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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

REPORT 26-2002

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, December 10, 2002 commencing at 1:43 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Badawey, Chair; Regional Chair Zimmerman; Burroughs, Davidson, Eke, Forster, Harry, Konkle, McMullan, Redekop, Rigby, Thomson.

Staff: Messrs. Neville, Commissioner of Public Works; Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Cousins, Director, Transportation Services Division; Brcic, Director, Water & Wastewater Services Division; Sidawi, Director, Operational Support Services; Payne, Director, Waste Management Services Division; Ms. Pilon, Legislative Assistant.

Staff (Part-time): Messrs. Bacchus, Commissioner of Corporate Services; Bousfield, Manager, Property & Facility Management; Roach, Manager, Public Works Financial Services.

BUDGETS

504. Presentation:
2003 Current and Capital Budgets

Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services, provided an update on the 2003 Current Budget highlighting the proposed Current Budget increase taking into consideration the recommended and not recommended reductions, program changes and other assumptions as follows:

	Levy Impact \$	Resulting* Net Levy Impact %
Proposed Current Budget Increase	\$14,008,987	5.77%
Less-CAO 16 BRC "recommended"	\$11,469,119	4.55%
CAO 16 not recommended"	\$10,359,380	4.01%
Other Program Changes	?	?

The above figures assume: Revenues \$11,295,268; assessment growth of 1%; excludes Police estimates; and 2002 total net levy \$206,814,325.

505. 2003 Current Budget Opportunities for Reductions
in the Impact on the 2003 Tax Rate
CAO 16-2002 & November 21, 2002 Memorandum

Mr. Bacchus advised the Committee that staff are working on program changes and other measures for reductions over and above the CAO's Report as follows:

	<u>Reductions</u>
Capital Levy	(\$ 700,000)
Benefits	(\$ 400,000)
Pay for Performance	(\$ 400,000)
Attendance Management	?
Ambulance	(\$ 425,000)
NPCA	(\$1,047,500)
Other Capital	?
	<hr/>
	(\$2,972,500)
Plus CAO 16	?

The Commissioner advised that a consolidation of the budgets will be brought forward to a Special Committee of the Whole meeting on December 19th, time to be determined.

Mr. Trojan advised that Report CAO 16-2002 outlines opportunities for reductions in the portion of the 2003 budget under direct control of Council and provides information on the impacts of these reductions. The report proposes reductions in three categories: "Recommended"; "Not Recommended"; and "Recommendations proposed by a department where the consequences are felt beyond a single department and will have consequences across the entire corporation". The report also outlined two objectives related to Capital Budget wherein staff are reviewing the present unfunded projects, which have received approvals, to determine the continued necessity for the projects and to determine a new financing strategy that would place a limit on debt. Staff has also been asked to prioritize major systems implementation taking into account the impact on physical and staffing resources.

Mr. Trojan advised that the Budget Review Committee received Report CAO 16 and approved the "recommended" reductions with some minor adjustments.

Mr. Trojan also advised that Report CAO 17-2002, regarding Deferred Spending – Corporate I.T. Projects was accepted by the Budget Review Committee and the necessary amendments to the Capital Budget and capital spending cash flow projections will be made.

Committee was advised that the 2003 consolidated capital budget as reviewed by the Budget Review Committee on October 17th amount to \$113 million. In an effort

to mitigate the impacts on the Region's tax rates, a Capital Spending Strategy has been developed to address the effects of the capital budget on the current tax levy. Committee was advised that approximately \$21 million needs to be removed from the Regional Budget.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That the Public Works and Utilities Committee approves moving all of the "Not Recommended" proposed reductions to be included in the "Recommended" proposed reductions in report CAO 16-2002.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report CAO 16-2002, November 13, 2002 and the Memorandum from Mr. Shafee Bacchus to the Chair and Members of the Budget Review Committee, November 21, 2002, respecting the 2003 Current Budget Opportunities for Reductions in the Impact on the 2003 Tax Rate, be received.

That the Public Works "Recommended" Proposed Budget Reductions – 2003 Current Budget be accepted as outlined in Report CAO 16-2002.

That the Budget Review Committee consider the budget reduction opportunities approved by the Public Works and Utilities Committee outlined in this report and provide appropriate direction to staff for amendments to the 2003 current budget.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That the Public Works and Utilities Committee recommends that all of the other Standing Committees follow the Public Works and Utilities Committee in moving all of the Public Works "Not Recommended" proposed reductions to "Recommended" in report CAO 16-2002.

Carried.

506. 2003 Capital Budget – Potential Reductions/Deferrals
CAO 19-2002

Mr. Trojan advised that Report CAO 19-2002 provides a proposal for potential reductions/deferrals to the 2003 Capital Budget in support of the revised Capital Financing Strategy considered by BRC at their meeting of November 27th. The report indicates, that taking into consideration the capital project budget reductions, there is still a shortfall of approximately \$9 million.

The Committee was advised that delaying Project ZRC9817, the widening of Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road) will result in operational and safety issues with regard to access for the new Recycling facility which was a commitment to the local neighbourhood under the Certificate of Approval for the new Recycling Centre.

The Committee was advised that reconsideration should be given to ZRC0014, the reconstruction of Regional Road 18 (Ontario Street) in the Town of Lincoln, as the Town has debentured the project already and has asked that the Region delay the resurfacing of Regional Road 18 in anticipation of its reconstruction.

Councillor Badawey also advised the Committee of the receipt a letter from Councillor Hildreth asking for Project ZRC0014's reconsideration as well.

The Committee was also advised that reconsideration should also be given to ZRC0017, the widening of Regional Road 20 in the Town of Thorold, as the Town has just approved and began construction of a fire station in the vicinity. If this project is delayed it will cause access problems for the fire station as well as implicate the improvement work being performed by the Ministry of Transportation.

Public Works staff advised that if the overall project is deferred that the access to the new fire station would be accommodated by the Region so as not to impede safe egress and ingress.

Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Project No. ZRC0017, Widening of Regional Road 20, not be included in the Capital Projects Budget Reductions listed in CAO 19-2002, December 4, 2002.

Lost.

Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Project ZRC0014, Reconstruction of Regional Road 18 (Ontario Street); ZRC0017, Widening of Regional Road 20; ZRC9817, Widening of Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road), be referred back to staff for review as to the impacts these reductions will cause the municipalities and to review whether there are any other projects that could be replaced with the above projects or to review staff's strategy in selecting these projects as reductions.

Lost.

Moved by Councillor McMullan
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That staff be instructed to address the Town of Thorold's safety concerns associated with the delay of the widening of Regional Road 20 and the access to the new fire hall.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Thomson

That Report CAO 19-2002, December 14, 2002, respecting the 2003 Capital Budget – Potential Reductions/Deferrals, be received.

That the proposed reductions/deferrals to the 2003 Capital Budget as outlined in the attached schedule to this report be accepted and the necessary amendments to the Capital Budget and capital spending cash flow projections be made.

That this report be referred to Standing Committees for review and comment regarding the impact of the proposed reductions.

That a further report dealing with the review and prioritization of 2004 (including deferrals) and subsequent capital budgets be submitted in the 2nd quarter of 2003.

Carried.

507. Council Business Plan – 2002 Update:
Significant Achievements, Work in Progress, and, Plans for 2003
CAO 14-2002

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Thomson

That Report CAO 14-2002, November 7, 2002, respecting the Council Business Plan – 2002 Update: Significant Achievements, Work in Progress and Plans for 2003, be received for information.

Carried.

(Please note that CAO 14-2002, CAO 16-2002, the CAO 16-2002 memorandum and CAO 19-2002 are attached to the Corporate and Financial Services Committee minutes.)

508. 2003 Wastewater and Water Uniform Wholesale Rates
PWA 207-2002 (CSD 154-2002)
PWA 218-2002 (CSD 162-2002)

The Committee reviewed Options A, B and C with the information requested at the December 5, 2002 Public Works and Utilities Committee and it was therefore:

Moved by Councillor McMullan
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That the water budget revenue of \$28,122,227 be approved for 2003 based on a wholesale rate of \$0.364 per cubic metre.

That the wastewater revenue budget of \$46,240,889 be approved for 2003 based on a wholesale rate of \$0.521 per cubic metre.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That the following be approved in principle subject to the review of the Area Municipal Treasurers and Engineers:

That for 2003 only, the method of billing the area municipalities for water and wastewater be changed from monthly billings based on actual flow measured during the year to requisitions based on each municipality's portion of the most recent on five-year average flows.

That adjustments be made to the 2004 budgets to account for any surplus or deficit that may be realized in 2003 as a result of actual flows measured.

That the method of billing the area municipalities in 2004 and beyond be reviewed under the current Master Servicing Plan Update Rate Study and presented to Public Works and Utilities Committee for approval.

That a Water and Wastewater Reserve Policy which requires as a minimum an annual contribution equivalent to 1% of the asset value of the Region's water and wastewater systems be approved beginning with the 2004 budget year.

Carried.

Mr. Bacchus advised the Committee that due to time constraints, the information would be faxed to both the Area Municipal Treasurers and Engineers, for their comment prior to the December 19, 2002 Committee of the Whole meeting.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

ADMINISTRATION

509. Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report PWA 222-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy: Steering Committee Membership, be lifted from PWA Summary - December 10, 2002 and dealt with separately at this time.

Carried.

510. Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy
Steering Committee Membership
PWA 222-2002

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Councillor McMullan be appointed as the second Councillor on the Steering Committee of the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy.

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report PWA 222-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy Steering Committee Membership, be received.

That Councillor McMullan be appointed as the second Councillor on the Steering Committee of the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy.

That Regional Councillors encourage area municipalities, including the City of Hamilton and Haldimand County, to appoint either a political or senior staff representative to the Steering Committee of the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy. (Operational Support)

Carried.

For Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the following staff recommendations contained in the PWA Summary and Addendum, December 10, 2002:

511. Emergency Works
Repairs to Leachate Seeps
Former Glenridge Quarry Landfill Site
City of St. Catharines

PWA 220-2002 (CSD 161-2002)

That Report PWA 220-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Emergency Works, Repairs to Leachate Seeps Former Glenridge Quarry Landfill Site in the City of St. Catharines, be received.

That the amount of \$ 122,619.37 excluding the Goods and Services Tax be paid to V. Gibbons Contracting Ltd for the emergency work set out in Contract No. RN 02-43 Emergency Leachate Seep Management Plan – Former Glenridge Quarry Landfill Site, St. Catharines;

That the amount of \$ 17,400.00 excluding the Goods and Services Tax be paid to Earth Tech Canada Inc. for contract administration and field inspection services for said Contract;

That debenture financing in the amount of \$260,000 be transferred from Capital Works Project I. D. GL9710 / SGL9707 Closure Works – Centre Street Landfill Site to Capital Works Project I. D. GL0101 Closure Works - Former Glenridge Quarry Landfill Site, St. Catharines;

That debenture financing in the amount of \$70,000 be transferred from Capital Works Project I. D. GL0011 / ZGL0011 Closure Works – Perry Landfill Site to Capital Works Project I. D. GL0101 Closure Works - Former Glenridge Quarry Landfill Site, St. Catharines;

That the Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-laws authorizing the Chair and Clerk to execute said Contract on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Niagara is presented to Regional Council on December 19, 2002; and

That the project costs be charged against Capital Project No. GL0101 Closure Works – Glenridge Quarry Landfill Site, St. Catharines. (Waste Management)

512. Proposed Stopping Up and Closing
Parts of Horsham Street, Hartzel Road
and Eastmount Avenue
City of St. Catharines

PWA 223-2002

That Report PWA 223-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Proposed Stopping Up and Closing of Parts of Horsham Street, Hartzel Road and Eastmount Avenue in the City of St. Catharines, be received.

That the City of St. Catharines be advised that the Region of Niagara has no objections to the stopping up and closing of parts of Horsham Street, Hartzel Road and Eastmount Avenue. (Operational Support)

513. Niagara Falls Water Distribution System
Chlorine Booster Station – Licence Agreement
City of Niagara Falls

PWA 224-2002

That Report PWA 224-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Niagara Falls Water Distribution System, Chlorine Booster Station – Licence Agreement in the City of Niagara Falls, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute a licence agreement with the City of Niagara Falls to permit a Regional Chlorine Booster Station on City lands. (Operational Support)

514. Operational Review
Intersection of Regional Road 65
(Bismarck Road) at Port Davidson Road
Township of West Lincoln

PWA 225-2002

That Report PWA 225-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Operational Review, Intersection of Regional Road 65 (Bismarck Road) at Port Davidson Road in the Township of West Lincoln, be received.

That the request for an all-way stop at the intersection of Regional Road 65 (Bismarck Road) and Port Davidson Road be denied. (Transportation)

515. Speed Limit Reduction
Regional Road 4 (Wellandport Road) and
Regional Road 45 (Creek Road)
Township of Wainfleet

PWA 226-2002

That Report PWA 226-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Speed Limit Reduction, Regional Road 4 (Wellandport Road) and Regional Road 45 (Creek Road) in the Township of Wainfleet, be received.

That the existing speed limit on Regional Road 4 (Wellandport Road) from Regional Road 27 to 350 metres south of Regional Road 45 (Creek Road) be reduced from 80 km/h to 50 km/h; and

That the existing speed limit on Regional Road 45 (Creek Road) from Regional Road 27 to 500 metres west of Regional Road 4 (Wellandport Road) be reduced from 80 km/h to 50 km/h; and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to ensure that the necessary by-law is presented to Council on December 19, 2002. (Transportation)

516. Retain Engineering Consultant
Detailed Design – Regional Road 12 (Stanley Avenue)
From Main Street to Ferry Street
City of Niagara Falls

PWA 226-2002A

That Report PWA 226-2002A, December 10, 2002, respecting Retain Engineering Consultant for Detailed Design – Regional Road 12 (Stanley Avenue) from Main Street to Ferry Street in the City of Niagara Falls, be received.

That the consulting firm of Totten Sims Hubicki Associates be retained to undertake the detailed design including the preparation of tender documents for the reconstruction and widening of Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue) from Main Street to Ferry Street in the City of Niagara Falls;

That the project costs be charged to Parent Project ID ZRC9922, Rehabilitation of Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue) Murray Hill to McLeod Road.

517. Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That the PWA Summary and Addendum, dated December 10, 2002, and the foregoing recommendations of Reports PWA 220-2002, PWA 221-2002 and PWA 223-2002 to PWA 226-2002A inclusive, be received and accepted.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

518. Communications listed in Report PWC Summary and Addendum, dated December 10, 2002, were received and dealt with as follows:

PWC 68-2002 – (November 22, 2002) – **Mike Colle**, MPP, Eglinton-Lawrence, on the introduction of a Private Member's Bill, "The LCBO Deposit and Return Act", requiring LCBO to implement and administer a deposit and return system for all liquor containers sold in Ontario.

-- Received and referred to Waste Management Services.

PWC 69-2002 – (December 5, 2002) – **Brian Hughes**, Associate Director, Transportation Engineering, to Joe Cousins, Director of Transportation Services, attaching a summary from MTO on their activities relating to the widening of the QEW through St. Catharines.

-- Received.

519. Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That the PWC Summary and Addendum, December 10, 2002, be received and dealt with as directed by this Committee and as noted in these minutes.

Carried.

PROGRESS REPORTS

520. Construction Progress Report
Waste Management Services Capital Projects

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That Report PWP 80-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Construction Progress Report, Waste Management Services Capital Projects, be received for information.

Carried.

521. Construction Progress Report
Water & Wastewater Services Division Projects

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That Report PWP 81-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Construction Progress Report, Water and Wastewater Services Division Projects, be received for information.

Carried.

522. The Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy – Update

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That Report PWP 82-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy – Update, be received for information.

Carried.

MINUTES

523. Minutes of the Accommodation Review Committee Meeting of Monday, September 9, 2002

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That the minutes of the Accommodation Review Committee meeting held on Monday, September 9, 2002, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

524. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor McMullan

That the accounts list for the period ending November 30, 2002, in the amount of \$3,708,098.29, be approved for payment.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

525. Thank you!

Councillor Badaway on behalf of the Committee thanked all of the staff involved in the budgets for the great job they did.

CLOSED SESSION

526. Moved by Councillor Konkle
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

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

Carried.

527. Property Acquisitions
Widening of Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue)
Marineland Parkway to Dixon Street
City of Niagara Falls

PWA 221-2002 CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Konkle

That Report PWA 221-2002, December 10, 2002, respecting the Property Acquisitions, Widening of Regional Road No. 102 (Stanley Avenue), Marineland Parkway to Dixon Street in the City of Niagara Falls, be received and the recommendations therein approved.

Carried.

528. Moved by Councillor McMullan
Seconded by Regional Chair Zimmerman

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

Staff was requested to:

- Provide Regional Council with clarification as to the Chargebacks – General Government Administration at the December 19, 2002 Committee of the Whole meeting. (Refers to Minute Item # 508)

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4:45 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on January 14, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.

Vance Badawey
Chair

Janet Pilon
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk