

MINUTES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON



BUDGET MEETING

Date: Monday, April 23, 2018
Time: 7:00 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
Tim Poole, Chief, Wingham Police Services

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Bell, CKNX
Ken Mathers

1. Call to Order

Reeve Vincent called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

M214/18

MOVED BY: J. Campbell

SECONDED BY: B. Vodden

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby accepts the Agenda for the April 23, 2018 Budget Meeting; as presented.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None disclosed.

4. 2018 Draft Budget Discussion

CAO Dwayne Evans provided a review of the budget process thus far noting that upon entering the previous meeting on February 8, 2018, the levy increase was sitting at 14.49% and after various revisions during that meeting the levy increase was reduced to 4.95%.

D. Evans noted that discussion during this meeting would be primarily regarding the updated Wingham Police Service budget, the ESTC deficit and the pay equity/labour market review.

Director of Finance, Donna White, provided an overview of various items added to or removed from the budget thus far and asked that Councillor Seip present the revised Wingham Police Service Budget.

Councillor Seip presented details of the revised Wingham Police Service Budget noting that the revised budget is based on salary increases as well as staffing up to an additional five officers for the latter part of 2018.

Councillor Seip explained the compensation and capital items included in the revised budget.

Discussion took place regarding adding recruits as well as an additional Sergeant to the officer complement.

D. White provided details regarding the revised ESTC deficit for 2018 noting that the recalculated deficit is estimated at approximately \$125,000.

Discussion took place regarding various ESTC budget items such as accommodations, loan principal amounts and the type of heating fuel used by the facility.

D. White provided examples of the impact of recent budget changes to sample Wingham Ward properties noting the increases associated with the addition of the revised Wingham Police Service budget, the ESTC deficit and the proposed pay equity/labour market review.

D. White provided examples of the impact of recent budget changes to sample Blyth and East Wawanosh Ward properties noting the increases associated with the addition of the ESTC deficit and the proposed pay equity/labour market review.

D. White noted that taking into account these items the increase in spending for 2018 will be approximately \$900,000.

D. Evans noted that the consultant for the pay equity/labour market review will be in attendance at the April 30, 2018 meeting to discuss this item further and that there are various additional items for Council to consider in the future such as the North Huron Museum and the Wingham Trailer Park.

D. Evans noted that messaging to residents around an increase such as this will be crucial particularly when it comes to Wingham Ward residents.

D. White noted that the budget process is ongoing and does not stop after the budget is passed. It was further noted that depending on discussion this evening the budget could be passed at the May 7, 2018 Council Meeting.

Councillor Seip inquired as to whether there are any capital projects that staff may not be able to complete in 2018 and hence could be deferred to a future budget to bring down spending. Councillor Seip commented regarding the Wingham Ward policing cost impact on the budget noting that the North Huron Police Services Board took direction from the public and Council regarding this item.

D. White noted that there is approximately \$400,000 in the Westario Power reserve, some of which could be used to offset the increase associated with the 2018 draft budget.

Discussion took place regarding the capital items for the Wingham Police Service including whether a new vehicle was included in the revised budget.

D. White noted that staff need direction regarding how Council would like to proceed in order to get the budget passed and proceed with tendering for the 2018 projects.

Discussion took place regarding the pay equity/labour market review, the Westario Power reserve and capital projects that could potentially be delayed.

Discussion took place regarding the transfer to reserves for water and wastewater as well as the asset management transfer to reserve.

Discussion took place regarding changes to the format of the budget such as removing the 2016 comparison column and changing the displayed budget versus actual.

5. Confirmatory By-law

- 5.1 By-law No. 43-2018; being a By-law of the Township of North Huron to confirm generally previous actions of the Council of the Township of North Huron

M215/18

MOVED BY: T. Seip

SECONDED BY: Y. Ritsema-Teeninga

THAT By-law No. 43-2018; 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

6. Adjournment

M216/18

MOVED BY: T. Seip

SECONDED BY: J. Campbell

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron agree that there being no further business before Council; the meeting be hereby adjourned at 8:05 pm.

CARRIED

Neil Vincent, Reeve

Richard Al, Clerk