

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**  
**CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 18-2005**

Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, December 7, 2005, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Martin, Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Angelone; Eke; Hildreth; Leavens; Saracino.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Diakow, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services; Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Lockyer, Treasurer/Director of Financial Management and Planning; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk

Staff  
(Part-time): Mr. Bernard, Manager, POA Court Services; Ms. Bianco, Corporate Communications Strategist; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Mr. Murphy, Manager of Policy and Development, Ms. Murphy, Manager, Current and Capital Budgets; Mr. Sidawi, Director, Operational Support Services, Public Works Department.

**PRESENTATIONS**

266. Impact of Our Taxation on our Society

Mr. Rob Janssen, Janssen International, expressed concerns about high taxation and increases in property assessments in Niagara and the adverse effects on residents and local businesses. He also discussed the high cost of salaries for policing and the need for improvements in healthcare. He suggested that the Provincial Government and MPAC must share the responsibility for residents' economical problems. He requested that Council consider his comments when reviewing the 2006 Current Budget.

267. Budget Process

Mr. David Boese expressed concerns about high taxes and suggested that changes are needed at all levels of government to stabilize our standard of living, especially for seniors on fixed incomes and low income families. He suggested that property taxes be limited to sanitary and storm sewers, garbage removal, streets and

sidewalks, parks and fire protection, with all other budgetary items being funded from income tax, particularly policing costs. He further suggested that the Ontario Tax Credit be increased and supplementary income be given to seniors. He submitted a communiqué for distribution to Council about borrowing money from the Bank of Canada at an interest rate as low as 0.37%, and asked that it be attached to these minutes.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

#### 268. 2006 Corporate Services Current Budget Presentation

Mr. Lockyer, Director, provided an overview of the 2006 Current Budget for the Corporate Services Department, outlining:

- 2006 Goals and Objectives linked with Council's Business Plan
- preliminary projections for 2006 and 2007
- 2006 budget challenges for Information Systems, Legal Services, the Office of the Regional Clerk, and Financial Management and Planning
- staff complement
- the measures required to achieve budgets of +3%, 0% and -3%

Moved by Councillor Saracino  
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That the presentation by Mr. Lockyer, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services, on the 2006 Current Budget for the Corporate Services Department, be received.

Carried.

#### 269. 2006 Administration Current Budget Presentation

Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the 2006 Current Budget for Administration, which includes the Office of the Regional Chair, Councillors, and the CAO's Office, outlining:

- the primary drivers of increases
- the measures required to achieve budgets of -3%, 0% and -3%
- risks of mitigation options
- risks of cuts below 0%

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Leavens

That the presentation by Mr. Trojan, CAO, on the 2006 Current Budget for Administration, be received.

Carried.

There being a lack of ordinary quorum at the meeting, the Committee Chair determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to five members, pursuant to Part 11, Section 11.7 of the Procedural By-law 7174-93.

**JOINT REPORTS**

(Copies located behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

270. Access to Justice Act, 2005  
**CSD 163-2005/JBM 2-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 163-2005/JBM 2-2005, December 7 and November 22, 2005, respecting the Access to Justice Act, 2005 be received for information.

Carried.

271. Tender Award for Contract RN 05-45  
Port Dalhousie Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades – Phase III  
In the City of St. Catharines  
Project: ZSW9816 / SW0422  

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**CSD 164-2005/PWA 206-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 164-2005/PWA 206-2005, December 7 and 6, 2005, respecting Tender Award for Contract RN 05-45, Port Dalhousie Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades – Phase III, in the City of St. Catharines, Project: ZSW9816 / SW0422 be received; and

That Contract RN 05-45, the Port Dalhousie Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades – Phase III in the City of St. Catharines be awarded to Graham Construction and Engineering Inc., at their bid price of \$8,824,000.00; and

That a contingency amount of \$800,000.00 be provided for this project; and

That R.V. Anderson Associates be appointed for additional engineering services as a Contract Administrator for this contract for an amount of \$153,000.00. These engineering services are required due to additional scope of work at the request of the Region and an increase in the duration of construction; and

That previously approved Wastewater Capital Reserve financing in the amount of \$2,264,000 be transferred from Project ZSW9809 Port Weller CSO Control Program to Project ZSW9816 Port Dalhousie WWTP Upgrades; and

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-laws are prepared for submission to Regional Council authorizing the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Niagara; and

That the cost associated with this project be charged against Project ZSW9816/SW0422.

Carried.

272. Amendments to the Controlled-Access  
Roads By-law (No. 4291-86)

**CSD 166-2005/PWA 214-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 166-2005/PWA 214-2005, December 7 and 6, 2005, respecting Amendments to the Controlled-Access Roads By-law (No. 4291-86) be received; and

That the Controlled-Access Roads By-law No. 4291-86, as amended, be further amended as outlined in Appendix 1 attached hereto, to conform to the new provisions of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

Carried.

273. OMBI Pilot Project – Capital Assets Accounting and Reporting  
**CSD 168-2005/PWA 216-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 168-2005/PWA 216-2005, December 7 and 6, 2005, respecting OMBI Pilot Project – Capital Assets Accounting and Reporting be received; and

That Council approve the participation of the Region as one of the six pilot sites in the implementation phase of the *OMBI Municipal Guide to Accounting for Capital Assets* as required in the Transfer Payment Agreement with the Ministry of Finance; and

That this report be forwarded to all Standing Committees for information.

Carried.

274. Capital Budget Allocation for  
Project ZGD0203 Building Maintenance Program  
For Regional Facilities

**CSD 170-2005/PWA 220-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 170-2005/PWA 220-2005, December 7 and 6, 2005, respecting Capital Budget Allocation for Project ZGD0203 Building Maintenance Program for Regional Facilities be received; and

That Capital Levy financing in the amount of \$337,700 be approved for Project ZGD0203 Building Maintenance Program for Regional Facilities from the 2005 Buildings and Equipment Capital Budget; and

That financing in the amount of \$160,000 be transferred from Project ZGD0203 Building Maintenance Program for Regional Facilities to Project ZGD0209 Central Accommodations; and

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

Carried.

275. CBRN Emergency Response Team – Reserve Account  
**CSD 172-2005/PHD 78-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That CSD 172-0225/PHD 78-2005, December 7 and 5, 2005, respecting CBRN Emergency Response Team – Reserve Account be received; and

That any annual surplus funds in the CBRN (Chemical/Biological/Radiological/Nuclear) Emergency Response program budget (cost centre 6265) be directed to a reserve account as a contingency for future program needs.

Carried.

276. Parking Lot – Public Health Department, 30 Hannover Drive, St. Catharines  
**CSD 174-2005/PHD 80-2005/PWA 225-2005**

Moved by Councillor Hildreth  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CSD 174-2005/PHD 80-2005/PWA 225-2005, Parking Lot – Public Health Department, 30 Hannover Drive, St. Catharines, be referred to Council for decision.

Carried.

**CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

277. Bethlehem Projects Request for Loan Guarantee  
**CSD 146-2005**

Moved by Councillor Leavens  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 146-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting Bethlehem Projects Request for Loan Guarantee be withdrawn at the request of the Executive Director, Bethlehem Projects of Niagara.

Carried.

278. Correspondence CFS 92-2005

Moved by Councillor Leavens  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Communication CFS 92-2005, being a letter from the Executive Director of Bethlehem Projects of Niagara, requesting that their request regarding a loan guarantee be withdrawn at this time, be received.

Carried.

(Note: Communication CFS 92-2006 is attached to these minutes.)

279. Forecast of Year-End Results and Budget to Actual Comparison  
For the Month Ended October 31, 2005  
**CSD 165-2005**

Moved by Councillor Leavens  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CSD 165-2005, December 7, 2005, respecting the Forecast of Year-End Results and Budget to Actual Comparison for the Month Ended October 31, 2005 be received for information.

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

280. That the following communications be received:

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

CFS 88-2005      Andrew Burt, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (November 22, 2005) respecting the Welland River Flow Fluctuations – Agreement with OPG.

CFS 89-2005 Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality Niagara Police Services Board (November 30, 2005) respecting their motion to approve Purchasing – 2005 Replacement Vehicles – Casino Patrol Unit.

CFS 90-2005 Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board (November 30, 2005) respecting their motion to approve Purchasing – Award of Tender 2005-T-28 – Replacement Vehicles.

Carried.

### **MINUTES**

281. Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report 2-2006 Budget, being the minutes of the Budget Review Committee meeting of Thursday, November 24, 2005, be received.

Carried.

### **TILE DRAINAGE**

282. Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

WHEREAS By-law No. 5988-90 authorizes the Regional Municipality of Niagara to borrow an amount not exceeding \$4,657,000 and to issue debentures therefore, payable to the Treasurer of Ontario pursuant to The Tile Drainage Act, 1971, as may be directed by resolution of the Regional Council upon application of an area municipality from time to time;

BE IT RESOLVED THEREFORE THAT the Regional Chair and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized to issue a debenture of The Regional Municipality of Niagara payable to the Treasurer of the Province of Ontario to borrow on behalf of the area municipalities listed below the amounts specified for such area municipalities respectively, for the purpose of The Tile Drainage Act.

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

\$24,500.00

Carried.

**CLOSED SESSION**

283. Moved by Councillor Leavens  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

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

Carried.

284. Process to Request Alternative Service Provider  
**CSD 167-2005**

Mr. Kyne, Director, Legal Services, provided an overview of Report CSD 167-2005, and responded to questions from Committee.

Moved by Regional Chair Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Leavens

That Report CSD 167-2005, December 7, 2005, respecting the Process to Request Alternative Service Provider, be received.

Carried.

285. Corporate Services Reporting Structure Update  
**CSD 173-2005**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 173-2005, Corporate Services Reporting Structure Update, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

286. Communication CFS 91-2005

Moved by Regional Chair Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Communication CFS 91-2005, being a Confidential Letter from Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Police Services Board (November 30, 2005) respecting a Lease Agreement, be received.

Carried.

287. Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Leavens

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Committee adjourned at 11:57 a.m. to meet again on Wednesday, December 7, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Doug Martin  
Chair

Pam Gilroy  
Regional Clerk