

The “**TWENTY FIFTH MEETING**” (**SPECIAL**) of the Port Colborne City Council was held at the Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne on Monday, July 22, 2013 commencing at approximately 5:33 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Vance Badawey presided with the following members in attendance:

COUNCILLORS

D. Elliott	W. Steele
A. Desmarais	Y. Doucet
	B. Kenny
R. Bodner	B. Butters

Absent: F. Danch

REGIONAL COUNCILLOR

D. Barrick

STAFF

R. Heil, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Grigg, City Clerk
R. Hanson, Director of Engineering & Operations
P. Senese, Director of Community & Corporate Services
T. Cartwright, Fire Chief
D. D’Innocenzo, Recording Clerk

Interested citizens and members of the news media arrived shortly prior to the conclusion of the special meeting.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – MAYOR VANCE BADAWEY

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

No. 181 Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor Y. Doucet

That the agenda of the special meeting of Council of July 22, 2013 be confirmed as circulated.
CARRIED.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Department of Engineering and Operations, Engineering Division, Report No. 2013-16, Subject: Niagara Region Water and Wastewater Service Delivery Review

The Director of Engineering and Operations provided an overview of Department of Engineering and Operations, Engineering Division, Report No. 2013-16, Subject: Niagara Region Water and Wastewater Service Delivery Review. The Director of Engineering and Operations noted that the review does not explore whether perceived operational savings of the review could be implemented immediately within the current system. The Director advised that rates will have to increase in all of the local area municipalities to address the needs in area that have not been diligent in addressing infrastructure deficits. The Director noted that funds collected

would likely be allocated to areas that have not been diligent in addressing infrastructure needs. With regard to the transfer of the City's water and wastewater assets to the Region, the Director informed that the assets would likely be assumed by the Region, including debt.

The Director of Community and Corporate Services provided an overview of potential financial impact and informed that the City of Port Colborne currently receives \$424,000 as revenue in the tax levy from the Water/Wastewater budget. This revenue covers the City's overhead costs. Elimination of this revenue would result in a 3.5% levy impact. The Director advised that the Water and Wastewater Review Draft Final Report Outlines costing at a high level and that detailed financial data will not be available until the second phase of the study. The Director noted that the limited financial data creates difficulty in assessing financial impact and noted that more information is required on various matters including the conversion of the water billing system, the lack of information regarding one-time costs and potential savings.

Members of Council engaged in discussion and made enquiries of staff. A summary of discussion items is as follows:

- Concern with regarding loss of City assets to the Region.
- Concern regarding the inability of the Review Task Force to achieve quorum and how this may have impacted its ability to undertake the Water/Wastewater Service Delivery Review.
- Concern regarding loss of control at the municipal level, a potential disparity between large and small municipalities, and a negative impact on service.
- Potential negative financial impact on water/wastewater rate payers concerning the transfer of assets, debt and future capital investment, which have already been funded by rate payers at the local level.
- The method to be used for the prioritization of funding, particularly with respect to municipalities that have not addressed infrastructure repairs.

No. 182 Moved by Councillor W. Steele
Seconded by Councillor D. Elliott

That the Council of the City of Port Colborne receives this report for information purposes; and further

That Council confirms to the Region of Niagara that they do not support the further expenditure of monies for the implementation of a Single Tier Governance Model for the delivery of Water and Wastewater Services in the Region.

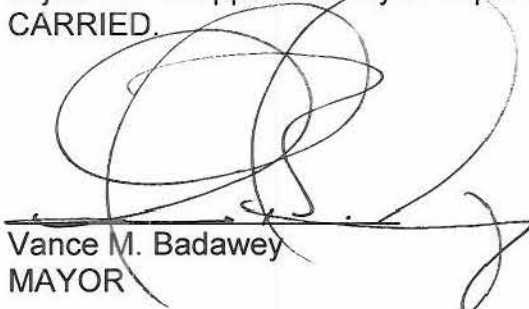
CARRIED.

4. ADJOURN

No. 183 Moved by Councillor B. Kenny
Seconded by Councillor Y. Doucet

That there being no further business, the special meeting of Council be adjourned at approximately 6:12 p.m.

CARRIED.


Vance M. Badawey
MAYOR


Ashley Grigg
CITY CLERK