

MUNICIPAL LIAISON COMMITTEE
Budget Meeting
Minutes

A meeting of the Municipal Liaison Committee was held at 1:30 p.m. on November 19, 2015, Council Chambers, City Hall, 1 Wellington Street, Stratford.

Where appropriate, motions contained in the Municipal Liaison Committee Minutes are considered recommendations to the affected municipalities.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Al Strathee, Town of St. Marys (Chairperson)
Warden Robert Wilhelm, County of Perth
Councillor Walter McKenzie, County of Perth
Councillor Bob McMillan, County of Perth
Councillor Tom Clifford, City of Stratford
Councillor Bonnie Henderson, City of Stratford
Councillor Frank Mark, City of Stratford
Councillor Tony Winter, Town of St. Marys

ABSENT:

Mayor Dan Mathieson, City of Stratford

STAFF PRESENT:

Ron Shaw – CAO, City of Stratford
Linda Rockwood – Director of EMS, County of Perth
Renato Pullia – Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, County of Perth
Linda Becker – POA Coordinator, County of Perth
Betty Jo Belton – Archivist-Stratford Perth Archives, County of Perth
Andre Morin – Director of Corporate Services, City of Stratford
Carole Desmeules – Director of Social Services, City of Stratford
Jim Brown – Treasurer, Town of St. Marys

ALSO PRESENT:

*Dr. Miriam Klassen, Perth District Health Unit
*Julie Pauli, Perth District Health Unit
Peter Bolland, Spruce Lodge Home for the Aged
David Schlidt, Spruce Lodge Home for the Aged
John Kastner – General Manager, Stratford Perth Museum
David Stones - Chair, Stratford Perth Museum
Randy Matthews - Treasurer, Stratford Perth Museum

1.0 Adoption of the Agenda

Warden Bob Wilhelm requested to add the request to take refugees for discussion.
Councillor Bonnie Henderson requested to add regional roads for discussion.

**Motion by Frank Mark, seconded by Bonnie Henderson,
THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee Agenda for November 19, 2015 be
approved, including requested additions of refugees and regional roads.
Carried.**

2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None declared.

3.0 Adoption of the Previous Minutes – September 3, 2015

**Motion by Tom Clifford, seconded by Bonnie Henderson to adopt the minutes
of September 3, 2015 as presented.
Carried.**

4.0 Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

None identified.

5.0 2016 Budget Presentations

5.1 Perth District Health Unit – Dr. Miriam Klassen & Julie Pauli

Julie Pauli presented the 2016 Perth District Health Unit Budget Report as
circulated with the Agenda.

**Motion by Bob Wilhelm, seconded by Tony Winter
THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their
respective Councils of the 2016 budget as presented by the Perth
District Health Unit. Carried.**

*Dr. Miriam Klassen and Julie Pauli no longer present (1:45 p.m.)

5.2 Spruce Lodge Home for the Aged – Peter Bolland & David Schlidt

Peter Bolland presented the 2016 Spruce Lodge Budget Report as circulated with
the Agenda.

Councillor Henderson inquired if Spruce Lodge is looking into ways to help lower their hydro costs? Mr. Bolland confirmed that they have already begun replacing old bulbs with LED's in the towers and a new baseboard electric heat project.

Motion by Tom Clifford, seconded by Frank Mark

THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their respective Councils of the 2016 budget as presented by Spruce Lodge Home for the Aged.

Carried.

5.3 Stratford-Perth Museum—John Kastner, David Stones & Randy Matthews

John Kastner, David Stones and Randy Matthews presented the 2016 Stratford-Perth Museum Budget Report as circulated with the Agenda.

Councillor Clifford requested clarification on paying vs. non-paying visitors to the museum. John Kastner explained that most of the non-paying visitors are volunteers, researchers or people there attending meetings.

Councillor Mark inquired what the Museum does with their projected surplus funds? Mr. Kastner explained that they will be set aside for capital reserves.

Bob Wilhelm thanked the museum staff for all their assistance and cooperation during the construction.

Motion by Bob Wilhelm, seconded by Walter McKenzie

THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their respective Councils of the 2016 budget as presented by the Stratford-Perth Museum. Carried.

6.0 2015 Third Quarter Reporting & 2016 Budget Presentations

6.1 Social Services – Carole Desmeules

Carole Desmeules presented the 2015 Third Quarter update and the 2016 Social Services Budget Report as circulated with the Agenda.

Motion by Tony Winters, seconded by Bob McMillan

THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their respective Councils of the 2016 Social Services budget and that the 2015 Third Quarter Report be received as circulated. Carried.

6.2 Emergency Medical Services – Linda Rockwood

Linda Rockwood presented the 2015 Third Quarter update and the 2016 Emergency Medical Services Budget Report as circulated with the Agenda. She noted that the 2016 budget has not yet been adopted by Perth County Council.

Councillor Clifford inquired about the rent increase with the new building. Ms. Rockwood explained that the increase would begin January 1, 2016. He asked if there was a comparison of overhead with the current operations vs. the new building. Ms. Rockwood will provide this information.

**Motion by Bonnie Henderson, seconded by Bob Wilhelm
THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their respective Councils of the 2016 Emergency Medical Services Budget and that the 2015 Third Quarter update be received as circulated. Carried**

6.3 Provincial Offences Administration – Linda Becker & Renato Pullia

Linda Becker and Renato Pullia presented the 2015 Third Quarter update and the 2016 Provincial Offences Budget Report as circulated with the Agenda.

**Motion by Walter McKenzie, seconded by Frank Mark
THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their respective Councils of the 2016 Provincial Offences Budget and that the 2015 Third Quarter update be received as circulated. Carried.**

6.4 Stratford Perth Archives – Betty Jo Belton & Renato Pullia

Betty Jo Belton presented the 2015 Stratford Perth Archives Third Quarter update and the 2016 Budget Report as circulated with the Agenda.

Ms. Belton congratulated the City and the County on being the joint recipients of the Archives Association Award recognizing their decades-long support of municipal archives.

Councillor Mark inquired about the increased amount showing in the 2015 revenue. Renato Pullia explained that the increase was a transfer from a reserve to accommodate some costs associated with moving.

Councillor Clifford inquired if there were any funds left in the reserve? Renato Pullia explained that there is still money in reserves. They have an equipment reserve, general reserve and a special donations reserve. He will get the exact amounts and report.

**Motion by Tom Clifford, seconded by Bonnie Henderson
THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee recommends adoption to their respective Councils of the 2016 Stratford Perth Archives Budget and that the 2015 Third Quarter update be received as circulated. Carried.**

7.0 Summary of MLC Budget based on Current & Proposed Shared Costing Agreements – Andre Morin – Director of Corporate Services, City of Stratford

Andre Morin reviewed the summary provided with the agenda, which shows the MLC budget based on the current and proposed shared costing agreements.

**Motion by Bob McMillan, seconded by Frank Mark
THAT the Municipal Liaison Committee receive the report on the 2016 MLC budget. Carried.**

8.0 Proposed Dates for 2016 Quarterly Meetings & 2016 Budget Meeting

Thursday, February 18, 2016	(County of Perth)
Thursday, May 5, 2016	(City of Stratford)
Thursday, August 4, 2016	(County of Perth)
Thursday, November 17, 2016	(City of Stratford)

9.0 New Business

9.1 Request for Refugees – Bob Wilhelm

Bob Wilhelm received a letter requesting municipalities within 500 kms of Pearson International Airport to consider accepting Syrian refugees. There are no timelines as of yet. He inquired if members were interested in pursuing this request. Councillor Clifford inquired about how many people or families they were requesting to accept in an area such as the City of Stratford and Perth County? Bob Wilhelm stated there was no indication of numbers at this point. Ron Shaw explained that Mayor Mathieson has set up a committee to raise funds through the Central Mennonite Committee. A number of churches have also come forward offering to host families. Walter McKenzie stated that West Perth is working towards accepting two families, Al Strathdee stated that the Town of St. Marys is also looking at hosting two families, all through their ministerial associations. Linda Rockwood suggested a joint meeting between Stratford, St. Marys and the County. Ron Shaw stated that this will be a larger scale project and will be something that staff needs to review and report on. The committee agreed that the MLC will move forward once further information is available.

9.2 Regional Roads – Tom Clifford

Councillor Clifford inquired about the annual increases in the base amounts regarding the regional roads. Renato Pullia explained that over the last three years they have been working to bring up their winter maintenance budget. They have projected a 2015 deficit, and have tried to offset that by using the general summer maintenance program, to save approximately \$400,000.00. This is a great deal of the increase, to bring up the winter maintenance program. They used to have a reserve fund, but approximately three years ago, it was completely depleted. On the capital side, they are trying to bring up some of the

contributions in terms of addressing some of the infrastructure deficit. In the next few years they will possibly be at the level of stabilizing the budget. Ron Shaw inquired with respect to the Federal Gas funds and if the County applies this money towards the roads budget at all? Mr. Pullia stated that they have used it, with an approximate total of \$1.1 million, which basically covers about one project per year. They have applied for additional infrastructure funding, but have so far been unsuccessful.

10.0 Adjournment

**Motion by Bob Wilhelm, seconded by Frank Mark that the meeting adjourn.
Carried.**

Time: 3:35 p.m.