

Present: Mayor Perkins
Councillor Coe
Councillor Drumm
Councillor Emm
Councillor Gleed
Councillor Mitchell
Councillor Montague
Councillor Roy

Also Present: R. Petrie, Chief Administrative Officer
P. LeBel, Commissioner of Community & Marketing Services
K. Nix, Commissioner of Corporate Services/Treasurer
R. Short, Commissioner of Planning
G. Hardy, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure Services
S. Siersma, Acting Deputy Fire Chief
D. Wilcox, Town Clerk
S. Cassel, Acting Deputy Clerk

Regrets: None noted

1. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

- 1.1 Councillor Drumm made a declaration of pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act specific to items relating to the Town of Whitby Public Library and Iroquois Park Sports Centre as family members are employed at these locations. Councillor Drumm did not take part in the discussion or vote on the matter.

Resolution # 40-14

Moved By Councillor Coe
Seconded By Councillor Emm

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

Carried

Councillor Roy assumed the Chair and introduced R. Petrie, Chief Administrative Officer, who would be providing a PowerPoint presentation of the 2014 budget.

2. Items for Consideration by Council in Committee of the Whole

2.1 Presentation by the Chief Administrative Officer and the Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer with respect to the 2014 Current and Capital Budget

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, R. Petrie, Chief Administrative Officer, provided a detailed overview of the 2014 Budget noting that to be a community of choice requires the Town to address community needs, provide competitive taxes, and live within our means.

Mr. Petrie highlighted the budget challenges for 2014 including maintenance of existing services, management of assets, new initiatives to plan for future growth and expansion of current services, legislative requirements such as accessibility, intensification and land use planning regulations and the challenges of our current economy. This is summarized as a \$2.528 million dollar or 3.64% net tax increase.

Mr. Petrie outlined a number of strategies to be considered to reduce the budget impact and based on these strategies the average home would see a 2.95% increase in taxes which is equivalent to a \$2.048 million dollar impact.

Mr. Petrie continued with the presentation stating that at the January 20, 2014 Special Meeting of Council, staff were directed to develop the annual budget for a total impact of the overall tax increase to be less than 2% including the Town, Region and Provincial portions. Since that time, the Region has reduced their portion from 2.35% to 1.5%, and the Province has reduced the school board levy. These decreases have resulted in an anticipated tax increase of 1.60%.

Mr. Petrie thanked finance staff for their work on the 2014 budget and advised that Council would hold a Special Meeting on February 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. to go over the detailed budget books and pass the 2014 budget.

2.2 Public submissions with respect to the 2014 Current and Capital Budget

The following individual made a delegation regarding the 2014 Current and Capital Budgets:

Edward Vikari, 54 Markwood Crescent, appeared before Council and questioned why money is being transferred into reserve funds when there have been consistent increases in cash and investments from year to year. Mr. Vikari furthered mentioned that he would like to see the audited financial statements provided with the budget books each year as this would be a benefit when examining the documents.

K. Nix, Commissioner of Corporate Services/Treasurer, stated that the transfer of monies into reserve funds is related to the portion of growth costs forecasted for the future and putting the monies aside now will lessen the impact in the future when these funds are due.

There were no further public submissions. Chair Roy advised members of the public that they could forward any other comments relating to the 2014 Budget to the Town Clerk for distribution to Council.

Mayor Perkins resumed the Chair.

Moved By Councillor Coe

That Council rise from Committee of the Whole.

Carried

3. Confirmatory By-Law

3.1 Confirmatory By-law

Resolution # 41-14

Moved By Councillor Roy

Seconded By Councillor Emm

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 February 6, 2014, and that 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

4. Adjournment

4.1 Motion to Adjourn

Resolution # 42-14

Moved By Councillor Coe
Seconded By Councillor Drumm

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Debi A. Wilcox, Town Clerk

Patricia Perkins, Mayor