

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SESSION NINE

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2006

The Ninth Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Township of Brock, in the Regional Municipality of Durham, was held on Monday, June 5, 2006, in the Municipal Administration Building Council Chamber.

Members present: Mayor: Keith Shier
Regional Councillor: Larry O'Connor
Councillors: Karen Windatt
John Grant
Reg Starr
Debbie Bath
Allan Simpson

Staff Members present: Clerk-Administrator George S. Graham
(recording the minutes)
Deputy Clerk-Administrator Thomas G. Gettinby
Clerk-Stenographer Susan Creighton
Treasurer Michael Legge

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Reg Starr called the meeting to order at 3:52 p.m.

II. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – N I L

III. HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS – N I L

IV. PETITIONS – N I L

V. COMMUNICATIONS REFERRED OR SUBMITTED TO COMMITTEE – N I L

VI. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES – N I L

VII. GENERAL ITEMS & ENQUIRIES

(1) 2006 Budget – Budget Changes as a Result of Discussions at May 29/06 Meeting

Treasurer Michael Legge reviewed with members of the committee the budget changes as the result of discussions at the May 29, 2006 special Finance Committee meeting as follows:

<u>PAGE #</u>			<u>AMOUNT</u>
35 /36	Library Budget / Municipal Library Grant	Adjustments back to Original Budget Submitted Less \$11,000 Books Plus \$31,500 Grant/Expenses	\$11,517
31 / 32 / 33	Arenas - Other Expense	Televisions for Digital Signage (\$400 per arena)	\$1,200
27	Sunderland Medical Centre	To Reserve Fund - funds to offset SMC 2006 Budget Deficit \$12,000 + Doctor Recruitment \$8,000	\$20,000
24	Parking Lots	Transfer to Reserve Fund	\$(5,000)
17	Building Department	Capital - New Computer Software Office Equip - Repairs / Maint / Licenses - costs related to new software program can be removed as current software is now being upgraded	\$(6,500) \$(2,500)
19	Canine Control Department	Capital - Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund - New Dog Pound	\$(5,000)

2 / 9	Transfers from Reserves / Reserve Funds	Capital Reserve Fund - Arenas - Compressors	\$(13,717)
			-
		NET CHANGE TO BUDGET	-
		AMOUNT TO BE MET THRU TAX LEVY BEFORE ABOVE CHANGES	\$5,587,490
		NEW AMOUNT TO BE MET THRU TAX LEVY	\$5,587,490
	NEW % INCREASE		4.16%
	LESS GROWTH %		-1.20%
	TRUE TAX % IMPACT TO TAX PAYERS		2.96%

Councillor Debbie Bath expressed concern with respect to the cuts proposed to the Building Department computer software and was advised that the current provider is undertaking program upgrades and the Building Inspector would like time to evaluate the program changes and would like the balance of the year to evaluate the changes being made.

Mayor Keith Shier enquired whether the \$13,717.00 in the budget in addition to reserve funds will be adequate for the arena compressor needs and was advised that the total compressor cost is \$115,000.00 and that \$81,000.00 has been taken from reserves requiring \$13,717.00 to offset the difference leaving a balance of \$50,000.00 in the arena reserve account.

Regional Councillor Larry O'Connor put for the following motion, thanking staff for their input and commenting that he feels the budget is reasonable:

Resolution No. 1-9

MOVED BY Larry O'Connor that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that the tax levy be \$5,587,490.00 with a 2.96% tax impact to Brock residents for the 2006 budget be approved.

Councillor Karen Windatt advised of her support for the motion and thanked staff for their input and work. She commented on the public comment that the municipality has too much in reserve, however it is nice to plan ahead and be in a position to address projects when required.

Councillor Allan Simpson advised of his support for the motion which will ensure that the municipality runs in an efficient and responsible manner.

Mayor Keith Shier commented he cannot support the motion and that further reductions to the budget are required. He advised that during the budget process consideration needs to be given to those who are struggling to purchase a home, the elderly, and those in business and that he does not feel it is fair to build reserves to benefit future councils. He commented that the reason for four year council terms is to enable councils to generate funds to complete projects during that term so that reserves are not required, cautioning that provincial funding could be cut if the province feels that the municipality has adequate reserves.

Resolution No. 1-9

MOVED BY Larry O'Connor that the Finance Committee recommend to Council that the tax levy be \$5,587,490.00 with a 2.96% tax impact to Brock residents for the 2006 budget be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Reg Starr thanked staff for their hard work through out the budget process advising that he has always supported the best municipal service at the least cost.

Councillor John Grant commented that he expected to see something discussed today with respect to the furnace at the Cannington Library Building and was advised by the Treasurer that an open option exists for staff to determine the best course of action to take.

(2) Regional Councillor Larry O'Connor – 2006 Budget

Regional Councillor Larry O'Connor thanked the Chair of Finance for leading the committee through the 2006 budget process.

(3) Councillor Allan Simpson – 2006 Budget

Councillor Allan Simpson also thanked the Finance Chair and staff for their work in conjunction with the 2006 municipal budget.

(4) Councillor Debbie Bath – 2006 Budget

Councillor Debbie Bath commented that over this term of council, consideration has been given to community concerns. She advised that she does not agree with the depletion of reserves and that council has worked hard to build up the reserves. She feels that a 2.96% budget increase is responsible and thanked the committee and staff for their work in this regard.

(5) Mayor Keith Shier – 2006 Budget

Mayor Keith Shier extended his appreciation to the Finance Chair and Staff insofar as the preparation of the 2006 municipal budget advising he is proud of the strides forward the municipality has made financially. He feels the committee could have done better with respect to the final budget increase and requested that further thought be given to this prior to the budget being finally passed.

(6) Public Questions and Clarification

There were no public questions for clarification.

(7) Clerk-Administrator George S. Graham – CIBC Walkway in Beaverton

Clerk-Administrator George S. Graham advised that the Director of Public Works has informed him that the CIBC in Beaverton has agreed to install a new walkway in Beaverton from Simcoe Street, adjacent Ben's Pharmacy to the CIBC parking lot, subject to the municipality maintaining said walkway.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 2-9

MOVED BY Allan Simpson that we adjourn at 4:20 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY