

Councillor Halos then questioned what will happen if the funding is not received by Georgian College, Reg replying that Georgian College has reserves to build the building, but they need to build the operation programs, further noting tuitions only pay a portion of the actual costs of a college.

Environmental Farm Plan

Rob then spoke reviewing the Environmental Farm Plan included in the 2011 Budget Enhancement Report, Ellen questioning if Council wishes to keep this enhancement in the budget, Councillor Halos replying yes, Councillor McKean replying he is not in favour of this as OMAFRA offers this type of funding, further noting the Town needs to concentrate on its core services.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council wish to include the Environmental Farm Plan in the 2011 draft budget, Council concurring they wish the Environmental Farm Plan to be removed from the 2011 draft budget.

Councillor Gamble then spoke noting he cannot support a Town Environmental Farm Plan, Joe replying Council should support this as a small token of good faith to the rural community. Ellen noted she supported the Environmental Farm Plan because of the environmental attachment to it. Ellen further noted the farming community could definitely benefit from this initiative.

Support for the Greater Collingwood Small Business Enterprise Centre

Communications and Economic Development Coordinator Lisa Kidd spoke reviewing the enhancement report for the Greater Collingwood Small Business Enterprise Centre, noting historically this has not been supported financially in the past though in-kind support has been provided by The Blue Mountains.

Councillor Halos then spoke noting he is not in support of supporting this Centre financially, but noted he is in support of in-kind support.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council wishes to support the Greater Collingwood Small Business Enterprise Centre, Council opposed.

Contribution to Georgian College Campus, Collingwood

Acting CAO and Director of Engineering and Public Works spoke noting Georgian College is scheduled to appear as a deputation at the February 28, 2011 Council Meeting.

Councillor Halos spoke noting he would never support contributing 1% of taxable revenue to Georgian College in the amount of \$75,000, noting it is too much, further noting he may support \$15,000, but further noted \$75,000 is excessive.

Councillor Gamble then questioned if Grey County supported the Owen Sound Georgian College expansion, Mayor Anderson noting she will look into this and report back to Council.

Ellen then referenced the economic development piece of supporting Georgian College and questioned if the Town could support the college for a smaller amount over a longer period of time, Reg replying that the college would be open to any support.

King/Bridge/Mill Street Hydro Line Burial (Debt Repayment)

Director of Planning and Building David Finbow spoke noting this enhancement item is not necessary though desirable and is before Council now for their consideration.

Mayor Anderson spoke noting Collus supported Collingwood in the burial of hydro lines and questioned if Collus would provide The Blue Mountains with support in this matter, David replying that he has been communicating with Collus for support as we have a number of Collus users in The Blue Mountains, but noted no reply has been received from Collus. Mayor Anderson requested that David followup with Collus to determine if they will assist in this cost.

Councillor McKean then spoke questioning if this project would be eligible as a “shovel-ready” project should an opportunity for a grant come forward, David replying that it would not take much for this project to be made shovel-ready, further noting yes it is essentially shovel ready.

Councillor Halos then spoke noting this is not a necessary item and that this work could be completed in the future if funding becomes available.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council wishes to support the King/Bridge/Mill St. Hydro Line Burial enhancement to be included in the 2011 budget, Council concurring they do not support this enhancement at this time.

Wayfinding Signage Strategy

Reg spoke noting this initiative is for business owners to advertise their businesses for the benefit of visitors to the area. Reg further noted the County does not have policies in place to direct how signage should be erected, and noted this strategy ties in to the Community Improvement Plan.

Lisa then spoke noting this strategy ties in with the Regional Economic Development Strategy and the Community Improvement Plan and is a priority for the area. Lisa then referenced the RTO7 involving Grey, Bruce and Simcoe Counties, noting the RTO7 have identified wayfinding as a priority, further noting wayfinding signage is a benefit for The Blue Mountains, Blue Mountain Resort and Collingwood.

Councillor Gamble then spoke noting he suggests the signage be done in-house, and further noted RTO7 should finance signage through its funding.

Mayor Anderson then questioned the timing of the RTO7, Lisa replying that the project has been identified as a priority and must be completed in 2011, further noting \$2,000,000 in funding is to be allocated for the RT07

Councillor Halos spoke noting retaining a consultant to advise where the Town should erect signs is not a good way to spend money.

Ellen then questioned if the Town has the capacity to do this work in-house, Reg replying that Staff have heavy workloads, further noting this work would provide a consistent look throughout the area. Reg further noted the Town does employ graphics people and that the work could be done in house, but it would take time to complete the work based on the current workload.

Councillor Ardiel then spoke questioning if the County could assist with this work as they have a great sign shop.

Councillor Martin then spoke noting the Town should not rely on the RTO7 as they have a new board and he does not believe the work will be completed in 2011.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council supports the enhancement of the Wayfinding Signage Strategy, Council concurring this enhancement should be removed from the budget.

Contribution to the Roads Reserve

Rob spoke regarding the enhancement of contribution to the roads reserve noting this enhancement was borne from discussions at recent budget meetings. Reg then noted that the roads reserve has been depleted in the last few years and noted this annual contribution would re-establish the reserve.

Councillor Halos spoke referencing the 2009 Auditor's Report where the auditor references the number of reserves with a negative balance and suggests that the Town needs to save more money and reduce spending.

Councillor Ardiel spoke noting she is in support of this enhancement as roads often get overlooked.

Darcy then spoke noting development charges fluctuate up and down and noted the overall revenues are not in the negative.

Councillor Gamble spoke noting he supports the \$100,000 contribution to roads reserve with a reallocation of funds

Councillor McKean spoke noting he is in support of the roads enhancement.

Michael then noted he agrees with Councillor Gamble that the Town will face extraordinary expenses in the next few years and that this enhancement should come from a reallocation of funds. Rob then spoke noting this is an enhancement to the current draft budget and noted there is no room in the budget for reallocation from another source. Mayor Anderson then spoke confirming this enhancement would result in an additional 1% in the budget.

Continued Golf Course Operations with Integrated Pest Management and
Continued Golf Course Operations without Integrated Pest Management

Director of Recreation Shawn Everitt spoke noting the Integrated Pest Management ("IPM") is a requirement that the Town must comply with pesticide legislation in order to operate Tomahawk Golf Course. Shawn noted fungicide is used on the greens.

Shawn reviewed the possibility of the Town continuing golf course operations by way of entering a private/public partnership that would allow for the use of an accredited IPM Supervisor and allow for Tomahawk to be accredited. Shawn further noted the private partner would treat Tomahawk as is required and be responsible for the associated reporting. Shawn noted this would be a strong partnership, and confirmed the Town would continue to look after the regular golf course operations with the private partner looking after the purchase of the fungicide and complete all necessary reporting.

Councillor Gamble spoke questioning what it would cost to accredit an existing staff member with the IPM course, Shawn replying \$16,000 to \$17,000.

Councillor Halos then spoke questioning the cost to have the private partner to be responsible for all IPM responsibilities, Shawn replying no cost. Councillor Ardiel questioned if the private partner would be responsible for reporting as well, Shawn replying yes.

Bob then questioned the overall costs of Tomahawk, noting he will meet with Shawn to review the costs at Tomahawk.

Shawn then spoke noting the IPM private partnership would not cost the Town any money for accreditation.

Michael then questioned if Council are to determine if they wish to proceed with either the Town pursuing its own IPM or if Council wishes to enter into a private/public partnership for IPM, Shawn replying that without the IPM the Town cannot purchase the fungicide required to treat the greens, failing treatment of the greens, the greens will not last at Tomahawk. Shawn noted the fungicide treatment is a necessary item.

Councillor McKean spoke noting Council's options are choose the continued operations at Tomahawk and accredit a staff member with the IPM, enter into a private/public partnership to gain the IPM, or close the golf course, Shawn replying yes.

Mayor Anderson then noted in 2010, Tomahawk received \$32,000 in donations, and noted it would be beneficial if the donations could be increased and questioned if a trust fund could be set up so that Tomahawk could be bequeathed money to assist in the operations at Tomahawk. Ellen noted Tomahawk is an incredible asset to the Town.

Gail then questioned if corporations in the area use Tomahawk and if the Town could ask for a donation of \$1000 each time Tomahawk is closed for the purposes of a private corporate event, Shawn replying that the Town has a fee schedule in place, \$300 for a half day, \$500 for a whole day. Shawn noted that the Town should market Tomahawk noting last year it is estimated that 5500 to 5600 users used Tomahawk with an average donation of \$5 per person received.

Shawn noted the Town is looking at other ways to generate income and confirmed he likes Mayor Anderson's idea of establishing a trust fund for donations.

Mayor Anderson then spoke regarding the roads reserves and noted she is in favour of the enhancement of \$100,000 to the roads reserve, further noting this is responsible planning. Joe noting he too is in agreement with the roads reserve enhancement.

Joe then spoke reviewing possible revisions to the budget and referenced the CAO/Clerks Department. Joe referenced \$175,000 for attainable housing noting the Town should purchase housing for attainable housing and not be involved in paying consultants to provide reports on attainable housing.

Joe then referenced the Community Improvement Plan budget of \$25,000, Darcy replying that \$25,000 was allotted in 2010 for the 2011 year for implementation of the Plan, further noting the \$25,000 is coming from 2010 taxes.

Joe then referenced Communications and Economic Development budget of \$10,000, \$14,500 for mapping grants, noting this is not necessary as there are ample maps available in the area, Lisa replying the \$10,000 is a carryover from the Recreation Budget for signage and noted the \$14,500 is provincial funding, and is not coming from taxation. Reg then spoke noting removing the \$14,500 provincial grant will reduce the Town's budget by \$10,000. Lisa then explained the mapping project noting it is a partnership with the BIA, Grey County and Chamber and noted this mapping project includes both paper and electronic mapping.

Ellen spoke noting she is in favour of leaving the mapping in the budget, Gail spoke noting the Town needs Communications and Economic Development and that the Town needs maps and wayfinding signage.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council wishes to include the mapping grants budget item in the 2011 budget, Council concurring this item should remain in the budget.

Attainable Housing Budget

Ellen then referenced Community Improvement Plan budget of \$25,000 for the implementation of the Plan. Rob replying the \$25,000 is budgeted to go into reserves for implementation of the Plan in the future.

John then spoke noting he is not in support of including \$25,000 in the budget for implementation of the Community Improvement Plan as next year's taxation increase could amount to an 8% increase and he is not in support of implementing the Community Improvement Plan at this time. John further noted he agrees with Councillor Halos that the Town will have to find innovative ways to generate revenue in the next few years.

Ellen then spoke noting the Community Improvement Plan is important for long range planning and noted if funds are not put into reserves, that implementation of the Plan may never happen, if funds are in reserves, the Plan will stay alive.

Reg then spoke noting he agrees with Mayor Anderson and noted the amount could be reduced to \$5,000 for this year.

Michael then spoke noting Council needs Staff input on the Community Improvement Plan and that the Plan requires further revision.

Ellen then questioned if the budget could be reduced to \$5,000 for implementation of the Community Improvement Plan, Michael questioned if this budget item is from capital, Rob replying yes.

Darcy then spoke explaining capital versus operating expenditures, noting that capital expenditures have dropped in the last few years.

Ellen then spoke noting reducing the support for the Community Improvement Plan to \$5000 from \$20,000 would allow \$15,000 to be put in the roads reserve.

Joe then spoke regarding the Human Resources Budget and the Cultural Inventory Survey of \$3500 and questioned what this entails, Reg replying this is an employee survey that is very valuable and is a baseline measurement that would allow the Town to continually improve. Reg noted this survey has been identified by Human Resources as necessary.

Ellen then questioned if Council wished to retain the Cultural Inventory Survey of \$3500 in the 2011 budget, Council concurring the survey would remain in the budget.

Joe then spoke regarding the Finance Department Budget and questioned the workplace replacement budget item of \$28,000 in 2011 noting this amount should be reduced by 10%, Darcy replying that this is a capital project and that each department has supporting information to ensure the prices for the workplace stations are accurate and that there is no room for a reduction in this budget item.

Joe then questioned if the values could be stretched out for another year, Rob replying that if it is stretched out over another year that the Town may be at risk for health and safety violations, further noting the replacement of the workstations has been held off pending the move to the new Town Hall. Rob noted he is confident in the numbers provided in the budget.

Joe then spoke regarding the Corporate/Administration Budget noting he believes this budget can be reduced by 10% and questioned reference to the medical clinic. Director of Planning and Building David Finbow replying that a full history of the medical clinic project will be brought forward to a Council Meeting in March or a Special Meeting of Council.

Mayor Anderson then requested that the Clerk and the Director of Planning and Building schedule a Special Meeting of Council regarding the medical clinic.

Rob then referenced the GIS System of \$22,000 noting the previous Council had identified the fire route system as a priority. Rob noted the normal rotation of equipment is captured in the budget.

Joe then questioned if that rotation of equipment could be pushed out a little further, so that savings could be realized.

Councillor Martin then excused himself from the meeting as he had another meeting to attend.

Ellen then spoke regarding capital expenditures noting the numbers included in the budget are accurate and confirmed she is confident they have been vetted thoroughly by Staff.

Ellen then questioned if there was any way an additional \$10,000 could be raised at Tomahawk, Shawn replying as long as golfing at Tomahawk is free, it is hard to determine if an additional \$10,000 could be raised, further noting if Tomahawk was staffed, it would cost more to operate.

Rob then spoke noting he appreciates Councillor Halos' efforts to find additional money in the budget, but noted the budget is within Council's expectations, further noting if Council has recommendations to reduce the budget that service delivery changes will be realized. Rob further noted if a 10% reduction in the current draft budget is sought, Staff will have to review the budget further.

Bob then spoke noting each Council member should put their comments in writing and provide this information to Finance for response. Rob replying he does not suggest this, that it would be one Council member's opinion, that this is the time for those discussions.

Councillor McKean spoke noting Staff has prepared a draft budget in accordance with Council's direction and that Council should review the draft budget, provide feedback to the Clerk for Council to make decisions on the draft budget.

Councillor Halos then spoke regarding the roads budget and questioned what it would cost to have roads maintenance tendered out and questioned the proposed Ravenna expansion. Joe then referenced the solid waste and construction waste questioned if the Town could spend money to reduce the costs associated at the landfill. Reg spoke in response to Councillor Halos noting that Manager of Solid Waste & Environmental Initiatives Jeff Fletcher is scheduled to come to an Infrastructure and Recreation Committee Meeting to discuss construction waste, further noting if the landfill does not accept industrial waste that the life of the landfill will be extended.

Joe then spoke regarding the Recreation Department budget and the proposed studies to enhance amenities at Sunset Part, noting this work should be completed in-house, and \$25,000 in cost savings would be realized by the Town. Director of Recreation Shawn Everitt then spoke noting \$25,000 has been budgeted for landscape architecture through the shoreland acquisition fund and further noted every effort would be made to complete this work in-house. Shawn further noted the \$25,000 has no effect on taxation.

Joe then referenced \$10,000 for a used snowmobile for the Recreation Department, Shawn replying this is an enhanced service and can be removed from the draft budget if that is Council's wish.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council to wish to remove the used snowmobile from the 2011 draft budget, Council concurring the snowmobile should be removed.

Joe then referenced the budget for speakers for the downtown core, Shawn replying this item is through the Parks and Trails budget through a partnership with the BIA. Shawn further noted the budget is \$26,000 in 2012.

Joe then referenced the landscaping for the Town Hall and noted he is concerned with the cost of the amphitheatre and the skating loop, Shawn replying that the capital sheet relating to the landscaping for the Town Hall was developed through the New Town Hall design charrette and the Leisure Activities Plan. Shawn then noted this is the time this landscaping plan should be discussed. Joe then questioned if this work could be completed in the future, Shawn replying yes, further noting the site could be landscaped generally and that the further enhancement could be completed later if that is Council's decision. Director of Planning and Building David Finbow spoke noting approximately \$10,000 to \$12,000 would be thrown away if the Town Hall Site is developed at a later date.

Councillor McKean then spoke regarding the Grants and Donations Budget of \$40,000 and noted he does not believe the Town should be involved in disbursing taxpayers' money to non-profit organizations, and that the Grants and Donations Budget should be reduced to \$20,000 in 2011 and reduced to zero in 2012. Communications and Economic Development Coordinator Lisa Kidd spoke noting the Town also provides \$45,000 to the Beaver Valley Athletic Association for ice rental subsidy.

Mayor Anderson then spoke questioning how many organizations rely on funding from the \$40,000 budget, Lisa replying that 60% to 70% are recurring requests from organizations. Ellen then questioned the criteria to be eligible to receive a grant, Lisa replying they must be a non-profit organization, must service the residents of The Blue Mountains, be of benefit to the Community and not be in a deficit situation.

Lisa then provided a list of recipients in 2010 and noted the BIA did not receive money through the Grants and Donations program.

John then spoke noting the community will decide how individually they will support non-profit organizations. Councillor Gamble spoke noting he respects Councillor McKean's comments, but noted a portion of the Grants and Donations program supported events such as the Apple Harvest Festival and July 1 Canada Day Events and questioned how this type of event will continue to receive support.

Councillor Ardiel then spoke noting that some organizations will lose out if the Grants and Donations program is discontinued.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if it is Council's wish to reduce the Grants and Donations budget to \$20,000 in 2011 and discontinue the program in 2012, Gail replying this is a tough call, Joe noting he is in favour of reducing the program this year and discontinuing in 2012.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council is in favour of Councillor McKean's recommendation to reduce the Grants and Donations budget to \$20,000 in 2011 and discontinue the program in 2012, Council concurring.

Councillor Gamble then spoke noting he is concerned for organizations such as My Friends House in Collingwood, Ellen replying that the Grants and Donations program should be reviewed in the next few months to determine if Council wishes to discontinue the program entirely.

Ellen then spoke questioning if Council is comfortable with a 3.35% increase in the 2011 Budget, Council concurring they are not comfortable with a 3.35% tax increase.

Ellen then asked if Council would consider taking \$35,000 out of roads to reduce the tax increase to 3%, Councillor Gamble replying that the budget process in the next few years has a significant number of heavy duty trucks budgeted for and noted some of the heavier duty trucks should be reduced to smaller vehicles, further noting the Town should develop a policy on this. David then spoke noting departments do a great job on purchasing used vehicles realizing savings of \$8,000 to \$10,000 per vehicle, further noting each Senior Management Team members know what is required to maintain service levels.

Joe then referenced the expansion of the Ravenna works yard and the possible deferral of building at the Ravenna Yard, Reg replying this expansion is necessary as the cold storage building next to the Ravenna Hall will be torn down so the material traditionally stored in this building needs to be stored in a new location. Reg noted the block building does not have large enough doors for the graders, etc. so the equipment will sit outside. Reg noted if equipment is stored inside, that it extends the life of the equipment. Reg then noted if the Ravenna works yard expansion is pushed out, that the Slabtown Bridge replacement will have to be pushed out as well.

Gail then spoke referencing the grants provided to the Georgian Triangle Tourist Association ("GTTA") and noted other budget items have been cut, that perhaps this item should be reduced as well. Ellen replying that she knows the GTTA needs funding. Gail then referenced training and health and safety, and questioned if these items could be reduced. Lisa then spoke noting the GTTA is the destination marketing firm for the Town and noted the Town has found value in the GTTA in the past. John then spoke noting he supports reducing the GTTA funding to \$25,000.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council is in favour of reducing the GTTA funding to \$25,000, Council concurring.

Councillor Gamble then spoke questioning the "Enerplan" at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library, Chief Librarian Carol Cooley replying that this is a budget item for any work to be done at the library, including heating, sidewalks, window replacements, etc. Bob noted there is \$17,000 included in the draft budget and questioned if this amount could be reduced. Darcy then spoke noting the library commissioned a study regarding the potential capital deficit of the library and determined the amount of money that would be required for replacement, noting this is the reason for the \$17,000 budgeted item. Carol spoke noting this sum has been reduced in past budgets. Bob noted he would like this amount reduced by \$10,000.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council wish to reduce the Enerplan at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library by \$10,000 to \$7,000, Council concurring.

Shawn Everitt then spoke regarding the pavilion at Bayview Park and noted \$6000 can be removed from the Recreation Department budget and \$10,000 can be removed from the Harbour Site Plan budget.

Mayor Anderson then questioned if Council is in favour of a 3.16% tax increase, Council concurring that the budget should proceed to a Report to Council.

Bob then spoke noting he has concerns with the 2012 – 2013 budget, referencing the bookmobile and associated costs with it, Darcy replying that \$34,000 has been budgeted for the bookmobile in 2012 in operating costs plus \$30,000 for the vehicle. Darcy further noted the cost for the bookmobile is coming from reserves and reserve funds. Carol spoke noting she is anticipating a full bookmobile service in 2013.

Council then voted on the Motion, Carried.

Rob then reviewed the next steps in the budget process noting a Public Information Session will be scheduled, followed by a Public Meeting with budget information for residents.

C. Staff Reports

C.1 Sign By-Law Review Committee, PL.11.22

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Council receive Staff Report PL.11.22 respecting the “Sign By-Law Committee” and that Council appoint Bob Gamble, Michael Martin and Ted DeCorso to the Sign By-Law Review Committee, Carried.

D. Next Meeting Date/Adjournment

Moved by: Joe Halos Seconded by: John McKean

THAT this meeting does now adjourn at 7:15 p.m., Carried.

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Ellen Anderson, Mayor

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Corrina Giles, Town Clerk