



## **The Corporation of the City of Stratford Finance and Labour Relations Committee MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Committee Present: Councillor Clifford - Chair Presiding, Councillor Gaffney - Vice Chair, Mayor Mathieson, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Bunting, Councillor Burbach, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Ritsma, Councillor Sebben, Councillor Vassilakos

Regrets: Councillor Ingram

Staff Present: Rob Horne - Chief Administrative Officer, Ed Dujlovic - Director of Infrastructure and Development Services, Michael Humble - Director of Corporate Services, Jacqueline Mockler - Director of Human Resources, David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, Carole Desmeules - Director of Social Services, John Paradis - Fire Chief, Joan Thomson - City Clerk, Tatiana Dafoe - Deputy Clerk, Victoria Trotter, Mike Beitz - Corporate Communications Lead

Also Present: Media, Julia Merrit - Library CEO, Naeem Khan - Manager of IT and Business Systems

### **1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Councillor Ingram provided regrets for this Committee meeting.

## 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

### Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

None declared at the January 15, 2019 Committee meeting.

## 3. Unfinished Items From Previous Meeting

**Committee Discussion:** A discussion took place about the staffing requests and trying to keep the tax increase under 3%.

## 4. 2019 Budget Deliberations

### 4.1 2019 Draft Capital Budget

Refer to Capital Section in Budget Binder - starting at page 178.

**Committee Discussion:** The Director of Corporate Services advised there are 109 capital projects on the list and all are funded in the 2019 budget, subject to any additional requests from Council.

There was discussion regarding the computer requests, network enhancements, human resources, police request for replacement vehicles, website enhancement, analytics, records management project, the parking vehicle, parking, the Erie Street parking lot and the Wayfinding project under way. Staff were requested to consider energy efficient vehicles.

\*Councillor Burbach now present [5:16 pm].

A discussion took place regarding the generator request at the Airport and when power outages occur. It was clarified that the generator would power the terminal and the runway lights.

The Fire Chief outlined the need for the washroom renovations at the Station.

In response to a question if the entire pool liner needs to be replaced in order to open the Lion's Pool, the Director of Community Services advised that if the liner is not repaired, staff will need to do daily repairs and maintenance on the pool before opening.

In response to a question about basketball courts at Anne Hathaway Park, the Director advised that this is not included in the 2019 budget. This would be a new rec facility and the Department would like to deal with existing facilities first.

A discussion took place regarding the playground equipment replacement at Shakespeare Park and users of the Park. The Director advised that the City has decommissioned a couple of playgrounds due to conditions. Parkettes have value too just like Destination parks.

Break at 5:56 pm and the meeting resumed at 6:25 pm.

A discussion took place regarding the vehicle replacements listed.

A request was made to have a heat source under the City Hall front stairs so that work on the stairs is not required as much each year.

A discussion took place regarding the security system for housing. Concern was expressed that the entire cost is shown in the budget for the City, but should include funding source from Shared Services.

A discussion took place regarding long life roofs on housing units. In response the Director of Social Services stated that analysis done during previous repairs shows that some roofs can be replaced with steel and in other cases depending where the life stage cycle is, a standard roof repair is recommended by the project engineer.

In response to a question about the sewer relining project and keeping up with the amount required, the Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised that even with this system, the City is not keeping up with sewer repairs. A discussion took place regarding the storm sewer user fee considered several years ago.

The Director advised that there is a provincial requirement to do bridge appraisals every two years.

In response to a question about the downtown traffic study need, the Director advised it does not need to be done in 2019; however, the

Department is trying to look at the entire downtown traffic and not piecemeal.

Motion by Councillor Sebben and Councillor Gaffney

That Project 89 Traffic Study - Downtown areas be deferred to the 2020 Budget. **Defeated**

The Director advised there is a requirement to do a Water and Wastewater Rate Study every 5 years as part of the City's licence for the water system from the Province.

In response to the Crane Avenue Reconstruction Project 109, it is 100% cost recovery through land sales.

In closing, the CAO stated that the 2020 to 2028 Capital Forecast is realistic and thanked CLT for their work on the Forecast. He advised that CLT is concerned with the capital projects achievable in a year and that it is a strain on current resources and staff. They also expressed concern over what can be achieved year over year.

A request was made for the Lorne and Downie intersection to be done this year. A discussion took place regarding the traffic complaints received.

Motion by Councillor Sebben and Councillor Ritsma

That the airport generator be deferred to the 2020 budget. **Defeated**

A discussion took place regarding residents wanting more services and not keeping ahead with budget increases solely on the cost of living increase. The Director of Corporate Services stated that the infrastructure levy is \$1.5 million per year and has no impact on the budget this year. Staff are unable to increase this levy this year to fund more capital projects due to constraints.

Councillor Clifford stated that council may be able to bring the levy down in 2020 and 2021, but would require a cut in service levels to bring the levy this year down to the cost of living.

**Motion by** Councillor Henderson

**Seconded By** Councillor Ritsma

**THAT staff bring a report regarding the Lorne and Downie left turn lane intersection project being moved forward to the 2020 budget from the 2022 budget, the implications of moving this**

**project forward, and what capital projects will be re-allocated to later budgets as a result.**

**Carried**

#### **4.2 2019 Draft Operating Budget**

Refer to Operating Section in Budget Binder - starting at page 1.

**Committee Discussion:** Operating to be considered at the January 22, 2019 Committee meeting.

### **5. Adjournment**

**Motion by** Councillor Ritsma

**Seconded By** Councillor Burbach

**Committee Decision: THAT the Finance and Labour Relations Committee meeting adjourn.**

**Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 5:03 pm

Meeting End Time: 8:11 pm