MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009 AT THE HOUR OF 6:30 P.M. IN THE MEETING HALL OF THE WHITBY MUNICIPAL BUILDING AS CALLED BY THE HEAD OF COUNCIL

PRESENT: Mayor Perkins

Councillors Coe, Drumm, Emm, Mitchell, Pitchforth, Roy and Scott

Mayor Perkins in the Chair

ALSO PRESENT: R. S. Petrie, Chief Administrative Officer

K. Nix, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer

P. LeBel, Director of Community & Marketing Services

B. Short, Director of PlanningS. Beale, Director of Public WorksD. Armstrong, Acting Fire ChiefS. Pohjola, Town SolicitorP. Jones, Town Clerk

M. Pettit, Deputy Clerk

1. <u>DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST</u>

None.

RESOLUTION NO. 44-09

MOVED by Councillor Emm SECONDED by Councillor Coe

That Council resolve itself into Committee of the Whole with Councillor Pitchforth, Chair of Treasury Services, in the Chair.

CARRIED

Councillor Pitchforth assumed the Chair and advised the audience that the intent for this evening's meeting was to hear from staff and the public.

2. PRESENTATION

2.1 High Level Overview and Introduction of 2009 Operating and Capital Budgets – Education Session

Bob Petrie, CAO, provided a brief introduction and turned the floor over to Ken Nix. Mr. Nix provided an in-depth presentation on the Town's financial position heading into budget deliberations.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009 AT THE HOUR OF 6:30 P.M. IN THE MEETING HALL OF THE WHITBY MUNICIPAL BUILDING AS CALLED BY THE HEAD OF COUNCIL

Chair Pitchforth invited submissions from the public.

John Kluster, 7461 Cochrane Street, appeared before committee with concerns that assessments do not reflect current market values.

Bruce Davis, 7516 Cochrane Street, had questions about assessments and the the effect on mill rates.

The following persons spoke about the need to reconstruct and pave Cochrane Street:

- John Kluster
- Bob Walton
- Bruce Davis
- Ron Mason
- Donna Switzer

Greg Weatherdon, 6 Rutledge Street, suggested that under normal circumstances the 2.9% increase suggested in Mr. Nix's presentation would be okay but questioned whether this was acceptable given the economic down turn. He recommended taking a harder look saying any increase is going to be a hardship to the taxpayer and harder choices need to be made in these exceptional times.

Eleanor Ridout, 19 Woodstone Place, had concerns for any tax increase and suggested Council needed to eliminate or defer all non-essential costs given the current economic situation. Ms. Ridout also expressed concern Whitby's budget process, suggesting it excludes Whitby residents from any meaningful participation. She questioned the disposition of any surplus from 2008 and the design of the tax bill. She also asked Council to reinstate the Town's sidewalk snow clearing program.

There being no further submissions, the Chair brought the meeting back to Committee. Members discussed the suggestions and input from those members of the public present. Committee also posed a number of questions to staff.

MOVED by Councillor Emm

That the Committee of the Whole rise and report to Council.

CARRIED

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009 AT THE HOUR OF 6:30 P.M. IN THE MEETING HALL OF THE WHITBY MUNICIPAL BUILDING AS CALLED BY THE HEAD OF COUNCIL

3. ADJOURNMEN ⁻		AD٠	JOU	JRNI	MEN	T
----------------------------	--	-----	-----	------	-----	---

RESOLUTION NO. 45-09

MOVED by Councillor Emm at 8:31 p.m. Seconded by Councillor Drumm

That this February 26th, 2009 Special Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Whitby adjourn.

	CARRIED
Paul Jones, Clerk	Patricia Perkins, Mayor