

Council Chambers  
February 5, 2008

**Council convened in formal session at 6:00 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Farbridge, Councillors Beard, Bell, Billings, Farrelly, Findlay, Hofland, Kovach (arrived at 6:55 p.m.), Laidlaw, Piper, Salisbury (arrived at 6:45 p.m.) and Wettstein

Absent: Councillor Burcher

Staff Present: Mr. H. Loewig, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. M. Amorosi, Director of Human Resources; Chief S. Armstrong, Director of Emergency Services; Dr. J. Laird, Director of Environmental Services; Mr. D. McCaughan, Director of Operations; Mr. R. Mackay, Acting Director of Community Services; Ms. L.E. Payne, Director of Corporate Services/City Solicitor; Mr. J. Riddell, Director of Community Design and Development Services; Mr. B. Stewart, Acting Director of Finance; Ms. S. Aram, Manager of Budget Services; Mr. B. Barr, manager Fleet & Equipment; Ms. B. Brombal, Co-ordinator Service Performance & Development; Mr. M. Cameron, Manager Parkland & Greenways; Mr. B. Coutts, Manager of Court Services; Mr. B. Chapman, Manager Traffic & Parking; Mr. R. Hagey, Financial Consultant – Operations & Environmental Services; Mr. M. Humble, Financial Consultant – Community Design & Development Services and Corporate Services; Mr. G. Hunt, Manager Employee/Employer Relations, Assistant Director of Human Resources; Ms. L. MacIntyre, Manager Compensation, Benefits & HRIS; Mr. S. Mattina, Manager Roads/Right of Ways; Mr. M. McCrae, Manager Corporate Property Services; Ms. L. Meyer, Supervisor Administration; Ms. G. Nisbet, Manager of Taxation and Revenue; Ms. R. Prince, Manager of Financial Services; Ms. T. Sinclair, Assistant City Solicitor; Mr. D. Wyman, Manager Solid Waste Resources; and Ms. T. Agnello, Deputy Clerk

**DECLARATIONS UNDER MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT**

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.

The Chief Administrative Officer provided a brief overview of the budget 2008 Operating and Capital Budget process.

The Chief Administrative Officer presented the proposed 2008 Administration – CAO budget. He advised that the budget is impacted due to salary changes and grid moves. He further

advised that the proposed budget contains reductions in organizational studies and workshops and communications.

The Acting Director of Finance highlighted the Service area's proposed 2008 budget. He advised that the proposed budget represents a 3.2% increase over the 2007 budget. He outlined the impacts to the budget being additional funding for staff training and an increase to the bank charges and Brinks fees. He highlighted their projects contained in the capital budget with regarding development charges study, long term growth model and capital asset management.

With respect to the grants component of the budget the acting Director of Finance advised that there is a reduction to the special projects grant as the 2007 contribution to Shakespeare Made in Canada was one time only and the balance of the funds are committed to the Guelph Rowing Club. He also advised that the allocation to the Guelph Arts Council was increased for their administration of the grant program. He highlighted other requests received for funding such as Hospice Wellington, Guelph General Hospital and the MacDonald Stewart Art Centre.

The Director of Human Resources highlighted his proposed budget which reflects a 3.5% increase. He outlined the service area's 2007 accomplishments. He also outlined the impacts affecting the budget as the majority of their budget is salary and benefits. He advised that in order to reach the Council directed guideline, the Quarter Century Club event will be changed to a bi-annual event and one less co-op placement will be hired. He also highlighted the proposed expansion for an OD Specialist/Human Rights Advisor.

The Director of Corporate Services/City Solicitor highlighted the service area's proposed budget which complies with the 3.5% guideline. She outlined the proposed impacts associated with the opening of the new City Hall and the requirement for 6 additional full time positions. She also advised of the impacts to Court Services related to increased banking costs and projected decreased POA revenue. She provided information on the reductions to reach the approved guideline. She then provided information on proposed expansions being an Energy Conservation Coordinator, Clerical Assistant and Municipal Lawyer. She then reviewed the projects in the capital budget, completion of the new City Hall, commencement of work on the POA Court, finalizing the design of the South End Emergency Services Centre, continuation of accessibility improvements and life cycle reserve upgrades and repairs.

The Director of Operations highlighted his service area's budget and provided information on the impacts of adjusting the sport

field revenues to reflect the increased usage and a school crossing guard Stevenson at Balsam. He outlined the impacts to operational changes with respect to the introduction of a road patrol and increases to insurance, fleet costs, salaries/wages, contractor fees and material costs. He advised the Farmers market maintenance is not being undertaken and the removal of the forestry study funding and reductions to winter control in order to meet the approved guideline. He briefly outlined the proposed expansion packages for adult crossing guards at Elmira at Willow and the addition of 3 fleet technicians (transit), along with additional park maintenance and playground inspector/repair person. He then highlighted the proposed capital budget projects which include traffic management, miscellaneous park upgrades, sustainable urban forest plan, fleet/equipment replacement, restoration work on Locomotive 6167 and sidewalk plough.

The Director of Environmental Services advised that there are no service level reductions contained in their budget, and that the budget meets the approved guideline for a 3.5% increase. She provided information on the impacts to the proposed budget with respect to ongoing training, waste management master plan and the reallocation of staff to meet the service requirements. She outlined the Senior Management Team supported expansions for a curbside advisor and community energy plan project manager. In response to questions from the Community Development & Environmental Services Committee, she provided additional information with respect to additional yard waste collection events. She also provided information relating to the rebuild/reopen organics processing facility and recommendations from the Waste Management Master Plan committee affecting the capital project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 o'clock p.m.

Minutes read and confirmed February 25, 2008.

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Mayor

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Deputy Clerk