

Minutes - Finance and Administration



MEETING DATE: January 16, 2007, 2:00 pm
LOCATION: The Blue Mountains Council Chamber
PREPARED BY: Stephen Keast, Clerk

A. Call to Order

- Chair Gamble called the meeting to order with Councillor Martin in attendance, Councillor McGee absent due to vacation and Councillor McKean absent due to a previous commitment. Those present then concurred to proceed in an advisory body capacity.
- Also in attendance were CAO Paul Graham, Director of Finance Chris Fawcett, Deputy Treasurer Rob Cummings, Director of Building and By-law Enforcement David Finbow and Administrative .
- Those present then dealt with the following Resolution:
Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: R.J. Gamble
THAT the Agenda of December 19, 2006 be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, agreed.
- No member declared a Pecuniary Interest with any matter as listed on the Agenda.
- The Committee minutes of December 19, 2006 were then deferred to the next meeting.

B. Deputations / Presentations

3:00 pm – Bev Taylor, Dave Moffat, Collingwood and District Humane Society.

Bev then reviewed capital fundraising efforts to date with the Committee, noting the Town of Collingwood donated the land and has committed to completing the landscaping with the Town of Wasaga Beach now participating.

Mayor Anderson then recounted the capital funding request of \$15,000 per year over five years and questioned if the Society would consider other contributions, Bev noting he is involved with capital fundraising only and it is common to spread donations over five years, adding any contribution over any timeframe would be welcome.

Chair Gamble questioned other municipal partners, Bev noting Clearview Township has not yet committed to support.

Bob then questioned interim financing pending payment of pledged amounts, Dave noting he believed bank financing would be available for bridge financing.

Councillor Martin then noted the Committee approved a Staff Recommendation to include consideration of financial support for the society in the 2007 budget process, questioning if residents in the western portion of the Town would benefit from the shelter.

Bev noted he would check on animals picked up in the western portion of Town.

Bev then noted the CDHS was volunteer-driven and there was a great number of younger people involved.

Bob then questioned Collingwood's contribution to operating costs, David Finbow reporting that Collingwood has committed to transferring shelter operations to the new facility, adding The Blue Mountains could transfer shelter operations as well from the current veterinary office, with no discussion of ongoing operational support having been discussed.

David then noted the CDHS service would cover the whole of the Town.

Dave then questioned Town process, Michael noting the matter would be debated during the 2007 budget process scheduled for the near future.

The deputation then thanked the Committee and retired from the meeting.

C. Staff Reports

C. 1 Canada Post – “Collingwood L9Y”, SRB.07.01

Director of Building and By-law Enforcement David Finbow then reviewed the Report and recounted previous meetings with Canada Post representatives, the latest meeting being November 2, 2006.

Councillor Martin then noted concerns expressed by area resort operators can be overcome over time, supporting a public meeting with stakeholders. Michael then noted there may be concern with the Central Mail Boxes (CMB's) in the rural area versus current rural delivery.

Chair Gamble then questioned areas to be affected by the proposed change, David noting the area may be from the 4th Line east, the Pretty River area currently being served by the Stayner Post Office.

Councillor Martin then noted he would support the Report Recommendation to Council, Chair Gamble concurring.

C.2 By-law Enforcement 2006, SRB.07.02

David then reviewed the Report, noting enforcement activity has increased following hiring of a second enforcement officer.

Chair Gamble then questioned collection of parking ticket fines following trial dates, David noting Grey County Provincial Offences Court payments are nominal and a cause for concern.

Bob then noted lawn-watering files were decreased, David noting Environment Services efforts to educate residents were succeeding, Michael noting in 2007 water users will be metered for use.

Michael and Bob then concurred to support the Report Recommendation to Council.

C.3 Building Permit Activity 2006, SRB.07.03

Mayor Anderson then attended the meeting in the Head of Council's ex-officio status and a quorum was declared.

David then reviewed the Report with the Committee, Chair Gamble questioning the value of the Building Reserve Fund to date, David estimating \$175,000 to \$200,000.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolutions:

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Ellen Anderson

THAT Council receive Staff Report SRB.07.03 for information purposes, Carried.

Moved by: Ellen Anderson Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT Council:

1. Receive Staff Report SRB.07.01 for information purposes; and
2. Direct Staff to invite representatives of Canada Post to do a presentation to Town Council related to the process that would be followed should a postal addressing change from "Collingwood L9Y" to "The Blue Mountains" be adopted by Resolution by Council; and

3. Direct Staff to invite representatives from the Blue Mountain Village Association, Blue Mountain Resorts, The Westin Hotel, Mountain Springs Lodge, The Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce, Blue Mountain Ratepayers Association and the various private ski clubs in the L9Y area so that they may also be so informed.

Carried.

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Ellen Anderson

THAT Council receive Staff Report SRB.07.02 for information purposes, Carried.

C.4 Collingwood District Humane Society Animal Shelter Update

David then reviewed the Report with the Committee, including a proposed business plan and request for capital funding assistance over five years.

David noted the the capital fundraising has a target of \$850,000 and is estimated at 40% completed and the building may well proceed in 2007.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: Ellen Anderson Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT Council receive Staff Report SRB.07.04 for information purposes, Carried.

C.5 2007 Budget Update and Discussion

Deputy Treasurer Rob Cummings then reviewed the budget process to date, noting preliminary budget figures are presently scheduled for Staff review.

Rob then noted dates could now be considered for budget review meetings.

Town CAO Paul Graham then recommended the budget review be completed in a Committee of the Whole format with all members of Council present during all Committee budget review.

Councillor Martin then suggested Staff mark any problematic areas for Council's immediate attention in particular areas of the budget.

D. Correspondence

D.1 2007 NVCA Budget and Municipal Levy Requirements

Moved by: Ellen Anderson Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT the 2007 NVCA Budget and Municipal Levy Requirements be referred to the 2007 municipal budget process, Carried.

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Beaver Motel – Municipal Services historical information

Treasurer Chris Fawcett then reviewed servicing information for the property from 2000 to date.

Chris noted he would further review service billings with Environment Services Staff, adding 2007 billings would be based on consumption.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Ellen Anderson

THAT the Committee does receive the Treasurer's Report on Beaver Motel User Fee Information on Municipal Servicing with Treasury Staff to review the information with the landowner, Carried.

Councillor Martin then questioned status of a Recreation Committee Recommendation for a curator position to be established, Chair Gamble noting the position was referred to the 2007 budget process.

F. Next Meeting Date

January 16, 2007, 2:00 pm or at the call of the Chair.

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Ellen Anderson

That this meeting do now adjourn to meet again January 16, 2007, 2:00 pm or at the call of the Chair, Carried.