



City of Brockville Council Meeting

Thursday, February 24, 2011, 5:30 pm
City Hall, Council Chambers

Roll Call

Council Members:

Mayor D. Henderson
Councillor J. Baker
Councillor D. Beatty
Councillor L. Bursey
Councillor J. Earle
Councillor J. Fullarton
Councillor L.F. Journal
Councillor M. Kalivas
Councillor D. LeSueur
Councillor M.J. McFall

Staff:

Mr. B. Casselman, City Manager
Mr. C. Cosgrove, Director of Operations
Ms. D. Cyr, Director of Finance
Mr. P. Dunn, Arts Centre Administrator
Ms. D. Gordon, Financial Analyst – General
Mr. H. Jones, Fire Chief
Mr. E. Moore, Arena and Facilities Supervisor
Ms. L. Murray, Administrative Coordinator (Recording Secretary)
Ms. M. Pascoe-Merkley, Director of Planning
Mr. D. Paul, Director of Economic Development (6:00)
Mr. P. Raabe, Director of Environmental Services
Ms. S. Seale, City Clerk
Ms. L. White, Manager of Strategic Initiatives

The Mayor called the meeting to order (5:35 p.m.)

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Nil

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

MOTION TO MOVE INTO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Moved by: Councillor LeSueur
Seconded by: Councillor Baker

THAT we adjourn and meet as Committee of the Whole Council, with the Mayor in the Chair.

CARRIED

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Councillor Journal asked if staff could prepare a list of creative ways they feel the budget could be reduced. He reiterated that in previous years this tool has proved helpful in finding potential reductions.

↑ Action item – BC

Incremental Items – City Departments**Arenas – major maintenance of refrigeration compressors - \$20,000 ongoing**

Mr. Cosgrove offered a brief description of the above item. He explained that between the two rinks there are 5 such compressors. Mr. Cosgrove added that with regular maintenance these compressors will last for up to 40 years.

Arts Centre - full time position - \$ 33,835 ongoing

Mr. Dunn reviewed the job description for this position of Front of House Manager. He added that this job has actually been a contract position since 2008.

Part of Mr. Dunn's presentation spoke to comparable Art Centres and their staffing compliment compared to ours.

Councillor Journal would like to see the FTE's compared to the other theatres listed within his presentation.

↑ Action item – PD

Mayor Henderson would like the shows broken down by the theatre group which presents them.

↑ Action item – PD

Items 3, 4 and 5 had been presented at the February 17th, 2011 meeting.

Finance – Operating - Clerical Assistance - \$34,123 one-time

Ms. Cyr described this item for Council.

Planning Dept – Inspection Officer - \$49,842 ongoing

Ms. Pascoe-Merkley detailed the position for Council. She explained that filling of this position had been put on hold in 2009 until the economy picked up. She added there had been a proposal to hire a part time By-law Enforcement Officer to catch up with the property standard issues, which had never been filled. Her suggestion now is to forgo the By-law Enforcement position and instead hire of an Inspection Officer. The current workload requires 3 inspectors to ensure compliance with the Ontario Building code timelines for application review, inspections, etc.

Ms. Pascoe-Merkley continued by saying that development is improving and over the next few years the city will have several major projects happening.

Recessed the Budget meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Convened the public meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Public Meeting on Building Fee Increases

Mayor Henderson read the notice of Public Meeting.

In accordance with Section 7.0 of the Ontario Building Code Act, S.O. 1992, this public meeting is being held by Council prior to the passing of a by-law to impose or change fees respecting applications for issuance of building permits.

Notice of this public meeting was placed on the City of Brockville's website on February 3, 2011, provided via email to local builders on February 7th, 2011, and advertised in the Recorder and Times newspaper on February 10, 2011. A copy of the proposed fees was provided with the Notice to the local builders.

The Building Code Act establishes that the total amount of the fees authorized to be collected are not to exceed the anticipated reasonable costs to administer and enforce the act.

The proposed fees provide for partial recovery of costs associated with enforcement of the Ontario Building Code in this municipality.

No new fees have been introduced for 2011.

The effective date of the new rates and fees is proposed for April 1, 2011.

Mayor Henderson asked if there was anybody present from the public who:

Was in support – nobody present

Was opposed – nobody present

Had general comments – nobody present

The public meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Reconvened the Budget meeting (7:10 p.m.)

Public Works – elevate/deadwood removal trees on/or overhanging City - \$12,500 – ongoing

Mr. Cosgrove reviewed this item for Council.

Councillor Journal inquired about different strategies, for example budgeting more this year for a one time catch up, which would reduce the ongoing annual costs.

↑ Action item – CC

Councillor Earle wondered if there would be any opportunity to partner with Hydro One on this item.

↑ Action item – CC

Transportation Services – Summer student \$8,490 – ongoing

Mr. Cosgrove spoke to Council on this item.

User Fees

Council reviewed the User Fees by department as they were presented in the budget binder.

Animal Control

Councillor Journal wondered if there is any merit to licensing cats Ms. Seale replied that there is a report coming to Finance, Administration and Operation Committee in the next couple of months.

Parking

Councillor Earle felt that the monthly pass fee is too low; he estimated that it costs about 20 cents an hour to park downtown with a pass.

Councillor Fullarton defended the minimal rate increase reminding Council that we are trying to revitalize the downtown and many of the jobs downtown are paid minimum wage. By increasing the monthly passes it would add to the burden that they already encounter because they work downtown. In the north end regardless of the business very few employees would have to pay to park.

Brockville Police

Ms. Cyr will contact Tracy Caskenette at the Police Department regarding police user fees.

Councillor Journal would like to see if the police services board would consider upping the criminal record checks revenue another \$50,000.

Councillor Earle questioned staff on the percentage level of most user fee increases. He understood staff was directed to keep the increases lower than 2.5%, but most are up 5%. Why?

Councillor Kalivas wondered when they could expect Action Items we are waiting for.

↑ Action item – SS

MOTION TO RETURN TO COUNCIL

Moved by: Councillor Fullarton

THAT we revert from Committee of the Whole Council, to Council.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Moved by: Councillor Baker
Seconded by: Councillor LeSueur

THAT the report of the Committee of the Whole Council is adopted and that the necessary actions or by-laws be enacted.

CARRIED

CONFIRMATORY BYLAW FIRST AND SECOND READING

Moved by: Councillor Journal
Seconded by: Councillor Earle

THAT By-law Number 018-2011 to confirm the Proceedings of Council at its meeting held on February 24, 2011 be read and first and second time.

CARRIED

CONFIRMATORY BYLAW THIRD READING

Moved by: Councillor Journal
Seconded by: Councillor Earle

THAT By-law Number 018-2011 to confirm the Proceedings of Council at its meeting held on February 24, 2011 be now a read a third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation and be recorded.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor Journal
Seconded by: Councillor Earle

THAT Council adjourn its proceedings until the next meeting scheduled for March 8, 2011.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk