

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 2-2010

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health and Social Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, 2201 St. David's Road, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 2:07 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Baty, Co-Chair; Casselman, Co-Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Cordiner; Forster; Goulbourne; Greenwood; Henderson; Lepp; Rigby; Timms.

Councillors

Other: Councillors Augustyn and Badawey.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services; Mr. Bain, Regional Clerk; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Other: Community Services: Ms. Cousins, Director, Operational Support Services; Ms. O'Hagan-Todd, Director, Children's Services; Ms. Watson, Director, Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities.
Public Health: Mr. Barbisan, Operations Supervisor, EMS; Mr. Cunnane, Director, EMS; Dr. Feller, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Dr. Jaeger, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Jones, Director, Administration, PH; Mr. McKay, Associate Director, Administration, E.M.S.; Mr. Smith, Associate Director, EMS; Ms. St. John, Director, Clinical Services; Ms. Vanecko, Manager, Community Development and Continuous Quality Improvement; Mr. Van Valkenburg, Associate Director, EMS.
Administration: Mr. Weir, Director of Administration.
Community Services: Mr. J. Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services.
Integrated Community Planning: Mr. Neufeld, Communications Specialist; Mr. Robson, Commissioner, Integrated Community Planning.

Others: Ms. Beckwith, General Manager, Niagara Regional Housing.

PRESENTATION

16. Video – Community Services Clients

Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, presented a video to provide a “snapshot” of the Community Services clients in Niagara. Further information was also distributed with respect to Community Services caseloads; type profile; demographics and staffing requirements to respond to the 20% increase in caseload, as well as the impact on the 2010 Community Services Budget.

Moved by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That the presentation by Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Community Services, regarding Community Services Clients, be received.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

17. 2010 Per Diem for Emergency Hostels
COM 04-2010

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

That Report COM 04-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting 2010 Per Diem for Emergency Hostels, be received;

That the per diem for current contracted emergency hostels be increased from \$41.60 to the new maximum cost sharable per diem of \$42.50 effective January 1, 2010; and

That staff be authorized to increase the emergency hostel per diem in line with annual increases to the provincial maximum on a cost shared basis subject to the successful completion of the business case process by each emergency hostel agency.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

18. Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program, 2009 Extension
Recommended Projects – February 2010 Submission

COM 06-2010

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report COM 06-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program, 2009 Extension Recommended Projects – February 2010 Submission, be received;

That the “List of Recommended Projects – February 2010 Year 2, Submission” (Appendix B) under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program, 2009 Extension be approved and submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for approval; and

That this report be forwarded to the Integrated Community Planning Committee for information.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

19. Initiation of Public Health Capital Project ZGR1001 –
Ambulance and Related Equipment

PHD 02-2010 (CSD 15-2010)

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 02-2010, February 2, 2010 (CSD 15-2010, February 3, 2010), respecting Initiation of Public Health Capital Project ZGR1001 – Ambulance and Related Equipment, be received;

That financing in the amount of \$1,200,000 gross and net be initiated and approved from the Public Health Capital Program and be allocated to ZGR1001 – Ambulance and Related Equipment;

That approval be given to fund ZGR1001 – Ambulance and Related Equipment with financing consisting of \$710,000 from the Ambulance Replacement Reserve Fund; and \$490,000 from the Capital Levy as approved in the 2010 Capital Budget; and

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-laws be prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

(Report PHD 02-2010 (CSD 15-2010) can be found behind the JNT Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

20. Update on Impact on EMS – Emergency Department Conversions as part of the Niagara Health System’s Hospital Improvement Plan
PHD 04-2010 (Amended)

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That Amended Report PHD 04-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting Update on Impact on EMS – Emergency Department Conversions as part of the Niagara Health System’s Hospital Improvement Plan, be received;

That this Committee accept this report for information as NEMS continues for the next three months to monitor and evaluate the actual effect the ED conversions are having on the service; and

That the Region continue discussions with the LHIN and NHS to identify alternate solutions and options to address the impact on local Emergency Departments and Niagara EMS.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

21. Implementation of Early Learning Program in Niagara
COM 05-2010

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report COM 05-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting Implementation of Early Learning Program in Niagara, be received for information.

Carried.

22. Social Marketing Initiatives Scheduled January Through to June 2010
PHD 03-2010

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Report PHD 03-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting Social Marketing Initiatives Scheduled January through to June 2010, be received for information.

Carried.

23. H1N1 Influenza Response Cost Update
PHD 05-2010

Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report PHD 05-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting H1N1 Influenza Response Cost Update, be received for information.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

24. Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Communication PHSS 1-2010 from Sharon Vokes, County Clerk/Director of Council Services, Corporation of the County of Grey (November 26, 2009), regarding Bill 150 "Green Energy and Green Economy Act", be received.

Carried.

25. Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Communication PHSS 2-2010 being the minutes of the Niagara Regional Housing Board of Directors Meeting #85 – 2009, November 27, 2010, be received.

Carried.

26. Moved by Councillor Cordiner
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Communication PHSS 3-2010, being a memorandum from Memorandum from Karen Murray, Chair, Niagara Regional Housing (February 2, 2010) advising that the Niagara Regional Housing Quarterly Report October 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, will be presented at Council on February 11, 2010, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

27. Meeting with Minister of Health

Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the Regional Chair schedule a meeting, at the earliest opportunity, with the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long Term Care, and appropriate staff and councillors, to discuss important health issues as identified by Regional Council.

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

28. Moved by Councillor Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to a Proposed Disposition of Land by a Local Board – City of Thorold.

Carried.

29. A Proposed Disposition of Land by a Local Board – City of Thorold
Confidential COM 07-2010

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Cordiner

That Confidential Report COM 07-2010, February 2, 2010, respecting A Proposed Disposition of Land by a Local Board – City of Thorold, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

30. Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

That staff:

- (i) Contact Cogeco with the request to broadcast the video presentation on Community Services Clients. (Baty) Refer to minute item 16.
- (ii) Email Councillor Goulbourne further details with respect to the Fort Erie Emergency Water Fund. (Goulbourne) Refer to Report COM 04-2010 and minute item 17.
- (iii) Provide a list detailing the number of units in each area municipality for Year 1 of the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program. (Casselman) Refer to Report COM 06-2010 and minute item 18.
- (iv) Examine the timelines with respect to the replacement of Ambulance and Related Equipment as it pertains to any payback related to the Harmonization Sales Tax. (Baty) Refer to Report PHD 02-2010/CSD 15-2010 and minute item 19.
- (v) Provide further information as requested by Committee with respect to the issues identified in Report PHD 04-2010. (Amend Appendix C to show

Offload Delay Hours for previous years, as well as impact on all Regional Hospitals – Amend Appendix B to include patient transports from other hospitals vs. UCCS – What plan/protocol is in place for EMS to determine the type of emergency care that can be handled by UCCs – Is there a Provincial Standard?) (Committee members) Refer to minute item 20.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee adjourned at 4:00 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Brian Baty
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Judy Casselman
Co-Chair

Kevin Bain
Regional Clerk