



Committee of the Whole

Special Session Minutes - January 7, 2008

GODERICH, ONTARIO



Goderich, Ontario
January 7, 2008

The SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE met in the Court House at 9:00 a.m. with all members present except Councillor N. Vincent.

1. County Crest

Scott Tousaw, Director of Planning and Development, presented the attached report dated January 7, 2008 submitted from the Branding Committee lead staff Carol Leeming and Cindy Fisher. This report regarding the continued use of the County Crest following the launch of the new County logo was distributed for Councils information.

Moved by B. MacLellan

Seconded by J. Grace

That the report be received.

CARRIED

2. 2008 Draft Budget

The Treasurer, D. Carey, presented the attached PowerPoint presentation on the current status of the budget. Open discussion ensued. Topics discussed included Waste Management and the Environmental Assessment, Facilities and the Asset Management Plan, Wingham Patrol Yard, Tipping Fees, the Highways Department Fordwich project and Reserve Balances.

Moved by D. Shewfelt

Seconded by D. Kelly

That the County of Huron delay the Ethel and Gorrie Bridge replacement projects pending application to the Ministry for Ontario Infrastructure Funding.

Motion Withdrawn

There was a general consensus to review the department budgets individually and give Councillors the opportunity to ask questions and address concerns for each specific area and program. Each Senior Manager proceeded to give a brief overview of their departments respective draft budget as presented in the October and November committee budget reviews.

Reviews were conducted in the following order with Council having extensive deliberations with each draft departmental budget:

Department / Division	Topics of discussion questioned and/or noted.
Health Unit	On-site Sewage Programs, Voluntary Septic Inspection Programs, Road Watch
Planning and Development	Possible relocation of the department to the second floor of the Assessment Office.
Library	Brussels Branch, equipment and furniture needs.
Museum / Gaol	Proposal to hire a consultant to assess the Museum's collection capacity and space needs for preserving the collection. Rent for the Gaol (portion is to continue repair of the stone wall).
Homes	Provincial funding for food services was increased to approx. \$7 per diem, Benefits, and statutory holidays including the new Family Day holiday in February.
EMS	Rent, travel and meals, conventions/conferences, Winter Clothing and Uniforms.
Social Services	<i>No questions</i>
Administration	<i>No questions</i>

Department / Division	Topics of discussion questioned and/or noted.
Human Resources	Management of workload progressing well due to scaling down to four employees. Small increase due to goal of all staff having professional designations.
Treasury, Information Technology and POA	Revenues, PSAB 3150, Insurance Claims, Provisions for Unforeseen allocation.
Highways	Ditching, Winter Control, Anti-icing, Traffic Engineering, Needs Study

Moved by D. Shewfelt
Seconded by D. Kelly

That the budget increase be 5% for 2008 and the County apply for an Ontario Infrastructure Grant for a Public Works Bridge Replacement project that is construction ready and a specific motion on the project be passed on January 9, 2008.

Warden J. Bezaire called a recess at 1:50 p.m. and the committee resumed at 2 p.m. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Councillor J. Seili requested a Recorded Vote.

RECORDED VOTE

YEAS: Kelly, Oke, Robertson, Van Diepenbeek
Grace, Shewfelt, Rintoul = 7

NAYS: Dietrich, Seili, Bezaire, Fergusson, Collyer, Siemon,
Johnston, Demaray, Dowson, MacLellan, Dykstra = 11

ABSENT: Scott, Vincent = 2

MOTION DEFEATED

Discussion ensued on the Highways Capital Budget. Staff were instructed to begin the application process for Ministry Infrastructure Funding for either the Ethel Bridge; Gorrie Bridge or both projects and report back as soon as possible. [Note that the programs "Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiatives" are to be announced on January 11, 2008.] Facilities are to present their draft 2008 Budget at the January 22, 2008 Committee of the Whole meeting.

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

4. Adjournment

Moved by G. Robertson
Seconded by B. Dykstra
That the meeting adjourn at 2:32 p.m.

CARRIED

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Chair