

Council Chambers  
February 6, 2008

**Council convened in formal session at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Farbridge, Councillors Beard, Bell, Burcher, Farrelly, Findlay, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Salisbury and Wettstein

Absent: Councillor Billings

Staff Present: Mr. H. Loewig, Chief Administrative Officer; Chief S. Armstrong, Director of Emergency Services; Mr. P. Cartwright, General Manager of Economic Development & Tourism; Mr. D. McCaughan, Director of Operations; Mr. R. Mackay, Acting Director of Community Services; 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. G. Dupuis, Manager IT Services; Mr. R. French, Manager of Transit Services; Mr. S. Hannah, Manager of Development and Parks Planning; Mr. R. Henry, City Engineer; Mr. D. Hosker, Deputy Fire chief – Operations; Mr. M. Humble, Financial Consultant – Community Design & Development Services and Corporate Services; Mr. D. Kudo, Infrastructure Planning: Design & Construction Manager; Ms. G. Nisbet, Manager of Taxation and Revenue; Ms. M. Plaunt, Manager of Policy Planning and Urban Design; Mr. B. Poole, Chief Building Official; Mr. L. Quan, Deputy Fire Chief – Administration; Ms. T. Sprigg, Senior Communications Officer; and Mrs. L.A. Giles, Director of Information Services/City Clerk

Present on behalf of Guelph Museums: Mr. J. Hall, Chair; and Ms. K. McCracken, Director

Present on behalf of the Guelph Police Services: Mr. D. Clarke, Chair Guelph Police Services Board; Chief R. Davis; and Ms. S. Morris, Director of Corporate Services

Present on behalf of the Guelph Public Library: Ms. L. Kearns, Director of Library Services; and Mr. N. McLeod, Chief Librarian & Chief Executive Officer

Present on behalf of the County of Wellington: Mr. S. Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. C. Dyer, Treasurer; Ms. L. Holtom, Assistant Administrator, Wellington Terrace and Mr. K. Warner, Social Services Administrator

Present on behalf of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit: Dr. Mercer Acting Medical Officer of Health; Ms. L. Davenport, Chair; and D. Hillier, Financial Officer

## DECLARATIONS UNDER MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.

The Mayor advised that the purpose of the meeting was to hear presentations on the 2008 Tax Supported Operating Budget and the Capital Budget.

The Manager of Budget Services introduced the 2008 Tax Supported Operating Budget and the Capital budgets.

Scott Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer of the County of Wellington highlighted the budget process at the County and advised that it is anticipated that the budget will be approved in February. He provided information with respect to the Ontario Works and advised that the average 2007 caseload was 3.2% higher in the City compared to 2006 and the total City cost is estimated at \$8.8 million. He also provided information relating to child care and advised that the City's share for 2008 is \$2.1 million. He highlighted the proposed housing budget which reflects a 4% net increase with the City's share being \$11.5 million. He then advised that the budget incorporates the impact of the new subsidy benchmarking model, which will be adopted as each provider begins its new fiscal year. He then highlighted the budget for the Wellington Terrace. He advised that the municipal cost from 2006 to 2008 has largely unchanged with the total City cost for 2008 being \$984,000.

Dr. Mercer, Acting Medical Officer of Health presented the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit's proposed 2008 budget. She highlighted the key mandatory programs to be undertaken and their associated costs. She reviewed the key pressures on the budget with respect to staff costs. Dr. Mercer along with the assistance of Ms. Hillier, Financial Officer provided additional information in response to questions by members of Council.

1. Moved by Councillor Councillor Kovach  
Seconded by Councillor Councillor Laidlaw

Mayor Farbridge

THAT a letter be sent to the Province of Ontario requesting appropriate funding under the public health model.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Beard, Bell, Burcher, Farrelly, Findlay, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Salisbury, Wettstein and Mayor Farbridge.

VOTING AGAINST (0)

Carried

Shelagh Morris, Director of Corporate Services, Guelph Police Services highlighted the proposed operating budget which was developed to address legislative requirements, the Services' business

plan goals and the Police Services Board established priorities for 2008. She reviewed the impacts to the budget relating to inflationary increases, compensation and staffing pressures. She provided information of reductions made to the training budget, consideration of alternative service delivery models (civilianization, temporary staff, pilot projects) to meet the Council guideline. She also provided information regarding the capital projects for the South End Emergency Services Facility, headquarters renovations, new and replacement vehicles, radio and equipment replacements and the joint training facility included in the capital budget.

Norman. McLeod, Chief Librarian & Chief Executive Officer of the Guelph Public Library highlighted the Library's proposed 2008 operating budget which meets the Council approved guideline. He reviewed the impacts to this budget with the major impact being salaries and benefits. He reviewed the reductions that were made to reach the guideline with the elimination of discretionary spending and reduction or elimination of budgets for travel, furniture, equipment and maintenance. He outlined the expansion package for the addition of an employee to enhance adult programming. He highlighted the Library's capital budget which includes the continuing search for an east side branch and the re-vamping of the oldest branches in 2009.

Katherine. McCracken, Director of Guelph Museums highlighted the Museums proposed budget which reflects a 2.4% increase over 2007. She provided information on the factors impacting the budget with minor increases to salaries, benefits and utilities; an increase in the provincial operating grant; and the annual costs for the Loretto Convent. She then highlighted the capital project relating to the new Civic Museum.

The Director of Information Services provided information on the proposed Information Services operating budget which complies with the approved guideline while still maintaining comprehensive support to Council and all City departments, supporting new technology infrastructure and providing strategic communications and marketing for the entire organization. She advised that there is a decrease in revenues due to the new on-line birth registrations by the Province and a decrease in postage costs as a result of increased electronic communication. She also advised of impacts to the Information Technology Services area due to increased overtime costs for support to the City operations and cost savings resulting from the new telephone system. She further provided information on the reductions made to reach the guideline by reducing postage costs, professional consulting fees and training. She highlighted the expansion package for the municipal election and reviewed the projects contained in the capital budget for IT infrastructure and electronic document management system.

The Acting Director of Community Services advised that the overall service area budget increase is 4.9% over 2007. He highlighted the Community Services initiatives which include employee transit pass pilot program, neighbourhood group handbook and the In Motion program. He provided information on the calculation for recreation and transit subsidies. He also provided information on the impacts to the budget relating to employee compensation, repairs and maintenance. He reviewed the reductions made to rates and fees to reach the budget guideline. He also highlighted the proposed expansion packages for In Motion and for a Seasonal Coordinator of Special Events. He then provided detailed information with respect to the 20 minute transit expansion and the proposed 2008 fare increase. He then reviewed the projects contained in the capital budget.

The Manager of Transit Services responded to Council's questions with respect to transit service.

The Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief provided information relating to the proposed budget and provided highlights on the South End Emergency Services facility, expansions to the land ambulance service and the fire department accreditation program. He reviewed the impacts to the budget resulting from the third year of the wages and benefit settlement and the final year of the contract with Royal City Ambulance Services. He outlined the reductions needed to reach the Council approved guideline. He also provided information on the projects contained in the capital budget which include the South End Emergency Services Facility, fire vehicle and equipment replacement and the replacement of three ambulances.

The Director of Community Design and Development Services provided a highlight of the service area's proposed operating budget which represents a 1.4% increase over 2007. He provided information on the legislative impacts to the budget with changes to the Planning Act, Clean Water Act (related land use), Public Sector Accounting Board and Places to Grow. He also advised that there is a significant increase due to salaries/wages and benefits. He outlined the reductions made to reach the guideline with the re-organization of the Engineering department and the combining of office supplies into one area. He provided information on the requested expansion packages for his service area. He provided highlights of the capital projects for Engineering Services, Parks Planning, Policy Planning and Urban Design.

The Manager of Development and Parks Planning and the City Engineer provided information in response to questions by Council.

The General Manager of Economic Development & Tourism outlined the components of his service area budget and advised that they have no expansion package requests. He outlined the impacts to budget which resulted in cost efficiencies in administrative

expenditures and the additional costs in the marketing division. He provided information on the Hanlon Creek Business Park which is included in the capital budget.

The Manager of Budget Services reviewed the general revenues and expenditures

### **Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative**

2. Moved by Councillor Piper  
Seconded by Councillor Burcher

THAT the matter of the submission of an application to the Ontario Infrastructure Projects Corporation (OPIC) for funding under the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative for the Guelph Civic Museum/Loretto Convent project in the amount of \$10 million, be reconsidered.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Beard, Burcher, Farrelly, Findlay, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Salisbury, Wettstein and Mayor Farbridge (11)

VOTING AGAINST: Councillor Bell (1)

Carried

3. Moved by Councillor Piper  
Seconded by Councillor Hofland

THAT the City of Guelph submit an application to the Ontario Infrastructure Projects Corporation (OPIC) for funding under the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MIII) for the Guelph Civic Museum/Loretto Convent project in the amount of \$5 million.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Beard, Burcher, Farrelly, Findlay, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Salisbury, Wettstein and Mayor Farbridge (11)

VOTING AGAINST: Councillor Bell (1)

Carried

### **BY-LAWS**

4. Moved by Councillor Kovach  
Seconded by Councillor Laidlaw

THAT leave be now granted to introduce and read a first and second time By-law Number (2008)-18495.

Carried

The By-law was read a first and second time at 9:53 o'clock p.m.

Council went into Committee of the Whole on By-law Number (2008)-18495.

Ms. K. McCracken  
Ms. L.E. Payne  
Mr. B. Stewart

Mayor Farbridge in the Chair.

At 9:54 o'clock p.m., the Committee rose and reported By-law Number (2008)-18495, passed in Committee without amendment.

5. Moved by Councillor Laidlaw  
Seconded by Councillor Kovach  
THAT By-law Number (2008)-18495, be read a third time and passed.

Carried

The By-laws were read a third time and passed at 9:55 o'clock p.m.

**QUESTIONS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 o'clock p.m.

Minutes read and confirmed February 25, 2008.

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Mayor

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Clerk