

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Roll Call

Committee Members:

Councillor J. Fullarton, Chair
Councillor J. Earle (arrived at 4:04 p.m.)
Councillor L. Journal
Acting Mayor, H. Noble

Others:

Councillor S. Williams
Councillor G. Beach
Councillor L. Severson

Staff:

Ms. T. Brons, Administrative Coordinator (Recording Secretary)
Mr. B. Casselman, City Manager
Ms. D. Cyr, Director of Finance
Mr. M. McDonald, Financial Admin. Analyst
Ms. S. Seale, City Clerk

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Councillor Severson declared a Conflict of Interest with respect to Report 2010-094-06 as a family member is subject of part of the report and exited the meeting at 4:34 p.m. Councillor J. Earle chaired the meeting in her absence.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Mayor McGee, City of Kawartha Lakes
Re: Ministry of Environment - "Polluter Pays" Principle

The Committee received correspondence from Mayor McGee, City of Kawartha Lakes requesting support of their recommendation that the Ministries commit to changes in legislation to ensure "Polluter Pay" and a level of "Fairness" occurs for municipalities and other innocent victims of environmental spills.

Councillor Journal raised concern regarding potential legal costs that may be incurred with the "Polluter Pays" initiative.

Councillor Fullarton questioned if this matter should be handled on a provincial level and noted concerns with respect to potential costs to the City.

Councillor Journal commented that he would feel more comfortable contributing funds directly to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) with respect to this initiative.

Mr. B. Casselman, City Manager, stated that he is in support of the recommendation and commented that \$500 would represent a gesture of support to our fellow municipalities.

Councillor Beach noted that he supports the recommendation and feels that the City should lobby AMO to create this fund for all municipalities.

Councillor Earle noted that any additional funds generated from this initiative will be forwarded to AMO.

Councillor Severson indicated that she is in support of the recommendation.

Councillor Noble noted that \$500 support adds to the weight of the plea to the province.

Moved by: Councillor Journal

WHEREAS the City of Brockville has been concerned about the financial impact of Provincial decisions on local taxpayers on matters outside City Hall's control; and

WHEREAS the situation reported by the City of Kawartha Lakes as outlined in the attached letter is a particularly egregious example of such Provincial actions; and

WHEREAS the City of Kawartha has made a compelling case as to the potential impact the Provincial practice could have on the City; and

WHEREAS it is better to deal with this collectively and proactively than when confronted with a local example;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the City of Brockville will contribute \$500 from the Fiscal Policy account to assist in the collective action to repeal this Provincial practice.

CARRIED

STAFF REPORTS

1. 2010-085-06
2010 Capping and Threshold Options

Moved by: Councillor Earle

THAT Council adopt the following measures for the 2010 tax year:

THAT the cost of mandatory capping for the multi-residential, commercial and industrial classes be revenue-neutral; self-financing within the property class; and

THAT the capping percentage for the multi-residential and commercial classes remain at 5% of the previous year's annualized taxes; and

THAT the capping percentage for the industrial class be set at 10% of the previous year's annualized taxes; and

THAT the threshold change option be continued at \$150 for multi-residential and commercial classes; and

THAT the industrial class threshold be returned to \$150; and

THAT when a property reaches full current value assessment it is removed from the capping/clawback system; and

THAT Council authorize the By-law to adopt the 2010 Capping Options for the Protected Property Classes [Attachment #1 to Report 2010-085-06].

CARRIED

2. 2010-090-06
2010 Tax Ratio Options

Moved by: Councillor Journal

That Council authorize the tax ratios for all classes as per the attached schedule for the 2010 tax year; and

That Council authorize the By-law to set the tax ratios for all classes for 2010 [Attachment #6 to Report 2010-090-06].

CARRIED

3. 2010-095-06
2010 Debt Capacity Limit

Councillor Fullarton requested that the City's financial commitment amount for the Maritime Discovery Centre be made clear and more specific.

Moved by: Councillor Earle

THAT the Debt Capacity Limit for 2010, as calculated and updated by the Treasurer be received.

CARRIED

4. 2010-100-06
Joint Compliance Audit Committee

Moved by: Councillor Journal

THAT the Clerk be directed to continue to work with neighbouring Municipal Clerks to establish a Joint Compliance Audit Committee as per the attached Terms of Reference, followed by recommendation for appointments.

CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items will be taken to the next meeting of Council by consent:

1. "Polluter Pays" Initiative
2. 2010-085-06 - 2010 Capping and Threshold Options
3. 2010-090-06 - 2010 Tax Ratio Options
4. 2010-095-06 - 2010 Debt Capacity Limit
5. 2010-100-06 - Joint Compliance Audit Committee

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Moved by: Councillor Journal

THAT pursuant to *Municipal Act*, 2001, Section 239 Sub (2) (e), the Committee resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole, In-Camera, closed to the public for the purpose of:

1. Litigation or potential litigation, including matter before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board.

CARRIED

The meeting moved into closed session at 4:40 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 5:15 p.m. and adjourned its proceedings at 5:16 p.m.