

**Present:** Mayor Mitchell  
Councillor Drumm  
Councillor Emm  
Councillor Gleed  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Roy (arrived at 6:06 p.m.)  
Councillor Yamada

**Also Present:** D. Barnes, Interim Chief Administrative Officer  
S. Beale, Commissioner of Public Works  
P. LeBel, Commissioner of Community & Marketing Services  
W. Mar, Commissioner of Legal and By-law Services/Town Solicitor  
K. Nix, Commissioner of Corporate Services/Treasurer  
R. Short, Commissioner of Planning  
D. Speed, Fire Chief  
C. Harris, Town Clerk  
S. Cassel, Deputy Clerk

**Regrets:** None noted

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1. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

1.1 There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

2. Presentations

2.1 There were no presentations.

3. Items for Consideration

3.1 Corporate Services Department Report, CS 04-17  
Re: 2017 Budget Target Report

A detailed discussion period ensued regarding:

- the need to bring the budgetary increase target lower than the 5.8% provided by staff;

- the annual inflation rate;
- pressures for taxpayers for other expenses aside from property taxes;
- increases in property assessment by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and the anticipated impacts to taxpayers;
- overall delivery of services and the recommendations presented through the Service Delivery Review (SDR);
- the ability to hold back on filling existing staff vacancies until there are further details on the SDR recommendations;
- impacts from the tax rates for the Durham Region and Educational levies;
- living within the Town's means, including budgeting to a zero surplus and a commitment to not make decisions for expenditures that are not already included in the budget;
- the possibility for staff to look at opportunities to find further efficiencies and to demonstrate the impacts of different tax rates and the timelines for a report back to Council;
- restraints on how the Town generates revenues and the need to find additional revenue streams; and,
- needs versus wants and the risk of setting the tax rate too low that may result in the need to eliminate services and/or use of assessment growth to offset the tax levy.

#### **Resolution # 07-16**

Moved By Councillor Leahy

Seconded By Councillor Emm

1. That report CS 04-17 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services/Treasurer be received as information;
2. That Council set a 4.49% budgetary increase target for the 2017 budget, representing a 1.5% increase for the expansion of Fire Services and a 2.99% increase to address operating pressures (representing an approximate 1.5% tax increase for the Town's portion of the overall tax bill);
3. That staff be directed to develop options to achieve the established target and report back with such options at the February 13, 2017 Operations Committee;
4. That staff be directed to undertake a long term staffing needs forecast prior to the 2018 budget target setting by bringing forward a work plan by the end of Q1 2017 to develop a Strategic Workforce Plan as recommended by the Service Delivery Review; and,

5. That notwithstanding Council Policy to complete the budget prior to March 1st of the budget year, Council approve the budget timing at the latest as outlined in this report and that the Town Clerk establish the meeting dates.

**Carried later in the meeting [See following motion]**

**Resolution # 08-16**

Moved By Councillor Emm  
Seconded By Councillor Leahy

That the main motion be amended by adding the following as Item 4 and that the recommendation be renumbered accordingly:

That staff identify further measures necessary to achieve a reduction below a 4.49% budgetary increase target.

**Carried**

**The main motion as amended was then carried on a recorded vote as follows:**

	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstained</b>
Councillor Joe Drumm	x		
Councillor Michael Emm	x		
Councillor Derrick Gleed		x	
Councillor Chris Leahy	x		
Councillor Rhonda Mulcahy	x		
Councillor Elizabeth Roy	x		
Councillor Steve Yamada		x	
Mayor Don Mitchell	x		
	6	2	0

4. Confirmatory By-law

4.1 Confirmatory By-law

**Resolution # 09-16**

Moved By Councillor Roy  
Seconded By Councillor Leahy

That leave be granted to introduce a by-law and to dispense with the reading of the by-law by the Clerk to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Town of Whitby at its special meeting held on January 16, 2017 and the same be considered read and passed and that the Mayor and the Clerk sign the same and the Seal of the Corporation be thereto affixed.

**Carried**

5. Adjournment

5.1 Motion to Adjourn

**Resolution # 10-16**

Moved By Councillor Emm  
Seconded By Councillor Leahy

That the meeting adjourn.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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Christopher Harris, Town Clerk

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Don Mitchell, Mayor