

Finance and Administration Committee

Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 4:15 p.m. City Hall - Council Chambers

Committee Members Areas of
Councillor J. Fullarton, Chair
Councillor J. Earle
Councillor L. Journal
Mayor D. Henderson,
Ex-Officio

Areas of
Finance
Clerk's C
Human F
Legal

Areas of Responsibility: Finance Clerk's Office Human Resources Legal

Joint Services Committee Safe Communities Coalition Volunteer Awards

AGENDA

Page

16-18

DELEGATION(S) AND PRESENTATION(S)

2-11

1. Eastern Ontario Regional Broadband Network

Mr. Jim Pine will make a presentation to the Committee. This item was referred to Committee from the Council meeting of November 24, 2009. Mr. Pine's presentation from November 24th is attached.

STAFF REPORTS

1. 2009-195-12 2010-2011 Municipal Insurance Renewal Program

This report will be distributed at the meeting.

12-15 2. 2009-197-12 Temporary Borrowing By-law

3. 2009-198-12

Tax Reductions and Cancellations

CONSENT AGENDA

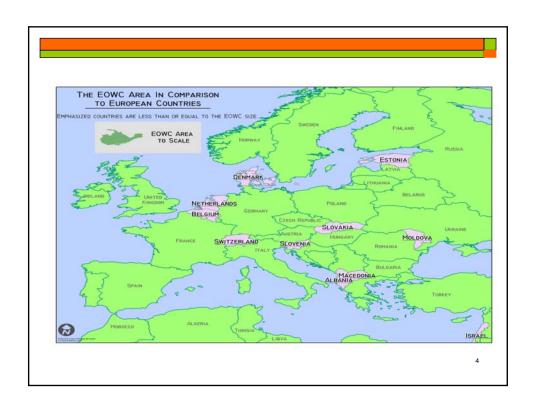


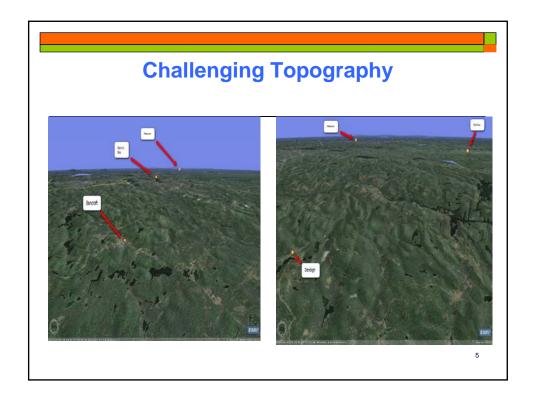
Presentation to: Brockville City Council November 24, 2009



The EOWC - Who We Are Area is larger than: -109 countries -9x PEI ->Vancouver Island -Equal to Nova Scotia -50,000 sq kms -Rugged Topography -Home 10 FN Representing 1,093,000 Citizens









"Further - Faster"

 January '09 - EOWC Inc. identifies broadband as its #1 regional economic development priority

Did You Know?

□ Did You Know Video.mp4

7



- □ March 24th and 25th in Kingston.
- Over 120 registrants from the four key sectors of government, education, health and business.







Bernard Lord

Key Note Speakers



Key message?

Get it done!

May 12 – BCF application Filed!

9

Announcement of Funding July 30,2009 (\$110 m)











EORN - What is it?

Network Superhighway with higher speeds, bandwidth and efficiency than currently exists

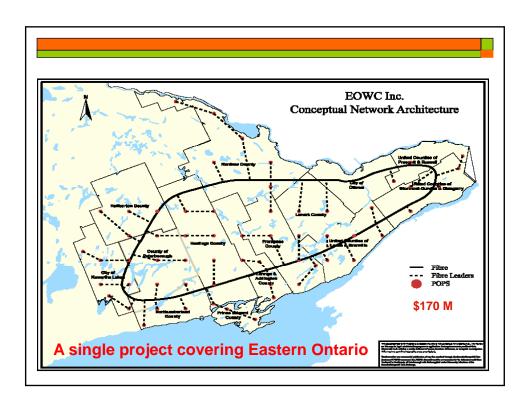
Rural Urban EORN







Large capacity network that will serve at least 95% of E. Ontario's population & business with 10Mbps



Page 7 of 18

Components of the Network



Fibre



GigE Switches



Access
Towers, radios,
and DSL



Satellite

13

What Does This Mean For Eastern Ontario

- The EORN Regional Broadband Project will greatly enhance the work already completed by Rural Connections.
- It will push fibre deeper into the region, produce higher speeds, improve backhaul transport capacities and extend access

What Does This Mean For Eastern Ontario

	Rural Connections	EORN Regional Broadband Project
Capacity	1.5 Mbps	10 Mbps (by 2013)
Coverage	75% of the geographical area	95% of the population
Funding	Up to 33.3% funding responsibility of municipality	Less than 6% funding responsibility of the 13 EOWC Municipalities

Higher speeds, more capacity and greater reach

15



Who Benefits?

- □ Thousands more people served
- Hundreds more businesses served
- Rural family health teams, schools/school boards
- □ ISPs grow their business (transport costs cut)
- □ Across the region greater capacity/speeds



Project Implementation

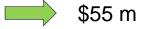
	2009	2010	2011	2012
RFP & Award	X			
Fibre	***************************************	Х		
Gig E Switches		X		
Satellite	Х	Х		
Access (DSL, Wireless, Etc.)			X	X

17

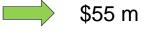


Sharing Formula

Canada



Ontario



□ Private Sector \$50 m

EOWC Inc.



\$10 m

Why should Brockville care?

- Positioned as a Learning Community & have a strong CLI score
- □ Positioned as regional center with a 100 km. radius
- Growth will be influenced by access to products & services beyond current municipal boundaries

19

Why should Brockville care?

- □ EORN will have Gigabit Ethernet Backhaul capacity
- EORN will have end user capacities of 10Mbps
- 25% of Brockville still does not access to high speed internet

November 24th, 2009

REPORT TO FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - DECEMBER 8, 2009

2009-197-12 TEMPORARY BORROWING BY-LAW FILE: CO1-07 D. CYR
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
L. FERGUSON
SUPERVISOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council hereby authorizes the passing of a Temporary By-Law providing for the Mayor and the Treasurer to borrow temporary working capital, as may be required for the Current Fund Operations, of up to \$5,000,000 for the year 2010 [Attachment # 1 to Report 2009-197-12].

PURPOSE

This temporary by-law gives the Mayor and Treasurer the ability to borrow funds for current operations if required.

BACKGROUND

Municipalities are required annually to pass a temporary borrowing by-law for funds it deems it may require to accommodate operating expenditures until taxes are levied. The City of Brockville levies their taxes in two installments – currently the interim bill is due in March and the second final bill is due in late August.

This by-law authorizes both external borrowing from a financial institution and internal borrowing from our reserve fund accounts. Internal borrowing rates are based between the prime bank rate and the current investment rate. In this way, both the reserve funds and the current funds investments / borrowing are optimized.

ANALYSIS

Borrowing requirements are dependent upon spending requirements, debt repayment and the collection of taxes. Historically the City has not found it necessary to exercise the use of this by-law. It is necessary that a sufficient borrowing limit be established with the bank in order to make available a draw should it be needed.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations at this time as there is no immediate requirement for borrowing.

CONCLUSION

This by-law is a contingency plan allowing the City to be prepared in the event of a short-fall in funds between tax billing due dates.

L. Ferguson, Supervisor of Accounting Services

D. Cyr, Director of Finance

B. Casselman, City Manager

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BROCKVILLE

By-Law Number XX-2009

By-Law to Authorize the Temporary Borrowing of \$5,000,000 as may be required

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Brockville deems it necessary to borrow the sum of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) to meet current expenditures of the Corporation for the year 2010;

AND WHEREAS the total amount of the estimated revenue of the Corporation as set forth in the estimates adopted for the year 2009, not including revenue derivable or derived from a surplus, borrowing or issuance of debentures or a transfer from capital fund, reserve fund or reserves is Thirty Eight Million, Two Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty-Six Dollars (\$38,224,586);

AND WHEREAS the total amount that may be borrowed under the provisions of subsection 407 (2) of the *Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c.25* is based upon the estimated revenue adopted for the year 2009 less any similar borrowing that has not been repaid;

THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BROCKVILLE ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- The Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized on behalf of the Corporation to borrow from time to time, by way of promissory note from any chartered bank, City Reserve Funds or public issue, a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) to meet the current expenditures of the Corporation for the year, including the amounts required for the purposes mentioned in the *Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c.25 Section 407* and to give on behalf of the Corporation, to the Bank a promissory note or notes, sealed and signed by them for the monies so borrowed with interest at a rate not exceeding the prime lending rate for municipalities, which may be paid in advance or otherwise.
- 2. All sums borrowed from the said bank, for any or all of the purposes mentioned in said Section 407 Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c.25, shall with interest thereon, be a charge upon the whole of the revenues of the Corporation for the current year and for all preceding years, as and when such revenues are received.

Page 14 of 18

3. The Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to apply payment of all sums borrowed pursuant to the authority of this By-Law, as well as all other sums borrowed in this year and any previous years, from the said Bank or City Reserve Funds of any or all of the purposes mentioned in the said Section all of the monies hereafter collected or received on account or realized in respect of the taxes levied for the current year and preceding years and all of the monies collected or received from any other source, which may lawfully be applied for such purposes.

GIVEN UNDER THE SEAL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BROCKVILLE AND PASSED THIS 15th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2009

MAYOR		CLERK	
:8	*		

REPORT TO FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - December 8, 2009

2009-198-12 TAX REDUCTIONS AND CANCELLATIONS FILE:F23-01 D. CYR
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
L. FERGUSON
SUPERVISOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES
M. MCDONALD
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST
D. SMITH
TAX COLLECTOR

RECOMMENDED

THAT Council authorizes the cancellation, reduction or refund of taxes pursuant to provisions of the Municipal Act, 2001 in the amount of \$37,151.68 and charge the municipal portion of \$19,233.70 to Tax Write off Account 9200-0060-2041.

PURPOSE

To adjust taxes and penalties as approved under Section 357, 358 and 359 of the Municipal Act.

BACKGROUND

The municipality levies and collects taxes for the municipality, school boards and the downtown board of management (DBIA). Taxes are calculated based on the assessed value of the property, as determined by MPAC. The assessed values are delivered annually to the municipality in the assessment rolls. These rolls are available to be reviewed by the public in the Revenue Office.

A property owner may initiate an assessment appeal through the City by submitting an application to the Revenue office by no later than February 28th of the year following the current levy. The application must detail the reason for the appeal. The criteria for appeal are set out in Section 357 of the Municipal Act. Reasons for the appeals may include: building demolished, razed or damaged by fire, property became exempt or property classification change due to a change in usage.

The applications are reviewed by the Tax Collector and then forwarded to MPAC for approval and assessment evaluation. Once returned to the Revenue Office the taxes are recalculated based on the revised assessment.

A "Notice of Hearing" must be sent to the applicant by the municipality 14 days before the date of the hearing. The notices of hearing were mailed December 1, 2009 to comply with a hearing (Council) date of December 15, 2009. Taxpayers may attend the Council meeting to explain their appeal. If they are in agreement with the recommendation it is not necessary for them to attend. Should the applicant wish to appear, they must contact the City Clerk in writing no later than December 9, 2009. There are seldom appearances by the applicant.

Once the decision is made by Council, a "Notice of Decision" must be mailed to the applicant within 14 days of the decision. This notice shall state the decision and the fact that the decision may be appealed within 35 days to the Assessment Review Board.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

It is the City of Brockville's policy that these types of tax write offs are brought before Council at an annual public hearing for approval.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The taxes that are adjusted under Section 357 of the Municipal Act (see Attachment #1 to Report # 2009-198-12), will be written off to the appropriate tax body (municipal, school board or DBIA) as follows:

Municipal	\$ 19,233.70
School Boards	17,917.98
DBIA	-0-
	\$ 37,151.68

The total of all municipal tax write offs, which includes Section 357 adjustments as well as MPAC / ARB decisions are as follows for 2009:

Budgeted Municipal Write Offs	\$ 280,000
Actual Write Offs to date including this report	<u>177,230</u>

Variance \$ 102,770

D. Smith

Tax Collector

L. Ferguson

Supervisor of Accounting Services

M. McDonald

Financial Administrative Analyst

D. Cyr

Director of Finance

B. Casselman City Manager

TAX WRITE OFF'S AS AUTHORIZED BY THE MUNICIPAL ACT (Section 357)

Application Tax Acct	Tax Acct	Person	Property					Tax Adjustment	stment		
#	#	Assessed	Location	Details for Reductions/Cancellation	Effective Date	M	Municipal	School	DBIA	Total	1
2008-9	18011	Calloway Reit (Brockville) Inc	2089 Parkedale	building demolished	Aug 18 to Dec 31 2008 -\$ 1,618.18 -\$ 1,345.39	\$,618.18 -\$	1,345.39	ु	-\$ 2,963.57	7.
2008-6	107080	Community Involvement	1100 Millwood Ave #202	became exempt	Nov 1 to Dec 31 2007	s,	202.72 -\$	40.60	4	243.32	Z
	107080	Community Involvement	1100 Millwood Ave #202	became exempt	Jan 1 to Dec 31 2008	ر ه	1,251.52 -\$	242.89	\$	1,494.41	Ξ
2008-15	28870	2050247 Ontario Ltd	10 Central ave W	damaged due to fire	Apr 18 to July 30 2008	this v	vas covered	by a vacano	this was covered by a vacancy rebate application	ion	
		Gordon & Marie Hall	59 Aldershot Ave	removed inground pool	Sept 1 to Dec 31 2008	MPA	C advised the	ne pool was r	MPAC advised the pool was never assessed		
		Ngo Thao Van	37 Central Ave W	ceased home occupation	Nov 15 to Dec 31 2006	÷	3.30 -\$	3.30 -\$ 5.21	4	8.51	7.
		Hawthorne Trudy	960 Stewart Blvd	changed from commercial to residential	Jan 1 to Dec 31 2008	÷-	,452.95 -\$	1,452.95 -\$ 2,031.70	\$?	3,484.65	35
		6865852 Canada Inc	550 King St W	buildings demolished	Feb 1 to Dec 31 2008	- \$ -	7,306.85 -\$	7,052.77	47	14,359.62	Ŋ
	40676	6865852 Canada Inc	550 King St W	buildings demolished	Jan 1 to Dec 31 2009	<u>۷</u>	7,284.14 -\$	7,141.41	4	-\$ 14,425.55	Š
	39017	Walther H	33 Edward St	building demolished	Nov 8 to Dec 31 2007	÷	87.78	17.58	4	105.36	ဖွ
	31542	Ngo Thao Van	37 Central Ave W	ceased home occupation	Jan 1 to Dec 31 2007	÷	26.26 -\$	40.43	\$7	69.99	6

Note: OPTA post capping calculation may still be pending on some accounts.

-\$ 37,151.68

-\$ 19,233.70 -\$ 17,917.98

12/1/2009Y:\Treasury\LMurray\Exce\\Taxes\357 tax reduction for 2009