

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HURON SHORES
May 30th, 2018 (18-15)

The special meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Huron Shores was held on Wednesday, May 30th, 2018, and called to order by Mayor Gil Reeves at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Gil Reeves, Councillors Jane Armstrong, Gord Campbell, Nancy Jones-Scissons, Debora Kirby, Blair MacKinnon, Leo Persia, and Dale Wedgwood.

REGRETS: Darlene Walsh

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Administrator Deborah Tonelli; Treasurer Sandra Leach; Assistant Treasurer Kevin Philipow.

AGENDA REVIEW

Mayor Reeves asked to apprise Council of correspondence from Negotiator Mark Richard, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. Council concurred.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Mayor Reeves advised Council that Negotiator Mark Richard has confirmed his availability to attend a Meeting of Council on June 20, 2018. This will require that the planned purpose of the special meeting to be held that evening, to review the size of Council, be further postponed. The matter will be placed on the June 13th Council Agenda for further discussion.

Municipal Budget Review 2018

Council was provided with the following Draft Budget Package: Proposed Budget with Notes; Budget Comparison; Proposed Summary of Reserve Transfers; Assessment Summary; Distribution of Tax Impact by Property for Residential, Commercial and Farm Assessments; and Tax Impact Summary by Assessment Class. Mayor Reeves commended Assistant Treasurer Kevin Philipow for the detailed notes contained in the proposed budget.

Mayor Reeves provided an overview of the information provided and discussed, in round numbers the assessment increase of 4.5% and proposed levy increase of 3.55%, resulting in a potential marginal reduction in tax rates in the order of 0.89%. He reported that the levy, as presented in the proposed budget, would result in 1,689 residential properties realizing a property tax increase and 631 residential properties realizing a decrease. For comparison purposes, he explained that if Council were to reduce the levy by 1% (approximately \$30,000.00), 1,461 residential properties would realize a tax increase and 759 would realize a decrease. Mayor Reeves reported that the Finance Committee is recommending that if Council reduces any line items in the proposed budget, that those reductions be applied to the Bridge Reserve in order to help address the number of bridges requiring repair/replacement.

On a query from Councillor Jones-Scissons, Mayor Reeves explained that Council does not have to reduce the tax rate.

Treasurer Leach reviewed some of the budget matters as follows:

EXPENSES:

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Page 1: Materials/Supplies - Clerk/Administrator Tonelli sought Council approval to acquire The Ontario Municipal Records Management System (TOMRMS) at a cost of \$3,500.00 before the price increase, effective July 1. She also recommended including a disbursement for mileage for the trainer to attend at the Municipal Office this Fall. Council concurred to the addition, with the cost to come from Working Reserve.

Page 2: Treasurer Leach reviewed the proposed Consultant Fees. Council discussed a potential need to increase the recruiter budget to \$18,200.00, thereby requiring an additional \$3,200.00 to that line item. This could be funded from the Working Reserve.

Page 3: The need for new bunker gear by October of this year was addressed. Treasurer Leach advised that this expense will be pulled from the Fire Department Reserve. Councillor Armstrong noted the allowance in the budget for the provision of 3 sets of station wear for each Station. Treasurer Leach also noted the budget request for a new steel roof for Station 2.

Treasurer Leach advised that both Public Works Superintendent Hadikin and Fire Chief Kent had met with members of the Finance Committee after the preliminary budget had been prepared and that they had both agreed to substantial cuts to their budgets, which are reflected in the draft presented to Council for this evening's meeting.

Page 5: Regarding Roads Capital, Treasurer Leach noted the planned purchase of a plow truck and ½ ton, to be purchased without financing. (The expense for both vehicles to be funded from Roads Equipment Reserve.)

Page 5: Treasurer Leach addressed Bridges Capital and the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Top-up potential of \$1.8 Million, which will require the Municipality to fund \$200,000. The \$200,000 is budgeted to come from Bridge Replacement Reserve. On a query from Councillor Armstrong, Mayor Reeves reported that upon receipt of a recommendation from Tulloch Engineering, a decision will be made as to which bridge will be selected for the application for funding.

Page 6: Treasurer Leach identified the Construction Projects being proposed and noted that Public Works Superintendent Hadikin had advised that the Bright Lake Road Construction Project #1 could be postponed to next year. The potential savings of \$9,000.00 will be addressed later in the meeting.

On a query from Councillor Armstrong, Treasurer Leach advised that the LED Street Light Replacement Program has resulted in Hydro One savings.

Page 9: Treasurer Leach addressed the Waste Disposal Site expenditures in order to continue to receive the services of AECOM.

Page 10: Treasurer Leach addressed the concerns previously voiced by Public Works Superintendent Hadikin regarding the need to tile drain sections of Roe Park, at a potential cost of \$20,000.00, to properly address the improvements required. Council agreed that the Parks and Grounds Capital be reduced to \$8,000.00 for the proposed dock installation only. The potential savings of \$2,200.00 will be addressed later in the meeting. Consideration will be given at a later date regarding plans for the Roe Park grounds.

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Page 11-14: Treasurer Leach addressed the following capital expenses respecting the Boards and Committees of Council as follows:

Sowerby Heritage Centre Committee - parking lot upgrade;

Huron Shores Ward 4 Recreation Committee – request to purchase a new tread mill, with possible funding from Cameco and remainder to come from Ward 4 Recreation Reserve;

Iron Bridge Recreation Committee – request for an industrial dishwasher - \$19,000.00 to come from Ward 3 Arena Reserve;

Huron Shores Public Library Board – eaves trough to come from Huron Shores Library Reserve;

Planning – Commercial and Industrial Expenses of \$22,266.00 for Industrial Road and well sampling;

Huron Shores Cemetery Board – request to purchase new riding lawnmower – to come from Cemetery Reserve; and

Economic Development Advisory Committee – Treasurer Leach reported that the Main Street Revitalization expense will be included in this line item and will offset the revenue of \$39,117.00 to be funded to the Municipality. Recommendations will be made at the June 13/18 Meeting of Council as to the intended projects for the Main Street Revitalization Program.

Treasurer Leach reviewed the requests of the Economic Development Advisory Committee and reported the line item to which the proposed expenditures are located.

REVENUE:

Page 15: Treasurer Leach reported that the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund has increased from \$1,258,700.00 to \$1,340,200.00.

Page 15: The potential for revenue to be gained from the sale of the tag-along was noted and placed on the list to be addressed later in the meeting.

Page 16: Treasurer Leach noted the possible OCIF Top-Up Grant of \$1.8 Million, with a decision yet to be made as to which bridge an application will be made, and the OCIF Formula-Based grant which will be used for Brownlee Road Construction Project #6.

Council then reviewed the Grants to Others.

Because a request has not yet come from the Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition, the Finance Committee recommended that the budgeted contribution be reduced from \$4,800.00 to \$2,400.00. Council concurred.

On a query from Councillor Campbell, Council deliberated the annual contribution to the Thessalon Arena. Council discussed the response from the Town of Thessalon, last year, regarding the Municipality's request that monies be applied to Thessalon recreation rather than solely to the Arena. Council noted that the Municipality now has an outdoor ice rink at Little Rapids but, that there are children from Huron Shores taking part in hockey and figure skating programs offered from the Thessalon Arena. User/registration fees for the programs offered at the Arena and other sporting activities, offered in Thessalon, were discussed. Councillor MacKinnon noted the expense of running the ice plant, which is shared with the Curling Club. Treasurer Leach summarized the Town of Thessalon Arena budget. Council supported the \$10,000.00 contribution and instructed that the accompanying letter again request that the monies be applied to all recreation programs.

Council had no comments regarding the budgeted Donations list.

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Mayor Reeves then requested that each member of Council address any issues or concerns.

Councillor Armstrong queried moving the playground equipment at Roe Park to the centre of the park. It was agreed that discussions pertaining to the grounds will have to be deferred to a later meeting following expert review. Councillor Wedgwood noted that the cost of the proposed dock to be installed at Roe Park could cost between \$4,000.00 and \$12,000.00 depending on the type.

Council agreed to remove Bright Lake Road Construction Project #1 from this year's budget.

On a query from Councillor Jones-Scissons, Councillor Kirby explained the plans for the Sowerby Hall Parking Lot.

Council deliberated the possibility of surplusizing the tag-along. Councillor Wedgwood identified work to be done to bring it to working order. The majority of Council agreed that it should be utilized to transfer the backhoe. Mayor Reeves confirmed that a report will be required from Public Works Superintendent Hadikin as to how the tag-along will be utilized going forward.

It was agreed to budget an additional \$3200.00 for the recruiter and that it come from Working Reserve.

Clerk/Administrator Tonelli identified a concern voiced by Public Works Superintendent Hadikin regarding the mileage put on their personal vehicles by the Waste Site Caretakers in picking up waste from the Bear Bins. It was agreed that this matter be addressed at a later date.

Councillor Kirby queried the Commercial and Industrial Planning expense of \$20,000.00 for Industrial Road upgrade. Treasurer Leach confirmed that the expense is coming from the Planning-Commercial/Industrial Reserve. She noted that the expense for well sampling could also be taken from that Reserve. Councillor Wedgwood reported that it is the recommendation of the Economic Development Advisory Committee that some work take place each year towards the development of the road. It was agreed to reduce the expenditure from \$20,000.00 to \$10,000.00, with the well sampling to also come from Reserve. The potential budget savings of \$2,266.00 will be addressed later in the meeting.

On a query from Councillor Armstrong, Clerk/Administrator Tonelli will provide a draft job description for a maintenance caretaker for the June 13th Regular Meeting of Council. She will also seek a price to insert the job description into the Pay Equity Plan.

Councillor Jones-Scissons queried if the Sowerby Hall Parking Lot could be deferred to next year. Treasurer Leach confirmed that the expenditure is being pulled from Ward 2 Hall and Barn Reserves and therefore has no impact on the levy.

Councillor Persia reported no further matters.

Councillor Campbell reported no further matters.

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Councillor Wedgwood queried the fire protection agreement with Thessalon First Nation. Mayor Reeves noted that the agreement would have to be readdressed with the settlement.

Councillor MacKinnon reported no further matters.
Mayor Reeves reported no further matters.

It was confirmed that the expenditures for the recruiter and maintenance caretaker will come from Working Reserve.

Council concurred that the line item reductions of \$13,466.00 be placed in Bridge Replacement Reserve.

Council discussed the candidate for the treasurer position.

18-15-01 WHEREAS the Treasurer interview process has concluded;
B. MacKinnon AND WHEREAS a potential candidate has been selected;
D. Kirby NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct Clerk/Administrator Tonelli to sign the **Missing Link Search Placement Agreement and Billing Letter** as authorized by By-law #18-28, selecting billing Option D, being 25% of the candidate's first year salary with a 12-month guarantee;
AND THAT John Marunchak of Missing Link Search be directed to make an offer of employment to the candidate at Step 3 of the Hourly Rate Schedule. CARRIED.

4-1. Approve 2018 Tax Levy

18-15-02 BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the proposed
J. Armstrong **2018 Budget**, authorizing **\$2,962,293.00** to be raised
N. Jones-Scissons through taxation for Municipal Expenditures. CARRIED.

Treasurer Leach will advise all Departments and Committees of the budget decisions made this evening.

Mayor Reeves expressed appreciation of Treasurer Leach's efforts over the years, particularly the detail and evolution of the budget process by Treasurer Leach and Assistant Treasurer Philipow.

ADJOURNMENT

18-15-03 BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does adjourn at 8:17 p.m.
D. Kirby CARRIED.
J. Armstrong

MAYOR

CLERK