



**Minutes of Guelph City Council
Held in the Council Chambers, Guelph City Hall on
Wednesday, November 27, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.**

Attendance

Council: Mayor Farbridge
Councillor B. Bell
Councillor T. Dennis
Councillor I. Findlay
Councillor J. Furfaro
Councillor Guthrie
Councillor Hofland
Councillor G. Kovach
Councillor M. Laidlaw
Councillor L. Piper
Councillor A. Van Hellemond
Councillor K. Wettstein

Absent: Councillor Burcher

Staff: Ms. A. Pappert, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. M. Amorosi, Executive Director, Corporate & Human Resources
Mr. A. Horsman, Executive Director, Finance & Enterprise
Dr. J. Laird, Executive Director, Planning & Building, Engineering and Environment
Mr. D. McCaughan, Executive Director, Operations, Transit & Emergency Services
Mr. D. Thomson, Executive Director, Community & Social Services
Ms. T. Agnello, Deputy Clerk
Ms. D. Black, Council Committee Coordinator

Call to Order (6:00 p.m.)

Mayor Farbridge called the meeting to order.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures.

The Mayor provided a synopsis of the process to date and outlined the meeting agenda.

Mr. Horsman, Executive Director, Finance & Enterprise/CFO gave brief opening comments to the budget presentations.

Presentations

Mr. Gord Tosh, Chair, Wellington County Social Services Committee, noted an increase in social housing costs, a decrease in Ontario Works costs due to Provincial uploading and a decrease in childcare service costs due to the closure of Willowdale Childcare Centre. He provided information regarding the social housing five year plan, the Ontario Works caseloads, non-prescribed services, staffing requirements and building requirements at Wellington Terrace.

Ms. Carole Desmeules, Director of Finance, Human Resource and Corporate Services, Family Health, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Unit outlined the key cost drivers, operating costs and the breakdown of the 2014 projected loan repayments for their two new facilities. She advised there is a 2.68% increase in the base budget and a .51% increase for a one year contract position.

Mr. Marty Williams, Executive Director, Downtown Guelph Business Association (DGBA), provided details of the market square contribution from operations and increased revenue from Co-operative advertising and sponsorships of events. He provided a breakdown of their expenses and stated the downtown board is requesting a 2.5% increase.

Ms. Jennifer Mackie, Chair, Guelph Public Library Board, outlined the services and benefits the library provides. She advised they are not requesting any changes to staffing or service levels and their budget amounts to a 2.64% increase.

Ms. Kitty Pope, CEO, Guelph Public Library, provided details of their 2014 budget. She highlighted the 2013 revenue increases and the goals for future revenue generation and offered to provide a breakdown of external recoveries and resources. She advised the Development Officer position has met and exceeded the goals set.

Ms. Judy Sorbara, Chair, Guelph Police Services Board, advised their budget was determined based on the 2013-2015 strategic business plan they developed.

Chief Bryan Larkin, Guelph Police Services, highlighted details of the Police services organizational review, efficiency targets and budget process. He noted changes affecting the budget through the operational and administrative reviews, right sizing of the fleet, and online reporting of minor crimes. He detailed the 2014 key drivers, the breakdown of the service delivery model and the link to the strategic plan. He explained how efficiencies were identified, the gapping process for filling replacements, and the positive results of the collision reporting center. He advised there will be no request for additional human resources.

A discussion ensued regarding comparator information, record clearance checks process, the neighbourhood service patrol deployment model, neighbourhood field support and a new 911 next generation program.

The meeting recessed. (7:55 p.m.)

Councillors Kovach and Laidlaw left the meeting. (7:55 p.m.)

The meeting resumed. (8:01 p.m.)

Chief Larkin presented the budget for the proposed renovation of the police headquarters. He advised that the current building is not adequate to meet current needs of the Police Services and the community and provided an over view of the plans.

Discussion ensued regarding the business case, return on investment, a public engagement process; clarification of what will be included in the addition, funding options and potential relocation, as well as the human resource allocation between the headquarters and the south end facility.

The Chief advised he will forward schematic drawings and floor plans to Council.

The Police Chief, the City's Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer were requested to meet before December 5th and bring forward a process to pause to examine the business case further.

Recommendation

1. Moved by Councillor Hofland
Seconded by Councillor Furfaro

1. That the 2014 Local Boards and Shared Services budgets be received for information.
2. That the 2014 Local Boards and Shared Services Budgets be referred to the December 5, 2013 Council Meeting for final deliberation and approval.

VOTING IN FAVOUR: Mayor Farbridge, Councillors Bell, Dennis, Findlay, Furfaro, Guthrie, Hofland, Piper, Van Hellemond and Wettstein (10)

VOTING AGAINST: (0)

CARRIED

Executive Team Summaries

Mr. Al Horsman, Chief Financial Officer, provided information regarding adjustments from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation since November 5th that result in a reduction from 3.36% to a 2.37% in the tax levy. He introduced the service area budget overviews.

The Executive Directors, Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer provided summaries of their budgets that included the previous year's investments, 2013 accomplishments, 2014 operating budget highlights, and 2014 service and strategic investments.

Discussion ensued for each service area on the following:

Finance & Enterprise Services:

Mr. Horsman provided information regarding the proposed Development Officer position.

Corporate & Human Resources:

Mr. Amorosi addressed the reduction in absences as a result of the attendance program roll out, the deferred timing of the IT Strategy rollout and the necessity of an additional Council Committee Coordinator to meet service demands.

Planning, Building, Engineering and Environment

Dr. Laird will provide information regarding the possibility of federal funding for the disposal of waste residue at the energy-from-waste facility, details surrounding the deferral of the IOR budget from three to five years to meet budget objectives and the status of the 23 IOR recommendations.

Operations, Transit & Emergency Services:

Mr. McCaughan confirmed that the \$140,000 costs for the Elementary School Speed Zones are not currently included in the budget and he will provide information regarding the fleet technician and transit technician needs and overtime and contracting costs.

He also explained the implementation of an attendance management program at transit and how they will ensure the driver complement is correct based on normal absence patterns.

He noted the non approval of a request for additional paramedics is based on additional information pending.

2. Moved by Councillor Piper
Seconded by Councillor Findlay

That the procedural by-law be suspended to extend the meeting beyond 11:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Community & Social Services:

Mr. Derrick Thomson explained the park maintenance staffing and seasonal summer staffing for plantings and cuttings.

Mayor's Office & City Council

Mayor Farbridge advised the deferral of the part-time administrative position is due to the pending review of the timekeeping analysis.

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Ms. Ann Pappert advised that the major capital projects will fund the Corporate Projects position and the request for corporate administrative assistants is being deferred until the timekeeping analysis has been completed.

The CAO then provided a summary of the 2011-2013 progress, addressed the formula for the budget and the investment requests.

Adjournment (11:27 p.m.)

3. Moved by Councillor Findlay
Seconded by Councillor Piper

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Minutes to be confirmed on December 16, 2013.

Mayor Farbridge

Deputy Clerk