

Council Caucus Room
February 15, 2011 5:00 p.m.

A meeting of Guelph City Council closed to the public.

Present: Mayor Farbridge, Councillors Bell, Burcher, Dennis, Findlay, Furfaro, Guthrie, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Van Hellemond and Wettstein

Staff Present: Mr. H. Loewig, Chief Administrative Officer

The closed meeting continued from February 14, 2011.

1. Moved by Councillor Piper
Seconded by Councillor Burcher
THAT the Mayor be directed to meet with the Executive Team and communicate the direction of Council from the February 14th closed meeting.

Carried

2. Moved by Councillor Dennis
Seconded by Councillor Kovach
THAT direction be given to staff with respect to the non-union group compensation policy.

Carried

3. Moved by Councillor Findlay
Seconded by Councillor Guthrie
THAT direction be given with respect to non-union compensation adjustments in the 2011 operating budget.

Defeated

4. Moved by Councillor Laidlaw
Seconded by Councillor Kovach
THAT direction be given to staff with respect to non-union compensation adjustments in the 2011 operating budget.

Carried

5. Moved by Councillor Kovach
Seconded by Councillor Piper
THAT direction be given to the Chief Administrative Officer with respect to the non-union salary grid system.

Carried

The Chief Administrative Officer was requested to obtain legal advice with respect to compensation matters.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 o'clock p.m.

.....
Mayor

.....
Clerk Designate

Council Chambers
February 15, 2011

Council reconvened in formal session at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Farbridge, Councillors Bell, Burcher, Dennis, Findlay, Furfaro, Guthrie, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Van Hellemond and Wettstein

Staff Present: Mr. H. Loewig, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. M. Amorosi, Executive Director of Human Resources & Legal Services; Dr. J. Laird, Executive Director of Planning, Engineering & Environmental Services; Mr. D. McCaughan, Executive Director of Operations & Transit; Ms. A. Pappert, Executive Director of Community & Social Services; Ms. M. Neubauer, Chief Financial Officer/ City Treasurer; Ms. T. Agnello, Deputy City Clerk; and Ms. D. Black, Assistant Council Committee Co-ordinator

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 staff presentations with respect to the 2011 Tax Supported Operating and Capital Budgets.

Police Services

Shelagh Morris, Director, Corporate Services, Guelph Police Services provided a departmental overview. She addressed the decrease in revenues and the 2011 operating pressures. She provided highlights of the base

budget and operating impact of the new facilities, impacts due to growth and revenues and recoveries. She also outlined operating items forecasted into 2012 and beyond and reviewed the capital highlights. She then addressed the links to strategic plans and directions.

Ms. S. Morris

Police Services staff were requested to report back on staffing for internet crimes and addressing child pornography.

Library Services

Ms. K. Pope, Chief Librarian provided an overview of their purpose. She addressed the 2011 Operating pressures and gave a financial overview. She highlighted items within the base operating budget and addressed impacts due to growth and revenues. She also outlined the capital forecasts and described their 2011 priorities.

Ms. K. Pope

Staff were directed to:

- conduct a service review for the bookmobile and consider a cost recovery model or possibly discontinue the service;
- provide a breakdown of costs for programs;
- provide information regarding revenue impact if overdue fines increased 10%;
- provide a breakdown of what the products were that increased circulation by 16%;
- provide a list of the library's charge backs;
- determine if the additional staff positions will be covered by increased revenue.

Public Health

The Mayor advised that there would be no presentation from the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit.

Ms. M. Neubauer

Staff were directed to provide information regarding the City's costs for providing mandatory health programs.

1. Moved by Councillor Kovach
Seconded by Councillor Piper

Hon. D. Matthews
Ms. L. Sandals, MPP
Mayor Farbridge
Mr. H. Loewig

WHEREAS the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Board of Health has declined to present their 2011 Operating Budget to Guelph City Council and refuses to discuss the 22 million dollars in capital projects and the financial impact it has on the City of Guelph and the impact on debt capacity;

AND WHEREAS in their response to the Chief Administrative Officer, The Board of Health continues to refute and oppose the concerns and objections expressed by the City of Guelph and have suggested that the City

should direct their concerns and the Board's response to the Ministry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor request to meet with the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to present the City of Guelph's concerns expressed to the Board of Health and seek provincial assistance toward a resolution to these matters;

AND THAT Liz Sandals, MPP receive a copy of the correspondence to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care.

Carried

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Councillors Bell, Burcher, Dennis, Findlay, Furfaro, Guthrie, Hofland, Kovach, Laidlaw, Piper, Van Hellemond, Wettstein and Mayor Farbridge (13)

VOTING AGAINST: (0)

Mayor Farbridge

Staff were directed to ensure that it be communicated to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care that the resolution regarding meeting with the Minister of Health and Long Term Care was adopted unanimously.

Social & Housing Services/Childcare

Councillor Tosh, Chair of the Social Services Committee advised their 2011 budget is 3.4% lower than their 2010 budget. He advised that uploading to the Province is a significant reason for the reduction in budget. He stated their caseloads are less than anticipated. He advised they have factored in a 3% case load increase, and 1% increase in costs. He advised that the provincial system of assigning costs accounts for half of the budget. He also stated that the positive variance under child care is a result of the province picking up costs.

Warden C. White
Councillor G. Tosh
Ms. D. Bryce

Council requested the following items from the County:

- suggestions regarding a mechanism to address resolving the discretionary budget concerns;
- a hard copy of Councillor Tosh's speaking notes or a list of the highlights he addressed;
- a budget breakdown that shows only the CMSM budget

The Mayor advised that there have been discussions with Warden Christ White regarding discretionary costs. She advised that discussions included the possibility of the City overseeing some of the services and a service agreement being drafted for the services the County will oversee.

Warden Chris White concurred with the Mayor's comments and advised the discretionary budget is approximately one million dollars.

CAO Budget

The Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer, provided departmental highlights regarding CAO Administration, Strategic Planning, Downtown Renewal and Community Energy. He addressed budget impacts, operating and capital highlights.

The meeting recessed for ten minutes.

Emergency Services

The General Manager of Emergency Services/Fire Chief provided a breakdown of their service provision. He advised the budget is impacted by new services required to meet legislated requirements. He addressed 2011 operating pressures, 2011 impact from capital due to new facilities and impact from growth. He then addressed capital budget highlights.

Mr. S. Armstrong

Staff were directed to:

- review the budget and come back with a 5% reduction of expenditures including risks and impact;
- provide information regarding the impact the 5% reduction would have on the 2012 budget.

Information Services

The General Manager of Information Services/City Clerk highlighted the operating budget impacts and efficiencies for 2011. She also provided information regarding IT Capital budget highlights.

Economic Development & Tourism Services

The General Manager of Economic Development & Tourism Services provided a summary of the economic development department. He highlighted the 2011 targets and objectives, and outlined business investment, tourism and strategic initiatives. He addressed the changes in revenue, reductions in funding and efficiencies. He then outlined capital budget highlights and an upcoming operational review.

Mayor & Council

Mayor

The Mayor provided highlights to the Mayor's office budget and advised there were no major changes and no growth impacts.

Mrs. L.A. Giles

Staff were directed to review the option of a pension for the position of Mayor.

The Mayor advised this item should come forward through committee.

Council

The General Manager of Information Services/City Clerk provided highlights of the council budget. She addressed the new service budget item of an Integrity Commissioner.

Mrs. L.A. Giles

Staff were directed to provide a breakdown of the training and conferences budget for 2009 and 2010.

The meeting recessed for five minutes.

Finance Department Grants and General & Capital Financing,

The Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer addressed operating budget changes and base budget highlights. She provided the date for the grant allocation recommendations will come forward. She outlined general expenditures and revenues, capital financing and the challenges for 2011 and the debenture forecast. She explained the uncommitted reserves and the debt to reserve ratio. She spoke about impacts due to the Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI) and the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB). She highlighted 2011 budget impacts and outlined the next steps for the 2011 budget and preparations for the 2012 budget.

Ms. M. Neubauer

Staff were directed to provide information regarding:

- determine how much new revenue can be generated by the new tax collector position;
- impact of tax reductions on sustainability and affordability giving consideration to:
 - a long term approach;
 - no erosion of services;
 - not putting the City at high risk; and
 - not depletion of reserves;
- the order of preference for the seven positions being proposed in the Finance Department budget and the risks involved if the positions are not filled;

- provide the tax increases proposed or adopted by other single tier municipalities for 2011;
- how to communicate the potential 5% reduced budgets to the public before Council deliberates the budget – including risks and possible impact on the 2011 budget;

The Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer advised that the Elliott funding information is within the Capital Financing portion of the budget.

Ms. M. Neubauer

Staff were directed to report back regarding a schedule of budget policies.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 o'clock p.m.

Minutes read and confirmed March 28, 2011.

.....
Mayor

.....
Deputy Clerk