

Meeting Room C (Room 137)
May 27, 2009

Council convened in an information session at 5:00 p.m. on "Building the Tools: On the Road to Priority Setting"

Present: Mayor Farbridge, Councillors Beard, Bell, Billings, Farrelly, Findlay, Hofland, Kovach (arrived 5:35 p.m.), Laidlaw (arrived 5:35 p.m.), Piper (arrived 5:25 p.m.), Salisbury 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; Ms. M. Neubauer, Director of Finance; Ms. A. Pappert, Director of Community Services; Ms. L.E. Payne, Director of Corporate Services/City Solicitor; Mr. J. Riddell, Director of Community Design and Development Services; Ms. S. Aram, Deputy Treasurer; Mr. P. Cartwright, General Manager of Economic Development & Tourism; Mrs. L.A. Giles, Director of Information Services/City Clerk; and Ms. J. Sweeney, Council Committee Co-ordinator

DECLARATIONS UNDER MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

Glenn Pothier provided an overview of the meeting purpose and introduced David Siegel the guest speaker.

David Siegel of the Department of Political Science, Brock University outlined the opportunities and challenges facing municipal government. He advised that municipalities need to:

- adapt to globalization;
- be a place-shaper
- develop assertive maturity
- attract the creative class.

He advised that important cities need manufacturing that is in proximity to resources/customers; have an information infrastructure and have an educated population.

He further suggested that local government should not be solely to manage public services but to take responsibility for the well-being of an area and the people who live there. He advised that the actions need to meet this place-shaping are good leadership; effective public/community engagement; building coalitions and

consensus about the direction of travel; and effective use of powers.

He advised that to attract the creative class a municipality needs an educated workforce, an acceptance of diversity and a concentration of technology. He also suggested that the built and natural environment, diverse and interesting people and a vibrant street life and culture scene are important.

The Chief Administrative Officer provided a brief overview of the direction the City is heading and process for moving forward.

The Committee reviewed the status of the current identified priority projects.

The Director of Finance and the Deputy Treasurer highlighted the new financial tool to assist in identifying priorities.

Councillor Kovach retired from the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Glen Pothier lead a focus discussion on the on the model variables and weighting that will provide staff with direction on further refinement.

The Director of Finance and the Deputy Treasurer provided an overview of the Long Term Financial Plan. They highlighted the characteristics of the Plan such as multi-year budgeting and integration with other planning processes. They provided information on the environmental scan section of the plan and advised that updated trends identified in the various mater plans needs to be incorporated into the capital forecasts. They also highlighted the policy development associated with this plan.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 o'clock p.m.

Minutes read and confirmed June 22, 2009.

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Mayor

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Clerk