



The Corporation of the Municipality of Huron Shores

Special Meeting Minutes

22-10

April 20, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

1. Call To Order

The Special Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Huron Shores was held on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, and called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Council and Staff Attendance:

Council Chambers: Mayor Bilodeau; Councillors Armstrong, Kirby, MacKinnon, Pirrie and Campbell; Clerk/Administrator Tonelli

Via Zoom: Councillors Wedgwood, Walsh and Jones-Scissions (arriving at 7:55 p.m.); Assistant Deputy Clerk Burgler; Treasurer Stenger; Public Works Superintendent Hadikin; Administrative Assistant Nyman

2. Agenda Review

On Council consent, Items 4.1 and 4.2 were switched, in order to address the Royal Canadian Legion Funding request prior to commencing budget deliberations.

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor MacKinnon and Councillor Pirrie declared a conflict with respect to the proposed donation to the Iron Bridge Lions Club as they are both members of Lions International.

4. General Business

4.1 Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation

22-10-01

Moved by D. Kirby

Seconded by J. Pirrie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes Clerk/Administrator to submit an application for funding under the **Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation**, as per the request of the Fire Department, for a 28" **Spreader** to expand the Fire Department's rescuing capabilities; AND THAT, if approved, the Municipal expenditure be included in the 2023 Budget. **CARRIED**

4.2 2022 Budget Review, FN-22-18

Mayor Bilodeau advised that there are items flagged for discussion in the draft budget and they will be reviewed page by page this evening.

Before proceeding with each page, Treasurer Stenger highlighted the following items:

- the draft budget, as presented, amounts to a residential tax rate increase of just over 6%;
- the tax assessment remains the same as last year, with reassessments not occurring until 2023;

- allocation to bridge reserve remains the same at \$225,000;
- 3 new public works vehicles requiring \$520,000 which won't impact this year's levy because they will be funded through a combination of reserves and financing, but servicing the debt will impact future budgets, estimated at 50% of the total purchase;
- the OSIM Report summarizes repairs required in the amount of \$158,000 (approximately 2 percentage points to the levy), excluding the Potomac and Veterans Bridge. Replacement costs are estimated at \$1.667M for the Potomac Bridge from 2022-2023; with other structures estimated at \$1M for the period 2023-2027, and \$3.4M for the period 2027-2032;
- there is currently a shortfall of \$73,000 for Veterans Bridge to which the Treasurer is seeking assistance from OFSC which is currently budgeted with hope of receipt of funding, but if not received, there will have to be a contingency established;
- 10-year Roads Plan recommends project spending in the amount of \$665,000 in 2022 but, the budget only includes 8 projects, estimated in the amount \$173,000. The number of projects have been selected to keep the budget in line but, Council must be cognizant that the 10-year plan includes spending of over \$13M, or over \$1M per year;
- The reserves total is starting at \$5.3M, but is estimated to go down to \$4.7M by the end of 2022, with this budget;
- Construction of a sand dome and related expenditures are not included in this draft budget.

Treasurer Stenger spoke to the draft budget summary and then reviewed the draft document by Department. He reviewed the highlighted items to ensure Council's understanding and support of the entries as drafted, and responded to questions by Council members.

Respecting the Bridge works, the Treasurer reported that \$7,000 in guiderail repairs for MacDonald Bridge has been duplicated in the budget both as a line item and within a project. Therefore, with no changes made to the Bridge Capital, the duplicated \$7,000 will be removed from the draft.

Council deliberated the cost of operating 4 landfills. Clerk/Administrator Tonelli advised that the cost of a waste management study is included in this budget and options will be further discussed through the shared services review that was conducted by Performance Concepts. Councillor Walsh advised that the Environmental Committee will also resume meetings, as it hasn't met since before the COVID-19 lockdown. Council deliberated the cost of installing bear bins at the Ward 3 landfill and decided to remove that installation (in the amount of \$18,315) from this year's budget, pending receipt of the waste management study and input from the Environmental Committee.

Council supported the recommendation of the Finance Committee to budget for the development of a formal plan for the Little Basswood and Beharriell Park Boat Launches rather than financing the projects this year. Councillor Kirby advised that she has not been successful in finding volunteers to take the lead at the Little Rapids Community Gardens. Therefore, the \$500 allotted for topsoil at that location can be removed from budget. Councillor MacKinnon advised that he has yet to recruit a lead for the ATV Run. Therefore, the expenses and revenue for that event can be pulled from the budget for this year. Treasurer Stenger also advised that he has to add \$3,000 to the budget for the necessary removal of trees at Little Rapids Village Park. Public Works Superintendent spoke to the gazebo break-in that occurred earlier this week, resulting in necessary repairs or replacement of the steel doors.

Treasurer Stenger reported that he has not included an expense if Stage 2 of the Natural Disaster Mitigation Program Funding is announced this year. That will have to be addressed through Council should there be an announcement.

On a query from Councillor MacKinnon, Councillor Jones-Scissons reported that the Economic Development Committee will be running contests this year at the Toronto and Ottawa Outdoor Shows, for \$100 gift card to be applied to a stay in Huron Shores, in order to help assess the success of hosting a booth at these Shows. She will also be distributing a survey to our tourist operators for their guests with the question, "how did you find out about us". She will prepare a report prior to the end of this term of Council containing information as to the success of attending these Shows, as has been done following attendance at previous Shows.

Assistant Deputy Clerk reported that she is investigating a grant through the TransCanada Trail for funding to assist with the shortfall for the Veterans Bridge repairs.

Clerk/Administrator reported that staff is reviewing all user fees and charges and will be bringing a recommendation to Council for its review in the coming months. Staff will also provide Council with a list of municipally owned properties that could be put up for sale.

Treasurer Stenger reported that with the changes addressed this evening, the proposed tax rate increase to a residential property would be 5.5%. Council deliberated the increase.

Councillor Campbell reported that the Finance Committee endeavored to reduce the budget where it could, but Council needs to carefully consider the liabilities that are not included in this budget and their impact on future budgets. He then reviewed each of the items, as follows:

- the retrofit recommendations from the Energy Audits are not factored into this budget, at an estimated cost of \$77,800;
- the ongoing concern respecting continued leaks in the Iron Bridge Recreation Centre roof;
- the cost of establishing a new East Algoma OPP Detachment Board;
- future modifications to the operation of the landfills;
- lack of contingency for the Veterans Bridge shortfall, in amount of \$73,000;
- construction of a sand dome (\$95,000+) and associated needs such as loader and storage building;
- replacement of Potomac Bridge, as outlined earlier this evening. He added that engineering fees must also be considered.
- Dean Lake Bridge costs of \$3.075M between 2027 and 2032. If Council chooses to close the bridge, then significant costs will have to be budgeted to reconstruct the remainder of Eley Road and all of Chevis Road to accommodate the increased traffic;
- the 10-year Road Plan, as summarized by the Treasurer earlier this evening; and
- Stage 2 of the Natural Disaster Mitigation Program only funds 50% of the project, estimated to be \$300,000.

Council members spoke to its statutory and limited discretionary spending.

22-10-02

Moved by B. MacKinnon

Seconded by J. Pirrie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs the Municipal Treasurer to make the necessary **adjustments to the proposed 2022 Municipal Budget** as per the Minutes of the Special Meeting held this date, Wednesday April 20, 2022;

AND THAT the adjusted 2022 Municipal Budget be presented to Council for final approval at the April 27, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Yea (7): D. Wedgwood, J. Armstrong, B. MacKinnon, G. Campbell, D. Walsh, J. Pirrie, and D. Kirby

Nay (1): N. Jones-Scissons

CARRIED (7 to 1)

5. Closed Session

None.

6. Adjournment

22-10-03

Moved by D. Kirby

Seconded by G. Campbell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does adjourn at 9:14 p.m.

CARRIED

MAYOR

CLERK