

The “**FIFTH MEETING**” (**SPECIAL**) of the Committee of the Whole was held at the Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 commencing at approximately 7:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Vance Badawey presided with the following members in attendance:

COUNCILLORS:

A. Desmarais	Y. Doucet
	B. Kenny
R. Bodner	B. Butters

Absent: D. Elliott (due to illness), W. Steele (due to illness), F. Danch (due to vacation)

STAFF:

R. Heil, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Aquilina, Director of Planning & Development
R. Hanson, Director of Engineering & Operations (for the open session portion)
P. Senese, Director of Community & Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk
H. Hakim, Manager of Community Services
T. Cartwright, Fire Chief (for the open session portion)
P. Peyton, Public Works Superintendent (for the open session portion)
J. Parry, Director of Library Services (for the open session portion)
S. Baswick, Museum Curator (for the open session portion)
A. Molenaar, Recording Clerk

Also in attendance was an interested citizen.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – MAYOR VANCE BADAWEY

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Y. Doucet
Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That the agenda dated February 11, 2014 be confirmed as circulated.
CARRIED.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. PRESENTATIONS

(a) Peter Senese, Director of Community and Corporate Services re: Continuation of Draft Budget Deliberations

- 2014 Operating Levy Summary
- 2014 Budget Worksheet Summary (January 20, 2014 meeting)
- Operating Levy Changes
- Programs and Services
- Funding Capital Amortization (Capital Replacement and New Capital)
- Memorandum re: Security Camera Upgrade at Algoport Skate Park
- Memorandum re: School Zone Warning Flashers
- Memorandum re: Temporary Roads Division Staff Person & Parks Sub-Foreman
- Niagara Central Airport Commission 2014 Operating Budget

DCCS Senese advised there were two additional pieces of correspondence distributed to Council this evening; in addition to the previously distributed February 11, 2014 tab, as follows:

1. **POCOMAR letter, requesting \$11,500.** DCCS Senese advised this request is already in the budget.
2. **Memo Re Monies for CIP Works – Downtown CBD and East Waterfront.** This memo was prepared for Council's review (Council request from the last budget meeting). It was discussed that a meeting will be scheduled in the future to discuss this memo with specific projects and how they affect debt and future capital projects. DCCS Senese advised this budget does not reflect any new projects.

In response to Council inquiry respecting the financial amount of CIP incentive initiatives, staff advised that there is \$50,000 set aside each year in the budget, that it is a first come, first served basis for all CIPs.

Staff advised that most of the money is spent between Main Street and Downtown and not much interest from residential. Staff advised that the \$50,000 is allocated every year.

Further to Council's request from the last budget meeting, directing staff to review any budget items that could be decreased, DCCS Senese advised that staff did review each budget line item and there were some that could be decreased and others required to be increased.

DCCS Senese reviewed page 1, 2014 Operating Levy Summary, with operating levy increase of 2.09%, adding Operations Changes to the levy increased it to 2.50%. DCCS Senese advised that the proposed 2014 tax levy is presently at 3.73%, decreased from the last budget meeting, including the capital levy and new debt costs.

DCCS Senese reviewed pages 3 to 5, noting under Other Proposed Changes \$50,000 for Fire Equipment – Capital was taken out of the Operating Levy to be funded from the Capital Levy Funds.

In response to Council inquiry respecting Golf Tournament item for \$8,000, on page 6, staff advised this item is not just for Canal Days, but recognizes sponsors for all events, i.e. Flavours, Museum, Library.

Discussion took place respecting New Year's Eve fireworks costs, that \$8,000 is for the fireworks and \$1,000 for other Special Events incidental items. Mayor Badawey elaborated on past sponsors and sponsorships for fireworks, targeting the budgeted amount listed for 2014 fireworks.

Discussion took place respecting page 6, Community Centre items – suggested sale to community groups. CAO Heil provided an explanation of offering the respective facilities to the groups that operate them, that it would allow the groups to take advantage of funding as not for profit purposes, i.e. lotteries. It was noted that this would be part of a strategic planning session for discussion, possibly for 2015 Budget.

Budget Requests from Council

DCCS Senese reviewed the items requested by Council that were brought forward at the last budget meeting.

Security camera Upgrade at Algoport Skate & BMX Park

DCCS referred to memo respecting the lighting issue at the Algoport Skate & BMX Park, noting the cost is approximately \$5,500.00 for infra-

red/"Lightfinder" cameras to be installed and to remove the old cameras. This item would be funded from the Capital levy.

Moved by Councillor B. Butters
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That Council approve the removal of the existing cameras at the Algoport Skate & BMX Park and supply and install new "Lightfinder" cameras in existing locations, including programming and set up at a cost of approximately \$5,500.00, excluding taxes.

CARRIED.

East Village/Victoria Park Improvements

Discussion took place respecting improvements at the East Village, in particular the basketball court/pad area and the pathway. Staff reviewed the options available as listed in memo on page 60 of the general 2014 budget package.

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor Y. Doucet

That \$10,000 be set aside for work to be done for the basketball court/pad area and the pathway; that drawings be mapped out for the park to include the pathway and basketball court options.

CARRIED.

Staff advised this would be funded from the Capital Levy.

School Zone Warning Flashers

Staff reviewed 'Memo – 2014 Budget Request – Revised Budget request for School Zone Flashers'.

Council Decision

Council not supportive of Request for School Zone Flashers.

Temporary Roads Division Staff Person and Parks Sub-Foreman

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That Council approve of a full time Parks Sub Foreman position at an additional cost of \$4,820; and

That Council approve of a Temporary Roads Division staff position at a cost of \$19,400.

CARRIED.

Niagara Central Airport Commission – 2014 Operating Budget

Staff advised this request from the Niagara Central Airport Commission is already included in the 2014 Budget. It was noted that this item will be part of a future Strategic Planning Session.

Conclusion:

DCCS Senese provided a recap that the tax levy is at 3.73% increase over 2013. He reviewed the estimate of tax rates, that the City tax rate is creased by 0.98% and due to assessment growth and shifts between tax

classes that an average assessed home of \$170,392, the City portion of taxes would increase approximately 1.42% or \$18.00. The blended tax increase with Region and School Boards is 0.14% or approximately \$4 to \$5 on the average home.

Moved by Councillor B. Butters
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That Council accept the 2014 budget as presented.
CARRIED

(b) Robert Heil, Chief Administrative Officer re: Service Audit Review Update

CAO Heil presented and reviewed Chief Administrative Report No. 2014-1. It was noted that this will be part of a future strategic planning session.

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor Y. Doucet

The Council of the City of Port Colborne receives the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, 2014-1, summarizing continuous cost reduction and revenue improvement measures as part of Council's Service Audit Initiatives.

CARRIED.

4. COUNCIL IN CLOSED SESSION – 9:00 P.M.

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor Y. Doucet

That Council proceed in closed session in order to address the following matter:

- (a) Confidential verbal report from the Chief Administrative Officer concerning matters impacting Niagara's South Coast Tourism Association, pursuant to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Subsection 239(2)(a), the security of the property of the municipality or local board

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor B. Butters
Seconded by Councillor B. Kenny

That Council do now rise from closed session with report at approximately 10:10 p.m.
CARRIED.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Nil.

6. MOTIONS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

- (a) **Confidential verbal report from the Chief Administrative Officer concerning matters impacting Niagara's South Coast Tourism Association, pursuant to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Subsection 239(2)(a), the security of the property of the municipality or local board**

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor B. Kenny

That Council recommend that \$9,213.00 budgeted for 2013 be paid to the Destination Marketing Organization, known as Niagara's South Coast Tourism Association, to be specifically used for marketing;

That \$9,000.00 budgeted for 2014 be held in Tourism Reserve.
CARRIED.

7. ADJOURN

Moved by Councillor Y. Doucet
Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That there being no further business, the Special Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at approximately 10:17 p.m.
CARRIED.

PS/am