

MINUTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON
BUDGET MEETING



Date: Monday, November 13, 2017
Time: 6:05 p.m.
Location: HELD IN THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Reeve Neil Vincent
Deputy Reeve James Campbell
Councillor Ray Hallahan
Councillor Yolanda Ritsema-Teeninga
Councillor Trevor Seip
Councillor Brock Vodden
Councillor Bill Knott
STAFF PRESENT: Dwayne Evans, CAO
Richard Al, Clerk/Manager of Information Technology
Donna White, Director of Finance
Pat Newson, Director of Recreation and Facilities
Sean McGhee, Director of Public Works
Ryan Ladner, Director of Fire and Emergency Services
OTHERS PRESENT: Valerie Watson, Manager of Childcare Services
Connie Goodall, Economic Development Officer
John Stadelmann

1. Call to Order

Reeve Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

M537/17

MOVED BY: J. Campbell

SECONDED BY: T. Seip

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron accept the Agenda for the November 13, 2017 Budget Meeting; as presented.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None disclosed.

4. Reports

4.1 Preparation for 2018 Budget Process

Dwayne Evans, CAO and Donna White, Director of Finance delivered a presentation entitled "Setting the Stage".

D. Evans provided an overview of the presentation noting that there are many factual numbers included however requested that Council not focus on the particular numbers but rather how to move forward from the current state.

D. White outlined debt obligations and items of which North Huron has already committed to in the 2018 Budget, noting that the commitments for 2018 total \$1,164,328.

D. White explained that for the purpose of this presentation the service areas in the presentation match that of the Financial Information Return service categories.

D. White noted that Transportation (Public Works) is typically the highest expense for most municipalities however in North Huron, Protection is the highest followed by Recreation and Culture, then Transportation.

D. White provided revenue and expense details for each service category including General Government, Recreation and Culture, Planning and Development, Social and Family Services, Health Services (Cemeteries), Environmental Services, Transportation, and Protection Services.

D. White noted that \$5,229,706 is currently being raised through taxation however the total cost of the services being delivered is \$15,951,872, excluding the Memorial Hall project.

D. White outlined the capital projects that were included in the 2017 Budget and noted the source of funding for the various projects. It was also noted that for these capital projects \$189,417.00 was funded through taxation.

D. White explained that various reports and studies have already been presented to Council and others will be presented in the near future, all of which will have an impact on capital planning decisions.

D. White provided estimated figures for capital spending based on the currently calculated requirement plus an increase equivalent to the Consumer Price Index.

D. White presented details on the status of North Huron's current Reserve and Reserve Fund compared to previous years.

D. Evans provided details regarding North Huron's sources of funding, noting that approximately one third of funding is currently raised through taxation.

D. Evans noted that assessments have not increased significantly in recent years and further noted that to raise \$48,000 in North Huron a 1% tax increase is required.

D. Evans outlined recommendations contained in the Asset Management Plan.

D. Evans noted that the North Huron Strategic Plan was developed for the 2014-2018 timeframe and would need to be updated in 2019. It was further noted that one of the top priorities identified in the Strategic Plan is growth and development however spending in the budget area of Planning and Development is the lowest funded area.

D. Evans explained some of the strengths as well as the current challenges facing North Huron.

D. Evans concluded the presentation by providing various items for Council to consider going forward.

D. White reiterated that various plans and studies have been received to date and further noted that these plans and studies are essential for future planning.

Discussion took place regarding North Huron's current state, service levels and the difficult decisions to be made.

D. Evans requested feedback on the level of detail that Council would like in the 2018 Budget.

Discussion took place regarding the level of detail in the 2018 Budget.

Discussion took place regarding current service levels and potential reductions.

Discussion took place regarding childcare services.

M538/17

MOVED BY: R. Hallahan

SECONDED BY: J. Campbell

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receive the Preparation for 2018 Budget Process presentation of the CAO and Director of Finance for information purposes.

CARRIED

5. Next Meeting

Dates for future Budget Meetings will be proposed at the next Regular Council Meeting.

6. Confirmatory By-Law

- 6.1 By-law No. 106-2017; being a By-law of the Township of North Huron to confirm generally previous actions of the Council of the Township of North Huron.

M539/17

MOVED BY: T. Seip

SECONDED BY: Y. Ritsema-Teeninga

THAT By-law No. 106-2017; being a by-law to confirm generally previous actions of the Council of the Township of North Huron; be introduced, read a first, second, third and final time, signed by the Reeve and Clerk and be engrossed in the By-law book.

CARRIED

7. Adjournment

M540/17

MOVED BY: B. Vodden

SECONDED BY: R. Hallahan

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron agree that there being no further business before Council; the meeting be hereby adjourned at 7:35 pm.

CARRIED

Neil Vincent, Reeve

Richard Al, Clerk