

**City of Port Colborne
Special Committee of the Whole Meeting 03-19
Minutes**

- Date:** January 23, 2019
- Time:** 5:30 p.m.
- Place:** Council Chambers, Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne
- Members Present:** M. Bagu, Councillor
E. Beauregard, Councillor
G. Bruno, Councillor
F. Danch, Councillor
A. Desmarais, Councillor
D. Kalailieff, Councillor
W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)
H. Wells, Councillor
- Absent: R. Bodner, Councillor
- Staff Present:** M. Audit, Parks Supervisor
D. Aquilina, Director of Planning and Development
T. Cartwright, Fire Chief
S. Corr, Manager of Revenue & Taxation
R. Daniel, Manager of Operations
J. Douglas-Kameka, Economic Development Officer
A. Grigg, Director of Community and Economic Development
N. Halasz, Manager of Parks & Recreation
S. Hanson, Manager of By-law Services
J. Huppunen, Manager of Engineering
A. LaPointe, Manager of Legislative Services/City Clerk
C. Lee, Director of Engineering & Operations
M. Minor, Marina Supervisor
L. Nelson, Recording Clerk
S. Powell Baswick, Director/Curator, Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum
T. Rogers, Chief Building Official
P. Senese, Director of Corporate Services
S. Shypowskyj, Manager of Project and Design
S. Therrien, Director of Library Services

Also in attendance were interested citizens, members of the news media and WeeStream.

1. **Call to Order:**

Mayor Steele called the meeting to order.

2. **Introduction of Addendum Items:**

Nil.

3. **Confirmation of Agenda:**

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That the agenda dated January 23, 2019 be confirmed, as circulated.
CARRIED.

4. **Disclosures of Interest:**

Nil.

5. **Presentation:**

(a) **Continuation of 2019 Draft Budget Deliberations
Peter Senese, Director of Corporate Services**

The Director of Corporate Services reviewed an Agenda to be followed for budget deliberations, as attached.

The Director of Corporate Services provided a summary of the meeting of January 21, 2019 with a proposed tax levy increase of 4.76%, which includes a 1.50% capital levy budget increase and a 0.67% increase for the Operations Centre Debt. The Director provided a brief summary of the changes from the 2018 budget, with no further inquiries or changes to the base budget.

The Director reviewed the 2019 Operating Levy Summary with a 3.68% administration budget levy increase and with the storm sewer budget reduction applied; the base levy is 2.59%. The presented base tax levy with a 1.50% capital levy budget increase and a 0.67% increase for the Operations Centre Debt amounts to a 4.76% levy increase.

The Director proceeded to address the following items:

Storm Sewer Utility Budget

Moved by Councillor H. Wells
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That a Storm Sewer Utility Budget be established and the amount of \$185,425 for storm operations be removed from the levy to be funded through the Storm Sewer Utility budget.

CARRIED.

Review of Capital Levy Increase

In consensus, Council agree to review the following motion at the February 4th, 2019 Budget Meeting:

That the Capital Levy increase be \$257,000 or 1.50%.

Review of Operations Centre Debt

The Director reviewed the estimated tax impact on an average residential property and its comparison with a reduction in tax levy by funding the Operations Centre debt from the matured Fire Hall debt in 2019

Moved by Councillor H. Wells
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the Operations Centre debt be funded by the Fire Hall matured debt for \$114,094 and reducing the tax levy.

CARRIED.

Review of Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) and Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

The Director reviewed the OMPF and OCIF funding (funds are subject to Provincial allocation to the City) and their allocation within the budget and projects.

Review of 2019 Groups, Programs and Services:

Upon review of the budgeted allocations for Groups, Programs and Services. The following direction was provided:

That the Community Grant be funded from the tax levy and \$10,000 be phased in to be added to the tax levy in 2019 to top up the \$19,000 interest on the Grant Investment until the investment matures in December 2020.

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That funding for Community Grants of \$30,000 be funded out of the levy, with \$10,000 in 2019, \$10,000 in 2020 and \$10,000 in 2021 with the top up in each year from the investment interest earned from the previous year.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That the Feral Cat Program \$5,000 be removed from the levy and the group be referred to the Grant Committee with an extension to apply.
CARRIED.

Review of 2019 Unfinanced Staff Requests:

Council agreed to move on to the 2019 Budget Worksheet Summary to review any additional staff requests, which may affect the levy. Council reviewed and considered the following items:

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) – Community Safety

In consensus, Council agree to review the following motion at the February 4th, 2019 Budget Meeting:

That the CAO request for \$85,000 for Community Safety be deferred to the next budget meeting.

Corporate Services – Clerks Division – Records Management Annual Licence Fee

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Corporate Services, Clerks Division request for costs of \$10,000 be applied to the levy.

Corporate Services – Clerks Division – Summer Student

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Corporate Services, Clerks Division request for a summer student for \$9,500 be applied to the levy.

Corporate Services – Clerks Division - Customer Service Part Time Staffing

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Corporate Services, Clerks Division request for Customer Service part time staffing for \$34,000 be applied to the levy.

Operations – Stone Repairs on Roads and Shoulders

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Operations Division request for \$5,000 for shoulder and stone road repairs in rural areas be applied to the levy.

Parks and Recreation – Canal Days Volunteer Incentive Program

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Community and Economic Development request for \$3,500 for the Canal Days Volunteer incentive program be applied to the levy.

Parks and Recreation – Canal Days High Level Entertainment

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Community and Economic Development request for \$50,000 for Canal Days be deferred to the next budget meeting.

Staff Direction:

That the Director of Community and Economic Development be directed to report back more details regarding Canal Days high level entertainment costs.

Parks and Recreation – New Fishing Tournaments

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Community and Economic Development request for \$25,000 for new fishing tournaments be applied to the levy.

Economic Development – Niagara Development Corridor Partnership

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the request for \$2,500 for an increase in membership fees be applied to the levy.

Economic Development –BESS Office at Roselawn

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the request for \$15,500 for a BESS Office at Roselawn for business development consultants be applied to the levy.

Museum – Receptionist Increased 180 Hours

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the request for \$3,101 for 180 additional hours be applied to the levy.

Museum – Administrative Assistant – 95 Hours

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the request for \$1,636 for 95 additional hours be applied to the levy.

Library – Additional 100 Part Time Hours

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the request for \$2,172 for 100 additional hours be applied to the levy.

Building/By-law Division – Administrative Intake Clerk

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Building/By-law Division request for \$27,084 for an Administrative Intake Clerk be applied to the levy.

Building/By-law Division – Inspections Officer

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Building/By-law Division request for \$38,998 for an Inspections Officer be applied to the levy.

Physician Recruitment – Future Recruitment

In consensus, Council agreed to the following funding:

That the Physician Recruitment request for \$16,175 be applied to the levy.

Councillor Conferences – Increase Allowance

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That the conferences budget for Councillors be increased to \$25,000 and that \$16,107 be applied to the levy.

CARRIED.

Council discussed the new Federal tax ruling and the 1/3 tax exemption affecting Council remuneration. Consensus of Councillors was for remuneration to provide the same net wages.

The Director informed Council that the levy increase with the above additions is 5.42% with a City tax increase of 4.69% or \$73 to the average residential property.

6. Adjournment:

Moved by Councillor F. Danch
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That the Council meeting be adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.
CARRIED.

PS/me



PORT COLBORNE

AGENDA

General Operating Budget

1/ Base Budget review (pages 9 to 35)

2/ Levy Summary review (page 2)

3/ **Council approval**-establish Storm Sewer Utility Budget and remove storm operations from general tax levy-\$185,425

4/ **Council approval**-capital levy increase-\$257,000

5/ Estimated Ave residential property tax (page 6)

6/ **Council approval**-fund OPS Centre debt from Fire Hall matured debt-\$114,094-reducing tax levy (page 6A)

7/ **Council approval**-funding allocations of OMPF and OCIF (OMPf funds subject to Provincial allocation to the City) (pages 7 & 8)

8/ Grant Programs/Groups/Services review (page 36)

9/ Unfinanced Staff requests – **Council Decisions** (pages 3 & 4)

10/ Review of Operating tax levy increase and average residential property tax

Council Approval of Operating Budget (subject to OMPF funding and any tax room created from the Region and Education tax rates)

Capital Budget

- 1/ Capital Budget requests – **Council Decisions** (pages 37 to 39)
- 2/ Fire Dept Equipment replacement-**Council approval** (page 39A)
- 3/ Review of Reserves transfers-**Council approval** (page 41)
- 4/ Repurpose Main St CIP matured debt to fund the Vale Health & Wellness Centre debt in 2020 to 2023 – **Council approval** (subject to extension agreement with Vale)

Council Approval of Capital Budget

Storm Sewer Budget

- 1/ Review of Storm Sewer Fees-**Council approval** (page 49)
- 2/ Review Storm Sewer Capital funding-**Council approval** (page 50)
(subject to annual approval of Storm Sewer budget)

Business Improvement Areas Budgets

- 1/ Main St. BIA (page 303)
- 2/ Downtown BIA (page 303A)

Council Approval of BIA Budgets