

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 13-2005

Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, August 24, 2005, commencing at 10:05 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Martin, Chair; Angelone; Burroughs; Eke; Heit; Hildreth; Leavens; Saracino.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Mr. Lockyer, Treasurer/Director of Financial Management and Planning; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff
(Part-time): Mr. Bowles, Executive Assistant to the Regional Chair; Ms. Chamberlain, Capital Analyst; Mr. Diakow, Director, Information Systems; Ms. Fontana, Director, Corporate Health Services & Employee Relations; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services; Ms. Murphy, Manager, Current and Capital Budgets; Mr. Roach, Manager, Financial Services, P.W.

Others: Councillor Collins.

ADMINISTRATION

197. 2006 Budget Review Criteria

Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services, together with Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the proposed criteria for evaluating potential service reductions or program changes to the 2006 Administration Department budget.

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CAO 16-2005, August 24, 2005, regarding departmental criteria for evaluating program changes or potential reductions to the 2006 Administration Department budget, be approved.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

198. 2006 Corporate Services Current and Capital Budget Criteria

Mr. Bacchus advised that the criteria being proposed for the Corporate Services Department's 2006 current budget evaluation process is identical to that proposed for Administration. The Commissioner outlined the 14 criteria developed for evaluating each capital project under the management of the Corporate Services Department.

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report CSD 130-2005, August 24, 2005, respecting the 2006 Corporate Services Current and Capital Budget Criteria, be approved.

Carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

199. 2006 Budget Process

Ms. Fontana, Director, Corporate Health Services & Employee Relations, provided highlights of the criteria developed for evaluating potential service reductions or program changes to the 2006 Human Resources Department Budget.

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report HR 31-2005, August 24, 2005, regarding department criteria for evaluation program changes or potential reductions to the 2006 Human Resources Department budget, be approved.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT(continued)

200. Request for Capital Budget Allocation and Financing
Approval for Project ZGC0501 – PC's, Printers, Software
– from the 2005 Corporate & Technology Capital Program

Moved by Councillor Heit
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That report CSD 122-2005, August 24, 2005, respecting Request for Capital Budget Allocation and Financing Approval for Project ZGC0501 – PC's,

Printers, Software – from the 2005 Corporate & Technology Capital Program, be received.

That a capital budget allocation of \$1,700,000 be approved for Project ZGC0501, – PC's, Printers, Software, from the 2005 Corporate & Technology Capital Program.

That approval be given to fund the project with financing of \$223,800 from the Capital Levy Reserve and \$1,476,200 in long-term financing (1-3 years).

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

201. Capital Projects
June 2005 Variance Report

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Report CSD 123-2005, August 24, 2005, respecting Capital Projects June 2005 Variance Report, be received for information.

That this report be forwarded to the Public Works Committee for information.

Carried.

(Refer to staff direction on page CFS 123.)

202. Forecast of Year-End Results and
Budget to Actual Comparison
For the Month Ended June 2005

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CSD 124-2005, August 24, 2005, respecting Forecast of Year-End Results and Budget to Actual Comparison for the Month Ended June 2005, be received for information.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

203. Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Communication CFS 69-2005 from Lorraine Heinbuch, Township Clerk, The Township of Wellington North, seeking support for its Council's resolution requesting the Province of Ontario consider the level of funding received in 2004 as a minimum level of core funding with annual adjustments to reflect

local cost increases and increased municipal responsibilities due to legislative changes from time to time, be received; and

That staff prepare a resolution specific to Niagara regarding the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund and the appropriate amount of core funding; and

That Regional Council, together with area municipalities, vigorously pursue a meeting with the Minister of Finance to discuss funding and that staff follow-up on the Minister's suggestion that Niagara be considered as a study area.

Carried.

204. Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Communication CFS 70-2005 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board (July 29, 2005) respecting NRPS Financial Variance Report to June 30, 2005, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

205. Increase in Gas Prices

Councillor Martin requested a report detailing the financial impact on the Region and the Police due to increased gas prices and asked that the report also include recommendations/solutions to deal with this matter.

CLOSED SESSION

206. Moved by Councillor
Seconded by Councillor

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to property and personnel matters.

Carried.

207. License Agreement with Ministry
Partial Use of Facility – P.O.A. Court
4635 Queen Street
City of Niagara Falls

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report CSD 121-2005, August 24, 2005 (PWA 1460-2005, August 23, 2005) respecting License Agreement with Ministry Partial Use of Facility – P.O.A. Court, 4635 Queen Street, City of Niagara Falls, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

208. Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTION

That staff be directed to:

- (i) Provide a list of the total regional capital projects scheduled for completion for information with the next Capital Projects 2005 Variance Report. (Refer to minute 201.)

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 11:10 a.m. to meet again on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Doug Martin
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk