



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

Special Council Meeting Minutes (2020 Municipal Budget)

Monday, February 3, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Bruce County Council Chambers - 30 Park Street, Walkerton, ON

Council Present: Chris Peabody, Mayor
Tim Elphick - Councillor
Dan Gieruszak, Deputy Mayor
Steve Adams, Councillor
Kym Hutcheon, Councillor
James Lang, Councillor
Dean Leifso, Councillor

Staff Present: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer
Fiona Hamilton, Clerk
Sharon Bross, Brockton Child Care Centre Supervisor
Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services
Julie Farrell, Human Resources Generalist
Gregory Furtney, Director of Operations
Ray Holliday, Chief Building Official
Paulette Peirol, Community Development Coordinator
Mike Murphy, Fire Chief
Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

1. Acceptance of Special Council Agenda

Mayor Peabody called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Motion: 20-04-01

Moved By: Kym Hutcheon

Seconded By: Steve Adams

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton accept the Agenda for the Special Council Meeting on Monday, February 3, 2020 as presented.

Carried

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None disclosed at this time.

3. Non-Tax Supported Budget

3.1 Introduction

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer presented an overview of the agenda for the day.

3.2 Water and Wastewater Overview

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, informed Council about the 2020 water service accomplishments and summarized that the largest budget increases were due to water main repairs and staff training.

Council discussed the salary, wages, and benefit increases as well as the Lake Rosalind well casing project and source water protection plan described by Gregory Furtney, Director of Operations.

3.3 Ontario Building Code Administration

Ray Holliday, Chief Building Official, presented the budget related to the administration of the obligations described in the Ontario Building Code Act. Mr. Holliday explained that the wages had decreased due to a retirement and that revenue was expected to increase as the building permit fees were raised as of January 1, 2020.

3.4 Capital Projects - Utilities

Gregory Furtney, Director of Operations presented a review of the capital projects that Veolia Water Canada, the operator of the Municipality of Brockton's water system, identified for 2020. Council discussed ensuring that water and wastewater systems were maintained in the best condition possible.

Mr. Furtney also proposed obtaining a baseline of the water system to ensure adequate capacity to support increased development, as well the budgeting for the water booster pumping station planned to support a residential subdivision in Walkerton.

Mr. Furtney also reminded Council of the grant that was received to convert to a UV wastewater treatment system.

4. Tax Supported Operating Budget

4.1 Introduction

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the proposed budget and the previous year's tax rates.

4.2 Council Budget

Council discussed the proposal to broadcast the Council meetings, emphasizing the need to balance accountability and transparency with fiscal responsibility. Members of Council referred to the possibility of using a different vendor to broadcast the Council meeting for a much more affordable price and directed Fiona Hamilton, Clerk, to bring forward additional information after speaking with the potential alternate vendor. Council directed staff to reduce the amount budgeted for broadcasting Council meetings to \$5,000.00.

Action: Fiona Hamilton, Clerk bring forward an additional report about broadcasting Council meetings after speaking to an alternate vendor. Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, was directed to reduce the amount budgeted for this item to \$5,000.00.

4.3 General Government Budget

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the draft general government budget, including a summary of the safety challenges that prompted the proposed municipal office renovations. Ms. Watson also explained the expected value of the proposed Strategic Action Plan which would include and economic development plan in allowing staff to focus on identified priorities.

Council debated the requirement to ensure adequate safety for staff versus the fiscal responsibility of investing in a rented facility. Council also debated the merits of spending funds on additional plans.

Council then discussed the budget implications arising from the funding requests from various local boards such as the Saugeen Municipal Regional Airport and Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit.

Action: Council directed Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, to bring forward a report outlining the various costs associated with the proposed municipal office renovations.

Ms. Watson also provided Council with confirmation that the Nuclear Waste Management Organization would likely not be providing the \$45,000.00 in funding that was linked to the deep geological repository as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation's vote did not support the project proceeding.

Council also discussed the various costs associated with the Committees of Council and the benefits of undergoing a Committee structure review.

Action: Fiona Hamilton, Clerk will review the current Committee structure and bring forward a report for Council's consideration.

4.4 Recess

Motion: 20-04-02

Moved By: Steve Adams

Seconded By: James Lang

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now recess from the Open Session at 10:06 a.m.

Carried

Motion: 20-04-03

Moved By: Dan Gieruszak

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now hereby return to Open Session at 10:55 a.m.

Carried

4.5 Human Resources Budget

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions from Council about the payroll software program used by the Municipality of Brockton as well as the HR downloads program used by the Human Resources department.

4.6 East Ridge Business Park Budget

Council discussed the sales of the East Ridge Business Park and the need to encourage owners to proceed with constructing buildings.

4.7 Economic Development Committee Budget

Sonya Watson described the projects completed by the Economic Development Committee over the past year as well as the major projects for 2020 which included the commemoration event for the Walkerton water crisis, funds to support the facade program and a proposed new Community Improvement Plan.

Council expressed concerns with the cost of the Community Improvement Plan and questioned whether it would cover all areas of Brockton. Council also stated that the current Walkerton entrance signs were still in good shape and proposed putting money aside into reserves to maintain updated signage for all communities.

4.8 Cemetery Budget

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, explained the changes that were made in the amount of the fee for a cemetery in response to requirements by the Bereavement Authority of Ontario.

4.9 Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Budget

Fiona Hamilton, Clerk, explained to Council that it was difficult to compare actual expenses for the animal control budget as the shared services agreement had only been implemented half way through 2019 and that next year's actual expenses would be a better gauge of the success of the agreement.

4.10 Fire Services Budget

Mike Murphy, Fire Chief, explained that the dry hydrant pond for the Elmwood Community Centre has significant levels of silt such that the entire pond would need to be dredged.

4.11 Emergency Management Budget

Council discussed the amount in the emergency measures reserve and noted the difficulty in determining the appropriate amount to transfer into reserves each year.

4.12 Protective Services - Ontario Provincial Police and Brockton Police Services Board Budgets

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer, confirmed the funding amount of the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Grant and explained that the supplies budget was higher than in previous years because of the purchase of the Black Cat Radar update and speed humps.

4.13 Conservation Authority Budget

Council discussed the proposed engineering study related to the level of erosion in the Valleyside neighborhood of Walkerton.

5. Recess

Motion: 20-04-04

Moved By: James Lang

Seconded By: Steve Adams

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now hereby recess from the Open Session at 11:56 a.m.

Carried

Motion: 20-04-05

Moved By: Steve Adams

Seconded By: James Lang

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now hereby return to Open Session at 12:40 p.m.

Carried

6. Tax Supported Operating Budget - Continued

6.1 Brockton Child Care Centre Budget

Council discussed the static municipal contribution to the operation of the Brockton Child Care Centre over the past few years and noted that the proposed increased was the result of additional full time positions being created to respond to the expansion of the Centre.

6.2 Recreation Budget

Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services provided an overview of completed projects from 2019 and responded to questions from Council about the proposal to rent seasonal work vehicles.

Council discussed the levels of funding for the Cargill Community Centre and the Elmwood Community Centre in relation to the booking rates for each facility.

Mr. Coleman explained that he would be in a better position to determine the merit of increasing the electrical service to the Lobies Park Campground once he had the opportunity to complete a full review of the park lay-out and projected possible revenues.

6.3 Brockton and Area Physician Recruitment Committee Budget

Kelly Fotheringham presented the Brockton and Area Physician Recruitment Budget. Mr. Fotheringham informed Council that surgeon, Dr. Rama, has tendered his resignation. The Committee is still seeking doctors, and a surgeon to replace Dr. Rama. Dr. Rama received an incentive package when he arrived in Brockton, and will return 80% of that package since resigning.

6.4 Heritage Budget

Fiona Hamilton, Clerk presented the Heritage Budget and answered questions from Council about the Art Show budget and the proposed heritage murals.

6.5 Library Budget

Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services presented the budget for both Walkerton and Cargill Libraries. The insurance appeared to increased dramatically because it had previously not been allocated properly.

Mr. Coleman stated his eagerness to review the budgets in more detail, and is currently arranging a tour of the facilities to better understand the resources.

6.6 Planning Budget

Ray Holliday, Chief Building Official presented the planning budget and informed Council that revenue may increase as a result of the additional planning and development fees incorporated into the 2020 Fees and Charges By-law.

6.7 Property Standards Budget

Ray Holliday, Chief Building Official presented an overview of the Property Standards Budget.

Council inquired about the Department's training timeline. Mr. Holliday explained that Dominic Paquette, Building Inspector, has completed four out of eleven courses. The modernization of the Building Code was likely to occur by 2022 and would require extensive training for all building inspectors.

Mr. Holliday also clarified that the Municipality of Brockton has entered into an agreement for extra coverage if needed from Terry Tuck, who had been appointed as alternate Chief Building Official.

6.8 Walkerton Business Improvement Area Budget

Alishia Oberle, Walkerton BIA Manager presented the BIA Budget. There has been a change in the structure of the accounts due to the Municipality of Brockton taking over bookkeeping for the BIA, noting that the overall levy remained the same.

Council inquired about building and maintenance expenses. Ms. Oberle explained that some expenses were not properly categorized, and this budget better reflected the overall expenses for each category.

Council inquired about the professional fees. Mrs. Oberle explained that portion of the fees are utilized for the BIA's audit, and \$4,000 are utilized for bookkeeping services.

7. Confirmation of Proceedings

Motion: 20-04-06

Moved By: Dan Gieruszak

Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorize that the following by-law be read, enacted, signed, sealed, and numbered as follows:

- By-Law 2020-012 - February 3, 2020 Confirmatory By-Law

Carried

8. Adjournment

Motion: 20-04-07

Moved By: Steve Adams

Seconded By: Kym Hutcheon

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton does now adjourn at 4:30 p.m. to meet again on February 4, 2020.

Carried

Mayor - Chris Peabody

Clerk – Fiona Hamilton