorman, Managing Director, Jardine Lloyd Thompson Canada with respect to the 2010/2011 Insurance estimate (renewal date being April 1st) in which it states that their program should be able to hold the line on all renewals, unless the claims experience warrants an increase, and this does not include new 2009 vehicles/buildings which will be added as an additional premium;

AND THAT the Township of North Frontenac did not have insurance claims in 2009;

AND THAT Council authorizes the CAO/Treasurer to have this insurance company continue with the Township of North Frontenac insurance renewal for 2010/2011;

AND THAT Council authorizes the CAO/Treasurer to pay the insurance 2010/2011 renewal if the increase is a zero percent, plus an increase in premium for new 2009 additions only.

Carried

The CAO advised Council of the Special Sessions of County Council for 2010 Budget Deliberations dates – January 25, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. and February 1, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

9. COMPENSATION FOR COUNCIL, COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT AND STAFF

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #42-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the Township of North Frontenac receives for information the Deputy Treasurer / Administrative – Financial Coordinator’s Administrative Report dated January 20, 2010, entitled “2010 Compensation for Council, Committee of Adjustment and Staff”;

AND THAT Council Members, Members of the Committee of Adjustment and Staff remuneration be increased by 3% effective January 1, 2010 based on survey results from other municipalities.

Carried

10. MILEAGE

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #43-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the Township of North Frontenac receives for information the Deputy Treasurer’s Administrative Report dated January 20, 2010, entitled “Mileage Rate – 2010 Report”; and shall maintain the existing mileage rate of \$0.47 / km.

Carried

11. CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES 2010 BUDGETS:

- Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) (draft); It was noted that the MVC levy is the lowest in the 35 Conservation Authorities in the Province and Ottawa’s assessment has decreased. MVC draft budget details are to be circulated to Council for discussion at the January 28, 2010 Council Meeting.

- Quinte Conservation Authority (approved).

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #44-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the 2010 draft Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) budget and the 2010 approved Quinte Conversation Authority (QCA) budget for information purposes, and shall defer the MVC consideration to the next Regular Council Meeting on January 28, 2010.

Carried

12. ONE METRE INITIATIVE

Maguire advised Frank Roy will be applying for a \$5,000 grant, through CFDC AODP, to fund a feasibility study. Letters of support should accompany the Grant application and will help with investors, thus “sharing the risk”.

Perry stated support could be in-kind and/or monetary. No financial commitment has been made until having a meeting, as nothing has been decided by Council.

Moved by Councillor Watkins, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #45-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes a letter of support in general for the One Metre Initiative, proposed in the Township of North Frontenac.

Carried

13. NORTHERN RURAL YOUTH PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #46-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Proposal from the Northern Rural Youth Partnership for Youth Programming, requesting a donation of \$5,310 in 2010 for the Recreation Guide and Programming;

AND THAT in 2009 Council supported this program in the amount of \$5,342;

AND THAT Council supports the NRYP and approves the 2010 donation to the NRYP in the amount of \$5,310;

AND THAT Council instructs the CAO/Treasurer to include \$5,310 for the NRYP in the 2010 budget.

Carried

14. AMBIENT WOODS CREATIVE ARTISAN'S GUILD ART & CRAFT SHOWS

Deferred as more initiatives, "festivals" are being discussed/proposed by communities in the Township.

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #47-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives the Proposal from the Ambient Woods Creative Collective Artisan's Guild (AWCC) requesting Council permission for them to advertise their upcoming shows for 2010 on the Township of North Frontenac's website;

AND THAT Council supports the AWCC events that benefit our community and promote economic development and showcases the many talents in our area;

AND THAT Council approves the AWCC events being advertised on the Township's website subject to the Community Liaison/ Property Building Coordinator approving the actual advertisement;

AND THAT the 2009 approved budget included monies for North Frontenac local festivals incentives in the amount of \$2,000, however these dollars were not used in 2009;

AND THAT Council shall discuss all possible 2010 local festival initiatives during budget deliberations.

Carried

The Clerk was instructed to respond to the Ambient Woods Creative Collective Artisans Guild (AWCC) request with the above information.

The CLPBC was instructed to contact all non-profit groups regarding this resolution and for 2010 possible initiatives. The CLPBC will provide Council with a list of 2008 and 2009 Township donations made.

The CLPBC will obtain further information from the County Economic Development Officer regarding possible grants from the ICSP dollars earmarked for support for smaller scale community sustainability initiatives.

15. COUNCIL DIRECTION

Items already discussed today provide some Council direction.

The County draft budget was discussed, including Pine Meadow Nursing Home, a Transportation Business Plan and Ambulance base locations.

The IT Technician will obtain information on a microphone system for the meeting room.

Olmstead suggested a helipad be put in the southeastern corner of North Frontenac and offered a donation of the land for the cost of a survey and a sign recognizing the donation. The Hydro line to the north would have to be put underground at a cost. The CLPBC and Fire Chief are to complete a site inspection and undertake, with Pascal Delaunay, Canadian Helicopters Safety Officer and Olmstead, a review of usage/need prior to the next budget meeting.

16. DATE TO BE SET FOR THE NEXT 2010/11 BUDGET MEETING

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #48-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Special Council Meetings to discuss the 2010/11 draft budget be set for the following dates:

- February 25, 2010 @ 9:00 a.m.
- March 4, 2010 @ 9:00 a.m.

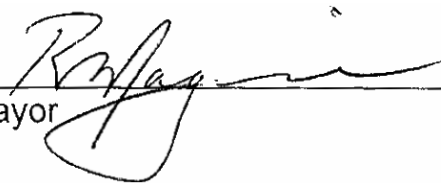
Carried

17. ADJOURNMENT

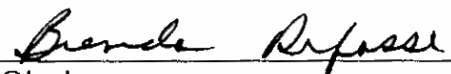
Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Gunsinger #49-10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourns at 11:15 a.m. until January 28, 2010 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried



Mayor



Clerk