

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held at the Municipal Office

On Wednesday, February 10, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Roger Shott
Councillor Bev Dale
Councillor James Jeffery
Councillor Maureen Schmidt
Councillor Beverly Mercer
Clerk Delma Stajkowski

ABSENT: Mayor Steven Harasen
Councillor Dawne Kilgour

Acting Mayor Mercer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

There were no disclosures at this time.

RESOLUTIONS:

Declaring this a Special Meeting of Council to review the 2010 Budget

Res. No. 47-02-2010

Moved by: Maureen Schmidt

Seconded by: Roger Shott

THAT this be declared a Special Meeting of Council to review the 2010 Budget.

CARRIED

DISCUSSIONS:

2010 Budget.

Discussion ensued regarding the 2010 budget.

The Treasurer went over the narrative that he had provided and a synopsis of the 5 year plan.

The Clerk was directed to contact the Environmental Advisory Committee to inquire whether or not they wished to have budget expenditures included.

Councillor Dale noted that the Cemetery Board has been looking at various upgrading activities for the Cloud Bay Cemetery and were requesting \$1,000 be placed in reserves for future enhancements.

The Clerk advised that the expense for elections would run around \$15,000 and not the \$4,500 as shown, these would then be offset by the funds previously budgeted in prior years.

A lengthy discussion surrounding reserves and reserve funds ensued.

2010 Budget Discussions: con't

The Policing cost was the actual expenditure that had been submitted to the Municipality by the OPP, no rebates or charge-backs were factored in.

Council reviewed the merits of hiring an additional seasonal worker for Public Works; however no decisions were made.

Other items discussed at length were bridge decking and the E. Oliver Lake Road culverts.

A request was to be made of the Operations Manager to provide Council with the following: a comparison of hauling the winter sand by municipal staff or contracting it out; to review the amount as set out in the Recycling budget (\$10,000), and determine whether it was due to more activity or higher costs. The Treasurer was directed to provide Council with information on how the Stewardship Ontario grant compares to the expenditures for recycling and provide a report on whether or not recycling is close to being revenue neutral. The Operations Manager is to supply a cost analysis of maintaining the three (3) bear proof containers.

Council also requested that a breakdown of revenues versus expenses be made available for the Blake Hall. It was noted that this would not necessarily be revenue neutral as the Board was trying to make the hall available at affordable rates.

The Clerk was directed to proceed with the assessment of the air and environment quality for the Administration building.

Councillor Shott noted he could not support the reconfiguration of the Office at this time.

The \$3,000 for Office capital equipment was designated for a new postage meter as the lease will expire on the current equipment this year.

Council noted that the used truck for the Public Works fleet (\$75,000) had already been purchased; had some additional repairs done to it and was now in service.

As one (1) of the garage furnaces requires replacement brief discussions ensued regarding geothermal heat versus other types of heat.

Council concurred that the repairs to the V-plow were not warranted at this time as it was an extravagant cost and the plow was not practical for our road system. Council also felt that the clam for the excavator was not an item that they wished to entertain at this time either; the thumb on the machine should be sufficient for the type of work that Public Works undertakes.

Councillor Shott requested, once again, that the Operations Manager ensure that the Environmental Assessment and all other necessary assessments/permits be completed prior to the tender for the Pine River bridge being advertised.

2010 Budget Discussions: con't

More information was being requested on the East Oliver Lake culverts-is it necessary to do the work this year, can it be put off, why was it moved so far down the list?

Deputy Fire Chief Ashbee updated Council on R109 which requires replacement shortly. He stated that the Department was starting to address this now so they could act on another unit when the time came or one became available. The Fire Chief added that the Department may be looking at a used ambulance that could be refurbished and converted for their purposes.

T104 would require a tank replacement in the next year or two.

After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Capital budget for "Repeaters" should be increased by \$1,000.

Fire Chief Douglas advised that a ram and stabilizer, to complement the Jaws of Life, was included on their capital budget; however, they would not make the purchase until the appropriate one became available. The unit has to be compatible with the Amkus equipment that the Department currently utilizes.

Following a short discussion, the Fire Chief stated they would review the Department's health & safety needs and prepare a budget item for the Treasurer to include.

Lengthy discussions revolved around the part-time seasonal person and the need for one or two. Brushing of road-sides was reviewed with the spotlight on safety, and the hazards at intersections if the task was not performed. Councillor Schmidt advised that brushing provided additional benefits than just safety, it also served to save our roads from becoming grown in and because the side of the road is free of trees and brush, the road bed dries up faster following the winter period or at times of extreme rains.

The Treasurer proceeded to review Appendices A through E with Council going over the finer details he had outlined.

Discussions ensued regarding tax rates, tax revenue and tax assessments.

Council concurred that they have to focus on the residents and what they require.

CONCLUDING REPORTS:

The Clerk advised that the meeting with Mr. Bill Mauro scheduled for February 15th at 6:00 p.m. had been postponed until March 15th at the same time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Res. No. 48-02-2010

Moved by: James Jeffery
Seconded by: B. A. Dale

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the time being 7:53 p.m., this Special Meeting of Council is hereby adjourned.

CARRIED

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

ACTING MAYOR
Beverly Mercer

Clerk
Delma Stajkowski, AMCT