

MINUTES

BUDGET MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

2002 05 07

4:30 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Mayor J. Rowsell, Councillors D. Brandt, D. Jones, P. Vaudry, J. Caicco, T. Ryma, L. Turco, F. Manzo, P. Mick, N. DelBianco, D. Oraziotti, B. Irwin, D. Amaroso

OFFICIALS: J. Fratesi, M. White, B. Freiburger, S. McLellan, L. Bottos, P. McAuley, M. Brechin, D. Overboe, J. Luszka, N. Apostle, L. McCoy, A. McRae, J. Crawford, D. Scott, B. Strapp, W. Eisenbichler, L. Whalen, B. Kates

1. **Yearend Transfers to Reserves**

The report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer was accepted by Council.

Moved by Councillor D. Amaroso

Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin

Resolved that the report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer dated 2002 05 07 concerning Yearend Transfers to Reserves be accepted and the recommendations contained therein be approved. CARRIED

2. Moved by Councillor D. Jones

Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin

Resolved that City Council now proceed into the Committee of the Whole to consider the following matter referred to it for consideration - 2002 Budget Deliberations. CARRIED.

NOTE: The following motions were read during the Committee of the Whole session for the purpose of discussion only.

(a) Moved by Councillor P. Vaudry

Seconded by Councillor D. Jones

Whereas the residents of Red Rock in Dennis Township have requested for several years that the City of Sault Ste. Marie do improvements to the Red Rock Road on the City side leading to their homes and cottages; and

Whereas without significant Provincial funding assistance such roadwork is a very low priority for the City compared to other rural roads in our system; and

Whereas the Dennis Township Landowners Committee appear to have secured a funding commitment from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines for the supply of gravel and culverts delivered to the site as required to upgrade the existing road surface;

2. Now therefore be it resolved that City Council commits a total sum of \$115,000. - \$30,000. to come from the existing Public Works and Transportation Department Roads Budget and balance of \$85,000. to come from the 2001 Year End Surplus for the labour and equipment costs required to do ditching and install culverts and to apply and grade gravel that is being provided by the Province to improve the roadway; and
Further be it resolved that City Council confirms the existing status of Red Rock Road as a seasonal road only not eligible for winter maintenance.
- (b) Moved by Councillor P. Vaudry
Seconded by Councillor D. Amaroso
Whereas the Federal Government through FedNor has recently announced special financial assistance to Sault Ste. Marie in the amount of \$3.5 million for Economic Diversification; and
Whereas the Provincial Government through NOHFC has recently also announced special funding assistance for eligible communities including Sault Ste. Marie for Economic Diversification; and
Whereas the City of Sault Ste. Marie will be expected to provide some financial contribution towards eligible projects deemed worthy of Federal and/or Provincial funding assistance; and
Whereas both senior levels of government have made it clear that assistance will be provided only for well defined and viable projects which achieve the objectives of their programs for economic diversification and only for projects deemed to be of the highest priority for our community;
Now therefore be it resolved that City Council approves the transfer of the sum of \$1.309 million from the 2001 Year End Surplus into a Reserve Account for Economic Diversification to be combined with the \$2.5 million expected to be created in the 2002 Budget as savings resulting from the recently announced Capital Assistance grant Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation towards this year's Capital Roadwork Program; and
Further be it resolved that funds in this Economic Diversification Reserve only be used to lever Federal and/or Provincial assistance and private sector investment for clearly defined projects which will help diversify our City's economy and which are of the highest priority as determined by City Council in accordance with recommendations from the "Getting On With It" Economic Diversification Strategy.
- (c) Moved by Councillor D. Brandt
Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin
Whereas the Growth Mandate Strategy identified trails development as a high priority for economic development; and
Whereas the waterfront boardwalk has proven itself to be a valuable quality of life infrastructure, a contributor to making the Sault a world class tourism destination and a successful economic development tool;
Resolved that Council approve a \$650,000. reserve for continuation of the waterfront walkway to the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre and authorized staff to commence all required property matters provided that 5 to 1 matching dollars can be obtained.

2.

- (d) Moved by Councillor D. Brandt
Seconded by Councillor N. DelBianco
Whereas the Growth Mandate Strategy identified “Develop and sustain a positive business environment”, including the Positive Attitudes Change Everything initiatives; and
Whereas July 18, 19 and 20 for Rotaryfest 2002 had been designated as a Community Festival by City Council;
Resolved that Council approves providing \$7,800. from the 2001 surplus in order to provide free bus service during the day of the Rotaryfest Community Day Parade.
- (e) Moved by Councillor F. Manzo
Seconded by Councillor P. Vaudry
Whereas the Mike Zuke Rink is in dire need of renovation to the Rink Shack which needs a new roof as the metal roof has no base to hold the screws and nails to hold the metal roof; and
Whereas the outside wall of the rink shack needs new siding to make it presentable to the neighbourhood; and
Whereas the lighting standards are antiquated one needs new light standards and extra poles on the opposite side of the rink which causes a shadow;
Therefore be it resolved that City Council approve the \$15,000. from 2001 surplus allotted for the Improvement to the Mike Zuke Rink which will enhance the area.
- (f) Moved by Councillor L. Turco
Seconded by Councillor P. Mick
Whereas it is vital for a city to attract new visitors, new business opportunities, as well as continue to maintain our roads and provide a safe road system;
Therefore be it resolved that the City also allocate extra funds to be set aside to repair our city streets at an increased level from the current budgetary restrictions and these funds come from the surplus account in the amount of \$257,000. to Miscellaneous Road Construction.
- (g) Moved by Councillor D. Jones
Seconded by Councillor P. Vaudry
Whereas Sault College has been faced with declining enrollment as well as declining funding in recent years;
Therefore be it resolved that Council allocate \$50,000. toward tax in lieu for Sault College to be taken out of 2001 surplus for one time funding.
- (h) Moved by Councillor B. Irwin
Seconded by Councillor J. Caicco
Resolved that a line item of \$80,000. be added to the budget as an ongoing expense to create a Communications Officer position as outlined in the report prepared by Art Osborne and Associates and that the cost for this be found by staff within the proposed budget.

3. Moved by Councillor D. Jones
Seconded by Councillor T. Ryma
Resolved that the Committee of the Whole Council now rise and report on the matter referred to it by City Council - 2002 Budget Deliberations. CARRIED.

4. **User Fee By-Law 2002-60 - A By-law to Establish User Fees and Service Charges**

The report of the Manager of Budgets concerning User Fee Adjustments was accepted by Council

Moved by Councillor D. Jones

Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Budgets dated 2002 05 07 concerning User Fee Adjustments be accepted; and further that By-law 2002-60 being a by-law to establish user fees and service charges, be read three times and passed in Open Council this 7th day of May, 2002. CARRIED.

Updated Budget Information

The report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer was accepted by Council.

Moved by Councillor D. Amaroso

Seconded by Councillor T. Ryma

Resolved that the report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer dated 2002 05 07 concerning Updated Budget Information be accepted as information. CARRIED.

5. **2002 Budget**

The report of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer concerning the 2002 Budget were received by Council.

Moved by Councillor D. Amaroso

Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin

Resolved that the reports of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer dated 2002 05 07 concerning the 2002 Budget be accepted and the recommendation that the 2002 Budget as presented with a total urban residential tax increase of 0% be approved subject to tax capping provisions. CARRIED.

6. Moved by Councillor D. Amaroso

Seconded by Councillor D. Jones

Resolved that City Council suspend By-law 99-100 Section 3(2) dealing with Rules of Procedure to allow for continuation of the Council Meeting past the 5 hour maximum time. CARRIED.

7. Moved by Councillor D. Jones
Seconded by Councillor T. Ryma
Resolved that the following items be approved with funds to come from the 2001 Budget surplus (\$1,395,000.):

Additional Council Travel \$ 10,000.

Recorded Vote

For: Mayor J. Rowswell, Councillors D. Jones, P. Vaudry, J. Caicco, T. Ryma, L. Turco, P. Mick, N. DelBianco, B. Irwin, D. Amaroso
Against: Councillors D. Brandt, F. Manzo, D. Orazietti
Absent: Nil

Increased Tree Planting \$ 19,500.
Boxing Day/Civic Holiday Transit Service \$ 12,400.
Increased Paratransit Service \$ 43,500.
Red Rock Road \$ 85,000.

Waterfront Walkway Reserve \$650,000.

Recorded Vote

For: Mayor J. Rowswell, Councillors D. Brandt, D. Jones, P. Vaudry, J. Caicco, T. Ryma, L. Turco, F. Manzo, P. Mick, N. DelBianco, D. Orazietti, B. Irwin, D. Amaroso
Against: Nil
Absent: Nil

Mike Zuke Rink Improvements \$ 15,000.
Rotaryfest Community Day Free Bus Service \$ 7,800.

Increased Misc. Construction (Roadwork) \$257,000.

Recorded Vote

For: Mayor J. Rowswell, Councillors D. Brandt, D. Jones, P. Vaudry, J. Caicco, T. Ryma, L. Turco, F. Manzo, P. Mick, N. DelBianco, D. Orazietti, B. Irwin, D. Amaroso
Against: Nil
Absent: Nil

with the balance of \$294,750. to be put into a reserve account for future allocation by City Council for items including but not limited to economic development issues as determined by Council. CARRIED.

8. Moved by Councillor D. Orazietti
Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin
Whereas several reserve accounts have been identified by staff as surplus to their present designation;
Be it resolved that the following accounts be combined and transferred to the industrial lands reserve account:

Trbovich Centre \$170,187.
OMB - Big Box Hearing \$ 28,618.
Casino Development \$ 3,646.
Innovation Centre \$ 15,000.
A. B. McLean Site \$ 50,000.
\$267,451.

CARRIED

9. **Schedule for Tax Due Dates**

The report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer was accepted by Council.

Moved by Councillor D. Amaroso

Seconded by Councillor B. Irwin

Resolved that the report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer dated 2002 05 07 concerning Schedule for Tax Due Dates be approved. CARRIED.

10. Moved by Councillor D. Brandt

Seconded by Councillor D. Jones

Resolved that staff be congratulated for their efforts in achieving Council's target of a 0% tax increase. CARRIED.

11. Moved by Councillor P. Vaudry

Seconded by Councillor P. Mick

Resolved that Council be authorized to go into closed session at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 27, 2002 to meet as the sole shareholder of PUC Inc. pursuant to the provisions of the Business Corporations Act dealing with shareholder meetings. CARRIED.

12. Moved by Councillor D. Amaroso

Seconded by Councillor T. Ryma

Resolved that this Council shall now adjourn. CARRIED.

"JOHN ROWSWELL"
MAYOR

"DONNA P. IRVING"
CLERK