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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 8-2006

Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, June 7, 2006, commencing at 9:10 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Martin, Co-Chair; Bentley, Burroughs, Casselman, Collins (Co-Chair), Harry, Heit, Salci, Saracino and Regional Chair Partington.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Bergsma, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Ms. Elliott, Director Organizational Development & Compensation Services; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Ricci, Acting Legislative Assistant.

Others: Mr. Kyne, Director, Legal Services; Mr. Lockyer, Treasurer/Director Financial Management & Planning; Mr. Murphy, Manager of Policy and Development; Ms. Williams, Senior Financial Analyst; Ms. Fontana, Director Corporate Health Services & Employee Relations.

Presenters: Mr. Dave Berner, National Bank Financial; Mr. Sunil Bhutani, CIBC World Markets; Mr. Tim VanAlstyne, RBC Capital Markets.

Regrets: Councillors Angelone, Hildreth and Zimmerman.

PRESENTATION

149. Niagara's "Fiscal Agency Syndicate"
Economic Update

Mr. David Berner, Senior Vice President, Government Finance – National Bank Financial; Mr. Sunil Bhutani, Executive Director – Debt Capital Markets – CIBC World Markets and Mr. Tim Van Alstyne, Director, Government Finance – RBC Capital Markets provided Committee members with a Summer 2006 Market Update.

Highlights were, in part, as follows:

- Overview of Market Conditions
- Fixed Income Market Update
- Maple Bond Market Overview
- Interest Rate Forecasts

As the Fiscal Agents for Region of Niagara, it was Mr. Berner, Mr. Van Alstyne and Mr. Bhutani's recommendation that the Region would be well advised to take advantage of the current flatness of the yield curves, the relatively tighter credit spreads and the historically attractive level of interest rate.

OPERATIONS (STATUS REPORTS)

150. **2006 Debenture Issue**
CSD 78-2006

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report CSD 78-, June 7, 2006, respecting the 2006 Debenture Issue, be received; and

That the Region's Fiscal Agents, through its lead manager National Bank Financial, be authorized to negotiate on the Region's behalf the sale of debentures for financing requirements in 2006 for the Region and certain area municipalities and

That the amount to be debentured shall not exceed \$100,000,000 and that the timing, term and interest costs be determined by the Region's Commissioner of Corporate Services in consultation with the Region's Chief Administrative Officer, the Region's Chair and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Corporate Services Committee and

That the relevant details be presented to Regional Council for information upon finalization of the issue and

That the Region's Commissioner of Corporate Services execute an agreement on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Niagara for the issue and sale of said Regional Debentures with the term and interest costs as determined by the authorization stated in recommendation #2 and

That the Regional Clerk ensure that the necessary by-law(s) be prepared to effect the sale and issue of the debentures and that the by-law(s) be presented to Regional Council for approval and

That Council authorize an extension of the Fiscal Agency agreement to govern the 2006 debenture issue as amended to reflect the new commission structure as agreed to between Regional staff and the Fiscal Syndicate and

That staff be directed to report back to Committee and Council upon finalization of the issue and new Fiscal Agency agreement.

Carried.

151. Cash Management Activities for the Second Quarter,
Third Quarter, Fourth Quarter and 2005 Year

CSD 76-2006

Moved by Councillor Saracino
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That Report CSD 76-2006, June 7, 2006, respecting the Cash Management Activities for the Second Quarter, Third Quarter, Fourth Quarter and 2005 Year, be received for information.

Carried.

152. Additional Engineering Fees – Contract
DeCew Falls Water Treatment Plant Phase 3 Upgrades
City of St. Catharines

CSD 77-2006 (PWA 118-2006)

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report CSD 77, 2006 (PWA 118-2006), June 7, 2006, respecting the Additional Engineering Fees – Contract DeCew Falls Water Treatment Plant Phase 3 Upgrades City of St. Catharines, be received; and

That budget funding previously approved in the amount of \$500,000 be initiated and transferred from Project ZCW0204 Capacity Upgrade at Welland Water Treatment Plant to Project ZCW9709/CW0019 DeCew Water Treatment Plant Phase 3 Upgrades and

That CH2M HILL Canada Limited be approved for additional engineering fees for engineering services provided for the DeCew Falls Water Treatment Plant Phase 3 Upgrades, Contract RN 03-54, in the City of St. Catharines in the amount of \$481,000.

Carried.

(Please note that Report CSD 77-2006 (PWA 118-2006) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES (Strategic Planning/ Policy)

153. 2006 Tax Policy Scenario / 2006 Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios/
2006 Industrial Education Tax Rates
CSD 79-2006

Moved by Councillor Salci
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report CSD 79-2006, June 7, 2006, respecting the 2006 Tax Policy Scenario / 2006 Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios / 2006 Industrial Education Tax Rates, be approved and adopted and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to amend By-Law 2006-37 to reflect Ontario Regulation 233/06 as follows:

Industrial Occupied	0.02634429
Industrial Excess Land	0.01712379
Industrial Vacant Land	0.01712379

and

That this report be received and circulated to the Councils of the Area Municipalities for information.

Carried.

INFORMATION

154. Corporate Employee Recognition Team (CERT)
"Recognition of Excellence" Award Winners
HR 18-2006

Moved by Councillor Bentley
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Report HR 18-2006, Corporate Employee Recognition Team (CERT) "Recognition of Excellence" Award Winners, June 7, 2006, be received for information.

Carried.

155. Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Chairman Partington

That Communication item CS 42-2006, a letter from from City of St. Catharines, (April 12, 2006) respecting Proposed 0% Tax Increase for Seniors on a Limited Fixed Income File: 10.57.99, be deferred to a future meeting.

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

156. Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held May 17, 2006
2-2006

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Salci

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting 2-2006 held May 17, 2006, be received (actions approved at Corporate Services Committee – May 17, 2006).

Carried.

157. Moved by Councillor Bentley
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That the following Reports be received for information

CSC 43-2006 Letter from Police Services Board (May 31, 2006) to Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk re: NRPS Variance Report – to April 30, 2006 102.2006

CSC 44-2006 Letter from Police Services Board (May 31, 2006) to Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk re: Purchasing Versadex Records Management System (RMS) Annual Maintenance Support – Period June 1, 2006 – May 31, 2007 98.2006

CSC 45-2006 Letter from Police Services Board (May 31, 2006) re: Novell Yearly Software License and Maintenance Upgrade Agreement 99.2006

CSC 46-2006 Letter (May 31, 2006) from the Ministry of Finance (Minister, Greg Sorbara) to Regional Chair Partington re: Niagara's industrial education tax rate has been reduced from 2.791562 per cent to 2.634429 per cent.

Carried.

158. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Harry

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

Carried.

159. Verbal Report
ONA (Homes) collective bargaining
CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That the Confidential Verbal Report, June 7, 2006, respecting ONA (Homes) collective bargaining, be received for information.

Carried.

160. Verbal Report
Water and Wastewater Reporting
CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That the Confidential Verbal Report, June 7, 2006, respecting Water and Wastewater, be received for information.

Carried.

161. Verbal Report
Waste Management
CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That the Confidential Verbal Report, June 7, 2006, respecting Waste Management, be received for information.

Carried.

162. Bill 102 “The Transparent Drug System for Patients Act, 2006”
HR 16-2006 CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That the Confidential Report HR 16-2006, June 7, 2006, respecting Bill 102 “The Transparent Drug System for Patients Act, 2006”, be received for information.

Carried.

163. Toluene Exposure Investigation
HR 17-2006 (PWP 42-2006) CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Salci

That the Confidential Report HR 17-2006 (PWP 42-2006), June 7, 2006, respecting Toluene Exposure Investigation, be received for information.

Carried.

164. Verbal Report
Personnel Issue
CONFIDENTIAL

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That the Confidential Verbal Report, June 7, 2006, respecting an update on a personnel issue, be received for information.

Carried.

165. Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

That staff be directed to:

- report back to Committee any information respecting CS 42-2006 that may come out of the June 16, 2006 scheduled meeting of Area Treasurers (See Minute Item 155)

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 11:05 a.m. to meet again on Wednesday, June 28, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Doug Martin
Co-Chair

Lisa Ricci
Acting Legislative Assistant

Mike Collins
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk