

**City of Port Colborne
Special Committee of the Whole Meeting 05-19
Minutes**

Date: February 4, 2019

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Council Chambers, Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Members Present: M. Bagu, Councillor
E. Beauregard, Councillor
R. Bodner, Councillor
G. Bruno, Councillor
F. Danch, Councillor
A. Desmarais, Councillor
W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)

D, Kalailieff, Councillor (absent)
H. Wells, Councillor (absent)

Staff Present: 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 R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the agenda dated February 4, 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 provided a summary of the meeting of January 23, 2019 with a proposed tax levy increase of 5.42% with a City tax increase of 4.69% or \$73 to the average residential property. The Director informed Council that the Regional Municipality of Niagara and Education tax rates are still pending. It was recommended to wait until the next budget meeting to finalize the operating budget.

The Director proceeded to address the following items:

Capital Budget Levy and Projects

Council reviewed the capital projects funded from the capital budget levy, including the addition of \$257,000 to the capital levy.

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

That Council approve the capital projects and capital levy.
CARRIED.

Fire Department Equipment Replacement

Moved by Councillor M. Bagu
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That Council approve the repurposing of the remaining matured Fire Hall debt for \$192,336 for 2019 and 2020 and the matured Marina debt for \$73,268 for 2019 recommended to fund replacement of the Fire Department Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (S.C.B.A) equipment valued at \$450,000 for the 2020 fiscal year; and

That Council approve the replacement of Fire Engine No.2 in 2021/2022 to be funded through a new debenture with the debenture payments financed by City Hall and Fire Vehicle matured debt in 2021 and 2022, respectively.
CARRIED.

Review of Reserves Transfers

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That Council approve the reserves transfers; and

That the \$60,000 in lease revenue from P&H (formerly Goderich) be transferred to the Goderich capital reserve over the next 4 years and added to the levy.

CARRIED.

Repurpose Main St CIP Matured Debt to Fund the Vale Health & Wellness Centre Debt in 2020 to 2030

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That Council approve the repurposing of the Main St. CIP matured debt to fund the remaining Vale Health & Wellness Centre debt in 2020 to 2023
CARRIED.

Review of Storm Sewer Fees

Moved by Councillor F. Danch
Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That Council approve the Storm Sewer fees for the urban area; and Council requested staff to investigate roadside ditching and estimates of costs to each resident on a fee basis for 2020.
CARRIED.

Review of Storm Sewer Capital Funding

Moved by Councillor F. Danch
Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That Council approve the Storm Sewer budget and capital funding
CARRIED.

Main Street BIA and Downtown BIA

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor M. Bagu

That Council approve the Main St. and downtown BIA's 2019 budgets
CARRIED.

The Director informed Council that the Niagara Central Airport Commission budget was received and the amount required has increased by \$9,282. As the City receives interest revenue from loans to the Airport in the amount of \$3,013, the net amount of \$6,269 is added to the tax levy.

The CAO provided an update on the proposed funding of \$85,000 for the Community Safety Initiative in response to vandalism in the Community. Council agreed that any funds should be one time and not part of the tax levy. Any initiatives from the committee are to be reported to Council for approval and funding would be provided through reserves and later replenished.

Council was provided a memo from the Director of Community and Economic Development regarding the Canal Days increased funding of \$50,000. This memo is attached. Council discussed the Canal Days initiatives and deferred this issue to the next budget meeting.

The Director of Corporate Services provided an update with the Airport Commission increase added to the tax levy to be 5.45% with a City tax increase of 4.70% or \$74 to the average residential property.

6. Adjournment:

Moved by Councillor F. Danch
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the Council meeting be adjourned at approximately 8:53 p.m.
CARRIED.

Community & Economic Development Department

905-835-2900

TO: Peter Senese, Director of Corporate Services

CC: Nicole Halasz, Manager of Parks and Recreation

FROM: Ashley Grigg, Director of Community and Economic Development

DATE: January 31, 2019

RE: Budget Deliberations - Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival

Purpose:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide further information regarding the request to allocate an additional \$50,000 to the Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival budget. The initial intention of the request was to increase the talent procurement budget by \$50,000 in order to secure high-level entertainment for the 2019 Canal Days Festival. Staff brought this request forward after several Councillors indicated they would support a request for additional funding in light of the record number of attendees reached during last year's concert series (as outlined below).

Background - 2018 Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival:

In 2018, Council allocated an additional \$40,000 towards the Festival (as it was the celebration of the fortieth annual Canal Days Festival). The allocation of additional funds allowed the City to secure Blue Rodeo as the headlining concert entertainer. Attendance records for the 2018 Festival indicate H.H. Knoll Lakeview Parks was very close to reaching maximum capacity (9,768 people were confirmed to be in attendance) during the Blue Rodeo performance on the Saturday evening (the Park is licenced to host a maximum of 10,000 people). The following chart provides a brief summary of concert attendance records and bar revenue sales in the park for 2018.

Summary of 2018 Attendance and Revenue (H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park)		
Day	Attendance	Revenue
Friday	7,352	\$61,894.09
Saturday	9,768	\$81,109.35
Monday	1,525	\$11,528.28

A variety of factors can influence attendance numbers (i.e. favourable weather conditions, new concert venue, fortieth annual celebration, etc.); however, a portion of the increased attendance levels may also be attributed to the popularity and appeal of the headlining entertainment.

Deliberations of the Canal Days Advisory Committee:

As noted at the January 23, 2019 Budget Meeting, the Canal Days Advisory Committee, the next meeting of which will be held on February 7, 2019, has identified the need to review the Festival's revenues and expenses. As event planning for 2019 is currently underway, the Committee will undertake this process at a future meeting.

In addition to the above, the Committee has expressed a desire to explore the potential introduction of new elements to the Festival designed to enlarge the variety and type of vendors and events available and boost the Festival overall. The Committee has not yet deliberated on the details of these initiatives, however will do so at a future meeting.

Conclusion:

At present, there are no funds allocated within the existing budget to support new Festival initiatives. In light of the above, Council may determine to allocate the funding requested above towards supporting the development and implementation of new Festival initiatives. In this case, the additional funds would be earmarked for new and/or enhanced festival initiatives only (such as the introduction of new and/or expanded event programming, enhancements to the existing vendors market, procurement of an additional tall ship, enhanced entertainment, etc.).

Sincerely,

Ashley Grigg
Director of Community and
Economic Development