

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SESSION EIGHT

MONDAY, MAY 29, 2006

The Eighth Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Township of Brock, in the Regional Municipality of Durham, was held on Monday, May 29, 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 1:35 p.m.

II. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – N I L

III. HEARING OF DEPUTATIONS

1:30 p.m. – Sunderland-Brock Community Health Centre Board of Management – Bill Clayton and Brian Manorek – request for funding

Messrs. Bill Clayton and Brian Manorek attended at the invitation of the committee to discuss the Sunderland-Brock Community Health Centre Board of Management request for funding. Mr. Clayton advised the committee members that their request as contained within communication number 967/06 is straight forward and that they are here to answer questions of the committee.

Councillor Allan Simpson enquired of the deputation how recruitment funds have been spent to date to which Mr. Manorek advised that in 2005, the municipality provided recruitment funding in the amount of \$20,000.00. In addition, \$15,000.00 in funding was received from Baagwating Community. To date a \$5,000.00 incentive has been granted to Dr. Dayal, with an additional incentive of \$1,000.00 per year to be paid to her over the next 4 years. If further doctors are recruited at the Medical Centre, they too will be granted the incentive if they commit to working at the Medical Centre as has Dr. Dayal. In addition, some of these funds have been spent on recruitment advertising. A second doctor, Dr. Vimeldran, who currently works at the Medical Centre, has yet to commit to staying on at the Centre and has turned down the \$5,000.00 incentive until a decision whether to stay on or continue his education has been finalized.

Mayor Keith Shier enquired whether there are still some residents in the community who do not have a doctor and was advised by Mr. Clayton that he is hearing positive comments in this regard, however that anyone without a family doctor can go to Port Perry. Although some may not have a family physician, medical issues will be dealt with and that the best chance to secure doctors at the Sunderland location is through the Port Perry Medical Associates as it is a teaching facility and the doctors doing their internship there and committing to stay in Port Perry will commit to working in Sunderland. Mr. Clayton advised that the Port Perry Hospital has recently received a rural designation, bringing with it an assurance that it will not be closed and the anticipation of more doctors.

Mayor Keith Shier enquired how wide an area the Sunderland Medical Centre serve and was advised they have patients from North Whitby, Brechin, Cameron, Omemee and the surrounding areas.

Mayor Keith Shier asked whether the \$9,000.00 recruitment initiative is the norm insofar as initiatives and was advised by Mr. Manorek that the incentive paid by the Sunderland Medical Centre is at the low end of the scale and being given as a show of welcome. It is not uncommon in other areas to offer doctors an incentive of \$50,000.00 or more.

Mr. Clayton commented that at a previous meeting, a potential doctor commented that money is not everything, in that he had been offered \$180,000.00 to locate to a medical centre in Ottawa, however this was not what he and his wife wanted.

Mayor Keith Shier enquired whether the \$5,000.00 being paid is in partnership with the Port Perry Medical Associates and was advised that it is in addition to monies paid.

Mr. Clayton advised that the Port Perry Medical Associates annually host a recruitment event in July whereby graduating physicians are invited to the area, all expenses paid, in an attempt to entice them to set up a practice in the area. Last year of the 26 candidates that attended, Port Perry recruited 2 doctors.

Councillor John Grant requested that the deputation expand upon the proposed renovations to the dental area at the medical centre and was advised by Mr. Manorek that there have been no renovations to this area of the medical centre since it was built and that improvements are needed as it is in need of repair.

Councillor John Grant enquired whether the Medical Centre Board has spoken to the dentist insofar as cost sharing the renovations because in the Beaverton Medical Centre, the dentist is responsible for all renovations within his suite. Mr. Manorek advised that the Board is responsible for items such as the cupboards, desk, shelving and counters while the dentist supplies the required equipment. Mr. Clayton pointed out that a minor renovation in the dentist's office was undertaken and paid for by the Board, however the dentist has looked after the rest of his needs. Quotations ranging in price from \$8100.00 to \$13,000.00 have been received for the proposed renovations.

Councillor John Grant commented that it was his understanding that the \$20,000.00 requested by the Board in 2005 was for computer connection to the Port Perry Medical Associates and not for recruitment purposes to which Mr. Manorek advised that the request was for recruitment funding. Mr. Clayton advised that Lions' funds amounting to approximately \$30,000.00 were used for the computer work/equipment required.

Councillor John Grant commented that the \$35,000.00 in recruitment funds currently showing in the financial statement could fund seven doctors to which Mr. Manorek advised that these funds are used for recruitment purposes other than that of incentives and will be dispersed accordingly.

Regional Councillor Larry O'Connor advised that his recollection of the 2005 request for funding was computer related and not for recruitment. He enquired whether the OMA was ever contacted insofar as funding for the computer equipment and was advised that the request for funding by the Port Perry Medical Associates was denied in this regard as funding was not available to a private association. Mr. Clayton further advised that the Sunderland Lions did not pursue this avenue of funding because they were not aware of this option.

Councillor Debbie Bath commented that she has been involved in physician recruitment, giving credit to the Sunderland Lions Club for their efforts in this regard. In reviewing the financial statement provided, she noted that cleaning costs have doubled and was advised that previously each tenant paid Dr. Millar for cleaning services with the Club paying for cleaning of the common areas. When Dr. Millar left, it was decided to increase the rents to cover cleaning costs and that the Board would be responsible for securing cleaning services.

Mr. Bill Clayton advised that 8 years ago, the Port Perry Medical Associates secured the services of Dr. Mark Adams, and since that time associates of Dr. Adams have come to Port Perry who have in turn recommended their associates to Port Perry which has

resulted in the hospital securing a cardiologist. A third surgeon has just been acquired at the hospital. Since receiving the rural designation, the hospital will receive \$5.5 million in funding which will permit improved throat and colon scoping. The two doctors at the hospital specializing in this area have been honoured for their research confirming that colon cancer can be beat if it is detected in its early stages. The additional funding will provide for 27 vs. 7 of these procedures on a daily basis and will provide the patients more privacy.

Councillor Karen Windatt questioned the deputation insofar as the financial information provided, noting there is nothing in the proposed 2006 budget for recruitment to which Mr. Manorek advised that the financial statement showed how funds were expended in 2005 and that the proposed 2006 budget depicts how funds are planned to be expended. He advised it is not the intent of the Board to hide anything and that recruitment possibly should not have been on the financial statement. Councillor Windatt commented that in addition to the \$30,000.00 in reserve for recruitment and the \$8,000.00 being requested that this would give the Board \$38,000.00 for recruitment purposes to which Mr. Manorek advised that recruitment funds are kept separate from other funds and not used to finance other items such as the dental renovations.

Mr. Clayton commented that they would like to keep this money in reserve in case they can acquire another doctor which may not be possible to do if their reserve is depleted.

Chair/Councillor Reg Starr commented that the financial information submitted is as the result of a meeting he had with Messrs. Manorek and Clayton.

The Clerk-Administrator questioned the deputation respecting the operating deficit of \$26,300.00 with the Treasurer asking how the Board plans to fund the deficit in the 2006 budget, to which Mr. Manorek advised that the Board did have some funds built up to cover the loss.

Resolution No. 1-8

MOVED BY Keith Shier that the request of the Sunderland Brock Health Centre Board be considered later along with the input from the public meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 2-8

MOVED BY Debbie Bath that we break for a 5 minute recess at 2:22 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Reg Starr reconvened the meeting at 2:35 p.m. with the same members of committee and staff in attendance.

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) Consideration of public input re: 2006 Budget

Prior to the commencement of discussions pertaining to the 2006 budget, the Chair enquired of the Clerk-Administrator the budget percentage increase of other Durham Region municipalities and was advised as follows:

Ajax – 3.5%, Clarington – 4%, Durham Region – 3.75%, Oshawa – 2.9%, Scugog – 4.9%, Uxbridge – 4.9% and Pickering – 5.8%.

The Clerk-Administrator advised of the following items still requiring consideration insofar as the 2006 municipal budget as follows:

Brock Township Library (\$11,517.00), Big Brothers/Big Sisters grant request (\$5,500.00), digital signage in the arenas (\$1200.00 for three televisions), harbor funding (\$40,000.00 confirmed by the Federal Government), Town Hall Engineering Study, Arena Compressors and the Sunderland Medical Centre (\$20,000.00). Following an in depth, item by item discussion, it was agreed that the Big Brothers/Big Sisters grant request be deleted from the budget and that the televisions, library and Sunderland Medical Centre requests remain within the budget. The inclusion of these items would add \$32,717.00 into the budget, the equivalent of an approximate ½ %, increasing the budget impact to 3.57% from 2.96%.

Resolution No. 3-8

MOVED BY Keith Shier that we grant the Sunderland Medical Centre \$20,000.00 with a strong message for repayment of the debt that is due to the Township of Brock.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 4-8

MOVED BY Debbie Bath that we break for a 5 minute recess at 3:58 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Reg Starr reconvened the meeting at 4:09 p.m. with the same members of committee and staff in attendance.

Councillor John Grant commented that he would like to see the budget impact remain at 2.96% inclusive of the above-referenced three items, and that staff be given direction to make this happen.

Councillor Debbie Bath advised that she would like to know what is being cut from the budget and was advised by Councillor Grant that there is a \$17,000.00 savings to install electric heating at the Cannington Library facility and further suggested that the dog pound reserve could also be reduced.

Mayor Keith Shier suggested that staff be given the opportunity to work the budget to reflect a 2% impact to which the Regional Councillor advised he does not feel it appropriate to cut another 1% from the budget after it has been presented to the public.

Councillor Debbie Bath advised that a 3% budget increase is not out of line.

Councillor Allan Simpson advised of his approval for the Sunderland Medical Centre and Library funding as discussed.

Staff were instructed to review the budget and that further discussion take place on June 5, 2006, prior to passage of the budget on June 12.

(2) Councillor Debbie Bath – Brock Pride Landscaping Proposal at the Sunderland Town Hall

Councillor Debbie Bath advised that Mr. Neil Turnbull is currently working on the south side of the Sunderland Town Hall and in view of the fact that an amount to do the east side of the building is within the 2006 budget, with no consideration having been given to deleting these monies, that the committee consider permitting Mr. Turnbull to start the work on the east side while he is working at the facility. The following motion was put forward in this regard:

Resolution No. 5-8

MOVED BY Debbie Bath that Brock Township Finance Committee request staff to secure the services of Neil Turnbull Landscaping to complete the landscaping on the east side of the Sunderland Town Hall as identified in the 2006 budget.

Mayor Keith Shier advised that he will not be supporting this motion.

There was considerable discussion amongst the committee members as to whether the action proposed within Resolution No. 5-8 would contravene municipal policy and although Mr. Turnbull was awarded the contract for the front of the building, was he awarded the contract for the east side of the building? Committee members were advised by Councillor Debbie Bath that Mr. Turnbull was awarded the contract for the front of the building, however because it was his designs that were considered for the front and east side of the building, it was assumed that he would do the east side as well.

Resolution No. 5-8

MOVED BY Debbie Bath that Brock Township Finance Committee request staff to secure the services of Neil Turnbull Landscaping to complete the landscaping on the east side of the Sunderland Town Hall as identified in the 2006 budget.

MOTION LOST

(3) Regional Councillor Larry O'Connor – 2006 Budget Public Meeting

Regional Councillor Larry O'Connor advised the Chair of Finance that he felt the public meeting to discuss the 2006 municipal budget was handled well, commenting further on the challenge that we face to get the public out to these meetings.

(4) Public Questions and Clarification

There were no public questions for clarification.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 6-8

MOVED BY John Grant that we do now adjourn at 4:37 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY