



The Corporation of The County of Perth

Minutes of the March 10, 2011 Council Meeting

Council Present: Councillor Wilhelm
Councillor Forrest
Councillor McMillan
Warden Behrns
Councillor Aitcheson
Councillor Schneider
Councillor Judge
Councillor Ehgoetz
Councillor McKenzie

Absent: Councillor Bill French

Staff Present: Bill Arthur, CAO
Linda Rockwood, Director of Emergency
Medical Services
Renato Pullia, Director of Corporate
Services, Treasurer
Dave Hanly, Director of Planning &
Development
Matt Ash, Director of Public Works
Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Clerk

Others Present: Debbie Gibson, Deputy Treasurer

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Regular/Budget Meeting of Perth County Council with Quorum present was called to order at 9:00 a.m. and the roll call conducted.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The Regular/Budget Committee meeting of Perth County Council commenced with Opening Prayer.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

No Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest stated.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2011-105

Moved By: Councillor Wilhelm

Seconded By: Councillor Ehgoetz

THAT the Agenda for the March 10, 2011 Council/Budget Committee Meeting be approved as circulated;

Carried

5. DELEGATIONS

No Delegations.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.2 Municipal Liaison Committee Minutes - February 17, 2011

2011-106

Moved By: Councillor Aitcheson

Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

THAT the minutes of the February 17th, 2011 Municipal Liaison Committee minutes be received; and

THAT the minutes of the February 24th, 2011 Council-Budget Committee meeting be approved;

Carried

2011-107

Moved By: Councillor Schneider

Seconded By: Councillor Wilhelm

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the County of Perth adjourn to convene as the Budget Committee at 9:12 a.m.;

Carried

7. BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7.1 NEW BUDGET ITEMS

Director of Corporate Services Pullia circulated updated budget sheets for Emergency Services (including Emergency Services and Emergency Planning); Public Works (including Administration, Roads, Fleet and Facilities). It was noted that all other amended budget sheets will be circulated at the end of the budget process so that Council is in receipt of the adopted budget package.

Renato Pullia noted that most departments will be impacted by an Overhead reallocation and will have exact (not projected) insurance premium figures. The projected levy increase (to date) is 3.3%. If Council decides to adjust liability insurance premiums (\$50,000) then this figure drops to 3.07%.

7.1.1 Fire Radio Project - Capital and Operating

Linda Rockwood, Director of Emergency Services presented the amended budget figures (Capital & Operating) for Emergency Services and Emergency Management. Christel Hollinger, CEMC was also in attendance. Linda Rockwood explained the budget figures presented (Capital & Operating) for the Fire/Passport Radio Project.

It was confirmed that the Passport Radios are owned by the Lower Tier municipalities. Life cycle budgeting for these items will not be required at the County level.

It was noted that the Passport Radio Project including the earmarking of the reserves for outstanding portables will be under budget by \$42,535.56.

Linda Rockwood confirmed that West Perth requires 17 Public Works radios (\$15,483) and 2 Fire radios (\$2022). North Perth requires 24 radios (\$21,858)

2011-108

Moved By: Councillor McKenzie

Seconded By: Councillor Ehgoetz

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to Council that the replacement cost of Fire Radio and Tower Equipment Project be delayed until 2012 (\$20,000 per year);

Carried

2011-109

Moved By: Councillor Wilhelm

Seconded By: Councillor Aitcheson

THAT the Budget Committee recommends to Council that (as outlined in the Emergency Management Budget) \$32,363 (including HST) be transferred to a Radio Reserve in order to pay for future radios where the Lower Tier municipalities have chosen to defer their passport option to a later year; and

THAT these funds be available for a term of five years, at which time the funds will be transferred back to the OMPF reserves; and

THAT the Treasurer be authorized to make the necessary payments to the Lower Tier municipalities or transfer to the OMPF reserve;

Carried

7.1.2 International Plowing Match 2013 - Grant Request

Renato Pullia provided Council with a copy of the February 18, 2010 staff report which outlined the IPM 2005 financial commitments made by the County of Perth. It was confirmed that the following is a list of the approved and anticipated financial commitments to IPM 2013:

SEED Funding - \$ 100,000 – approved on February 18, 2010

County Tent - \$80,000 (approximate) - not approved

County EMS and PW Time & Resources - \$ 30,000 (approximate based on 2005 figures) - not approved

Municipal Exhibit - \$2500 (approximate based on 2005 figure) - not approved

2011-110

Moved By: Councillor Forrest

Seconded By: Councillor Wilhelm

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to Council that the International Plowing Match 2013 Committee grant request for \$ 40,000 be denied;

Carried

7.2 BUDGET UPDATES

7.2.1 Human Resources and Accessibility Budget Updates

Renato Pullia noted that there have been adjustments to the Human Resources budget to reflect the increase in consultant fees (Job Evaluation & Wage Grid Review) and actual insurance premium figures. An adjustment to the salary/benefits and insurance expense in the Accessibility budget was noted.

7.2.2 2011 Benefit Expenses

As requested by the Budget Committee, Renato Pullia presented a summary of the benefit expense allocations by department. It was noted that new budgeting software calculates projected benefit allocations differently than the excel spreadsheets utilized in past budget reports. This accounts for some of the budget changes from 2010 to 2011. There have also been adjustments in the number and allocation of Full Time Employees as well as benefit premium increases.

Recess taken at 10:30 a.m.

Resumed meeting from recess at 10:47 a.m.

It was confirmed that the total amount spent on benefits (CPP, EI, EHT, OMERS and Health) is approximately \$ 11.5M, of which 7.5% is health related benefits. It was also confirmed that there are approximately 101 Full Time employees receiving health benefits.

7.2.4 EMS Budget

Renato Pullia and Linda Rockwood outlined the adjustments to the Emergency Services budget. The largest adjustment is to the Ministry of Health grant calculation which has dropped by \$ 283,270 from the first draft of the budget based on information provided by Ministry staff.

2011-111

Moved By: Councillor Wilhelm

Seconded By: Councillor Judge

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to Council that the County

of Perth advise the Premier of Ontario, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (Emergency Health Services Branch) and the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus that the current funding model for municipal land ambulance services should be based on the current year approved operating cost, not the prior year approved operating cost, in order to achieve the 50-50 funding commitment; and

That on behalf of Perth County Council, MPP John Wilkinson be approached with this concern;

Carried

7.2.3 Public Works Divisional Budgets

Director of Public Works Matt Ash reviewed budget adjustments. There has been an Overhead reallocation (related to Emergency Services) and adjustments to insurance premiums.

Capital Item VC0001 Public Works Pickup Replacement has been adjusted to reflect the addition of a plow to one of the two pick-up trucks (\$7,000).

7.2.5 Insurance Deductible Adjustment

Renato Pullia re-circulated the front page of Insurance Premium information provided at the March 3, 2011 Council Meeting and noted that if the County chooses to increase the deductible (liability) to \$50,000 the net savings will be approximately \$ 25,000. This will reduce the projected levy increase to 3.07%.

2011-112

Moved By: Councillor Forrest

Seconded By: Councillor Ehgoetz

THAT staff be directed to issue a Request for Proposal for insurance services;

Carried

2011-113

Moved By: Councillor Forrest

Seconded By: Councillor Aitcheson

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to Council that the insurance deductible for liability be increased to \$50,000; and

THAT staff be directed to bring forward a report regarding options for insurance reserves;

Carried

7.3 CORPORATE RESERVES RECOMMENDATIONS

Renato Pullia referred to recommended adjustments to corporate reserves as set out on the "Continuity of Reserves" spreadsheet. It was noted that the following reserve reallocations will be made as part of the 2011 budget process:

"Public Works - General" to "Facilities Reserve"

"Public Works - Equipment" to "Capital Equipment Reserve"

"Resurfacing and Highway Transfer" to "Road Reserve"

"EMS" to "Medical Equipment Reserve"

7.4 CORRESPONDENCE

7.4.1 St. Marys Adult Learning Program - Program Clarification

Members of Council meeting with MPP John Wilkinson on March 11, 2011 will bring forward the issue of funding for adult education program.

2011-114

Moved By: Councillor McMillan

Seconded By: Councillor Aitcheson

THAT the Budget Committee recommend to Council that the correspondence from the St. Marys Adult Learning Program, be received for information;

Carried

2011-115

Moved By: Councillor Wilhelm

Seconded By: Councillor McMillan

THAT the Budget Advisory Committee adjourn and reconvene as Council at 11:58 a.m.;

Carried

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

2011-116

Moved By: Councillor Aitcheson

Seconded By: Councillor Ehgoetz

THAT the Council of the County of Perth endorse all recommendations from the March 10, 2011 Budget Committee meeting;

Carried

9. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

10. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

2011-117

Moved By: Councillor Judge

Seconded By: Councillor Schneider

THAT By-law 3238-2011, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Perth at its Council/Budget meeting held on March 10, 2011, be read a first, second and third time; and

THAT the Warden and Clerk are hereby authorized and instructed to sign the same and attach the Corporate Seal thereto;

Carried

11. ADJOURNMENT

2011-118

Moved By: Councillor Judge

Seconded By: Councillor McKenzie

THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:01 p.m.;

Carried

March 10, 2011

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Original minutes signed and available from the County Clerk

Julie Behrns, WARDEN

Kerri Ann O'Rourke, CLERK