

MINUTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

BUDGET MEETING



Date: Thursday, January 4, 2018
Time: 6:07 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 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

1. Call to Order

Reeve Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

M04/18

MOVED BY: T. Seip

SECONDED BY: J. Campbell

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby accepts the Agenda for the January 4, 2018 Budget Meeting; as amended to include 2018 Draft Budget Presentation under Item 4.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Seip noted that should discussion take place regarding wages for Childcare department staff, he would be declaring a pecuniary interest.

4. 2018 Draft Budget

Director of Finance Donna White noted that staff have answers to inquiries from the previous Budget Meeting held January 3, 2018.

Director of Recreation and Facilities Pat Newson addressed a question raised during the January 3, 2018 Budget Meeting by providing a breakdown of the revenue, expenses, and net cost of various components of the Recreation department.

Director of Public Works Sean McGhee provided details of items related to the Financial Information Return (FIR) Transportation category noting the various services within the Public Works department.

S. McGhee provided an overview of the Public Works department noting the staff compliment of the department.

D. White provided details of the Transportation category draft operating budget noting the revenue and expenses associated. It was further noted that the bulk of revenue associated with the Public Works budget is received through internal transfers related to machinery rentals.

D. White noted that various adjustments to General Ledger codes have been made to improve administration of the GL accounts.

Discussion took place regarding the adjustments to GL accounts in terms of being able to provide accurate costs related to the delivery various services.

D. White provided an overview of items related to the Street Lighting budget.

P. Newson provided an overview of items related to the Richard W. LeVan Airport budget noting that the operating budget has remained similar to the 2017 Budget.

D. White provided details of items related to the Protection category noting the various staff associated with the departments within the category.

D. White noted changes to the transfer to reserves portion of the Fire Department budget and provided an overview of Fire Prevention Officer budget.

D. White provided details of the Emergency Services Training Centre budget and noted that the budget is currently shown as break even however staff

will be reviewing this budget during the second round of the budget process.

D. White provided details of the Policing budget noting that it is expected that North Huron will continue to receive \$114,888 in grants for 2018.

D. White provided an overview of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority budget noting that the final MVCA budget has not yet been received, Building department budget, Property Standards budget, Animal Control budget, and Emergency Planning budget and noted that engaging a dog counter service is recommended in 2019.

D. White provided an overview of Operating and Capital expenses as currently included in the 2018 Draft Budget.

D. Evans requested that Council provide feedback and direction to staff regarding the current 2018 Draft Budget.

D. Evans noted that various decisions will need to be made by Council regarding items such as Wingham Ward Policing, Museum renovations, and proposed capital items.

D. Evans noted that the Mill Street project is not currently included in the draft budget however it is an item to be considered by Council, particularly in terms of how to proceed with the project if North Huron is unsuccessful with the current OCIF top up grant application.

D. Evans noted that in 2018 it is anticipated that the Human Resources policy review will resume.

D. Evans noted various other items for Council's consideration and discussion including the future of the ESTC, Wingham Trailer Park, curbside collection agreement, Howson Dam, Blyth Trail Bridge and the MVCA Soccer field.

Discussion took place regarding soccer fields in North Huron and the proposed Recreation Master Plan.

D. Evans noted additional items for Council's consideration and discussion including review of user fees, the future of the Hutton Heights property, and review of Public Works facilities.

Discussion took place regarding the future of the Hutton Heights property.

M05/18

MOVED BY: R. Hallahan

SECONDED BY: T. Seip

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby direct the Clerk to extend an invitation to the Huron County Director of Planning, to attend an upcoming Council Meeting to discuss development options for the Hutton Heights property.

CARRIED

D. White noted that staff will meet to discuss the Draft Budget further during Senior Management Team meetings and reiterated that direction from Council is required.

Discussion took place regarding the Mill Street project and when a response regarding the OCIF Grant application might be received.

D. White noted that staff would like to move to a position in which multiple projects over the course of a number of years are pre-engineered to be undertaken when funds permit.

D. White requested that Council provide feedback on priorities for 2018.

Discussion took place regarding options to achieve operational efficiencies.

Discussion took place regarding trails in North Huron and the G2G Trail.

M06/18

MOVED BY: B. Knott

SECONDED BY: J. Campbell

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby agree that funds necessary to repair the Blyth Trail Bridge shall not be included in the 2018 Budget;

AND FURTHER, that Council directs the Director of Recreation and Facilities to engage in discussions with stakeholders to communicate Council's position.

CARRIED

Discussion took place regarding Public Works facilities, the state of current facilities, and the potential for consolidation.

Discussion took place regarding facility utilization and options to consolidate other facilities.

Discussion took place regarding the possibility of implementing user fees for items such as the sewage dumping station on Gypsy Lane in Blyth.

Discussion took place regarding the timing and cost associated with proposed OPP policing of the Wingham Ward as well as the Pay Equity / Market Review.

Discussion took place regarding the possibility of having a third party such as the YMCA assume operations of the Blyth Community Centre and/or the North Huron Westcast Community Complex.

Discussion took place regarding recreation facility utilization including the timing of ice installation.

5. Next Meeting

Future Budget Meeting dates will be selected during the January 15, 2018 Council Meeting.

6. Confirmatory By-law

- 6.1 By-law No. 02-2018; being a By-law of the Township of North Huron to confirm generally previous actions of the Council of the Township of North Huron

M07/18

MOVED BY: J. Campbell

SECONDED BY: B. Knott

THAT By-law No. 02-2018; 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

M08/18

MOVED BY: R. Hallahan

SECONDED BY: T. Seip

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron agree that there being no further business before Council; the meeting be hereby adjourned at 8:32 pm.

CARRIED

Neil Vincent, Reeve

Richard Al, Clerk