



BUDGET MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, April 20, 2015

4:30 p.m.

Council Chambers

Civic Centre

- Present: Mayor C. Provenzano, Councillor S. Butland, Councillor P. Christian, Councillor S. Myers, Councillor T. Sheehan, Councillor J. Hupponen, Councillor M. Shoemaker, Councillor L. Turco, Councillor R. Niro, Councillor M. Bruni, Councillor F. Fata, Councillor J. Krmpotich, Councillor R. Romano, S. Schell
- Officials: J. Fratesi, N. Apostle, J. Dolcetti, B. Freiburger, L. Girardi, N. Kenny, M. Nadeau, P. Niro, M. White, R. Toth-Rissanen, Tom Dodds
- Others: M. Figliola, S. Sparling, D. Elliott, P. Liepa, C. Pascall, M. Lebel, R. Nenonen, D. Scott, M. Blanchard, R. Bateman

1. APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Moved by: Councillor L. Turco

Seconded by: Councillor M. Shoemaker

Resolved that the Agenda for 2015 04 20 as presented be approved.

Carried

2. SUPPLEMENTARY OPERATING INCREASE REQUESTS

Thereport of the Manager of Finance and Budgets was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Niro

Seconded by: Councillor M. Shoemaker

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Finance and Budgets dated 2015 04 20 concerning Supplementary Operating Increases be accepted as information.

Carried

3. CURRENT BUDGET

A report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer was received.

Moved by: Councillor R. Niro

Seconded by: Councillor J. Hupponen

That City Council now proceed into Committee of the Whole to consider the following matter referred to it for consideration – 2015 Budget Deliberations.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor L. Turco

Seconded by: Councillor J. Hupponen

That the Committee of the Whole Council now rise and report on the matter referred to it by City Council – 2015 Budget Deliberations.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor R. Niro

Seconded by: Councillor M. Shoemaker

Resolved that the report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer dated 2015 04 20 concerning the 2015 Budget be accepted and the 2015 Budget as presented, with adjustments detailed below, with an average urban residential property tax increase of 1.89% (calculated by blending an increase in assessment with a decrease in the tax rate) be approved.

Adjustments:

Add the following items to the budget from the Supplementary Operating Request List:

- \$30,000 Emerald Ash program (\$15,000 levy, \$15,000 5% Subdividers reserve)
- \$30,000 – Official Plan public consultation (from appropriate Engineering and Planning reserves)
- \$20,000 – Northern Community Centre structural beam padding (5% Subdividers reserve – in place of golf netting previously approved)
- \$50,000 – Healthy Kids Community Challenge

Reduce the following items:

- \$132,634 – Northern Community Centre annual debt repayment reduced by re-amortization

\$105,585 – various redundant reserve reductions

\$100,000 – Capital from Current reduction (to be determined by staff)

to result in a municipal levy of \$101,939,966.

Carried

4. MS NORGOMA

Moved by: Councillor S. Myers

Seconded by: Councillor J. Hupponen

Whereas until the mid-20th century, the M.S. Norgoma transported passengers and goods to and from remote communities of the Upper Great Lakes and was critical in the development of the region, including the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway; and

Whereas the M.S. Norgoma was a key part of Canada's first transcontinental transportation system; and

Whereas Sault Ste. Marie is a critical port along the Great Lakes waterway still today and the M.S. Norgoma tells that heritage story; and

Whereas in 1960's, the City Council of the day purchased the M.S. Norgoma from the province of Ontario recognizing the heritage value with a view to develop a waterfront marine based park, which today stands as Roberta Bondar Park named for another voyageur in Canadian history; and

Whereas on September 16, 2011 the government of Canada erected a plaque adjacent to the M.S. Norgoma in Roberta Bondar Park to commemorate the national historic significance of the M.S. Norgoma in her role as a passenger and packet freighter on the Upper Great Lakes; and

Whereas the volunteer Board of the M.S. Norgoma has invested hundreds of hours and remains committed to refurbishing and operating the ship on a seasonal basis to promote tourism and present this important part of our community's history; and

Whereas the Board has provided City Council with a report of the 2014 performance and outlook for the 2015 season indicating an increase in demand, visitation and community value having been used as a set for movie shoots, weddings and soon to be open as a bed and breakfast; and

Whereas the Board is asking City Council to reinstate annual funding of \$15,000 to support the continuation of the M.S. Norgoma along with other funding partners and revenue generation activities; and

Whereas City Council did receive a staff report in 2014 indicating that should Council opt to cease funding and direct staff to commence dismantling and removal of the vessel the cost would be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars; and

Whereas City Council has not made the decision to commence dismantling and removal of the M.S. Norgoma nor budgeted any amount of monies to do so; and

Whereas while the volunteer Board remains active in donating their time to preserve and maintain some activity at the M.S. Norgoma each summer season it provides one more option for local citizens and visitors to visit and learn about our heritage and prevents severe decay and detracting to the vessel;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that City Council reinstate the annual funding in the amount of \$15,000 for the operation of the M.S. Norgoma until such time as City Council establishes a plan with funds to remove the vessel.

Officially Read and Not Dealt With

5. ONTARIO REGULATION 284/09

The report of the Manager of Audits and Capital Planning was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor F. Fata

Seconded by: Councillor M. Shoemaker

That the report of the Manager of Audits and Capital Planning dated 2015 04 20 concerning Ontario Regulation 284/09 be received as information.

Carried

6. 2014 YEAR-END RESERVE TRANSFERS

The report of the Manager of Audits and Capital Planning was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Niro

Seconded by: Councillor J. Hupponen

Resolved that the report of the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer dated 2015 04 20 concerning year-end transfers to reserves be accepted and recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor S. Myers

Seconded by: Councillor T. Sheehan

Whereas there are funds remaining in the Celebrate 100! account that are earmarked for establishing a Celebrate 100! legacy display in Civic Centre; and

Whereas it is anticipated the full amount of the reserve funds will not be required; and

Whereas City Council will be looking at enhanced celebrations in 2017 in keeping with the Governor General's request to municipalities to celebrate Canada 150;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Celebrate 100 reserve funds be retained for use on these two projects.

Carried.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor R. Niro

Seconded by: Councillor J. Hupponen

That this Council shall now adjourn.

Carried

Mayor

City Clerk