

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 2-2006

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health and Social Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, January 31, 2006 at 2:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Timms, Chair, PHSC; Baty, Vice Chair, PHSC; Marshall, Vice Chair, CSC; Partington, Regional Chair; Almas, Angelone, Bailey, Baty, Casselman, Harry, Trombetta

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Public Health; Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner of Community Services; Ms. Pennisi, Director Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Middleton, Administrative Assistant; Mr. Cunnane, Director Emergency Services; Mr. McQueen, Manager Emergency Services Administration; Ms. Bianco, Corporate Communications Strategist; Ms. Cousins, Business Partner; Mr. Pelette, Manager Housing Hostels; Mr. Ventresca, Director Seniors Services; Ms. St. John, Director Clinical Service; Mr. Nicol, Commission of Human Resources; Ms. Murphy, Program Auditor.

Guests: Ms. Souter, Chief Executive Officer of Community Care, St. Catharines & Thorold; Mr. Papp, Program Manager, Opportunities Niagara.

PRESENTATIONS

17. **St. Catharines Long-Term Shelter Committee**

Ms. Souter and Mr. Papp presented information regarding the St. Catharines Long-Term Shelter Committee.

The key points of the presentation were as follows:

- Beginnings – overview of the committees that were formed to find temporary and permanent solutions to the homelessness problem
- Long Term Shelter Committee – overview of what this committee has accomplished to date and who is involved in the committee
- Shelter Model Proposal
- Shelter Model Highlights
- Expected Future Outcomes

- Challenges

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That the presentation, respecting the St. Catharines Long Term Shelter Committee, be received and the Shelter Model Proposal be applied to all interested municipalities.

Carried.

18. Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That communication PHSS 2-2006, a letter from Mayor Rigby to Partington, "Regional Chair" (January 30, 2006) respecting the provision of continuous support to people who are homeless in St. Catharines, be received.

Carried.

REPORTS
(CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER)

19. Provincial Cost Sharing Programs
CAO 2-2006

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report CAO 2-2006, January 19, 2006, respecting the Provincial Cost Sharing Programs, be received.

That this Committee recommends to Regional Council that a more focused approach to Niagara's funding challenges be developed as part of Council Business Planning activities.

Carried.

OPERATIONS
(STATUS REPORTS)

20. Diagnostic & Medical Equipment Agreement
with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
COM 09-2006

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report COM 09-2006, January 31, 2006, respecting the Diagnostic & Medical Equipment Agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), be received.

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that the Regional Chairman and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the Diagnostic & Medical Equipment Agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in order to receive the identified funds totalling \$92,208 for the purchase of diagnostic and medical equipment.

Carried.

21. Pandemic Planning
Council Business Planning Session
PHD 05-2006

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that Report, PHD 05-2006, January 31, 2006, respecting the Pandemic Planning – Council Business Planning Session, be received for information; and

That Council support the recommendation that pandemic planning be a business planning topic addressed for 2006.

Carried.

22. Niagara Ambulance Communication Service (NACS) and
Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS): Six-Month Update
PHD 06-2006

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that Report, PHD 06-2006, January 31, 2006, respecting the Niagara Ambulance Communication Service (NACS) and Niagara Emergency Medical Service (NEMS): Six-Month Update, be received for information.

Carried.

23. 2006 Emergency Services Budget Options

Mr. Cunnane, Director Emergency Services, and Mr. McQueen, Manager Administration Emergency Services presented a brief overview of the 2006 Emergency Services Budget Options.

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee recommend that Option 3 (Service Level Improvements – May) of the 2006 Emergency Services Budget Options, at the net Budget Change of \$1,565,433, be approved.

Carried.

24. Public Health 2006 Mandatory Programs
Current Operating Budget
PHD 07-2006

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report, PHD 07-2006, January 31, 2006, respecting Public Health 2006 Mandatory Programs Current Operating Budget, be received for information, and;

That the Public Health and Social Services Committee supports the Public Health Department proposal that the 2006 Current Budget scenario that includes the minimal reinvestment of \$302,055 in public health programs and services and the 10.3% reduction of \$958,905 to the 2005 Region share of Public Health costs.

That the recommendations contained in this report be considered by the Budget Review Committee during the 2006 Budget Process.

Carried

25. Request for Capital Budget and Financing Approval
for Public Health Capital Project ZGR0602 –
Ambulance & Related Equipment
PHD 08-2006 (CSD 21-2006)

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report, PHD 08-2006 (CSD 21-2006), respecting the Request for Capital Budget and Financing Approval for Public Health Capital Project ZGR0602 – Ambulance & Related Equipment, January 31, 2006, be received and the following recommendations be approved.

That the budget allocation from the approved 2006 Public Health Capital Budget in the gross amount of \$1,090,000 and net amount of \$635,000 be approved and initiated for Capital Project ZGR0602 – Ambulance & Related Equipment;

That long-term financing (1-5 years) of \$420,000 be approved for Capital Project ZGR0602 – Ambulance & Related Equipment;

That, conditional upon official notification, the recently announced grant for \$443,196 be used to increase the gross Capital Project ZGR0602 by \$263,196 to \$1,353,196 and that \$180,000 be used to substitute long-term financing for the project for a net Region contribution of \$455,000 (\$215,000 capital levy and \$240,000 long-term financing);

That the budget allocation from the approved 2006 Public Health Capital Budget in the gross amount of \$60,000 and net amount of \$60,000 be approved and initiated for Capital Project ZGR0603 – Wainfleet Emergency First Response; and

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

Carried.

26. 2005 Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer of Health:
Building the Foundation of a Strong Public Health System
For Ontarians

PHD 09-2006

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Cassleman

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that Report, PHD 09-2006, January 31, 2006, respecting the 2005 Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer of Health: Building the Foundation of a Strong Public Health System for Ontarians, and the attached CMOH report, be received for information.

Carried

INFORMATION

27. Moved by Councillor Almas
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Communication PHSS 1-2006 Resolution from Grey Bruce Health Unit (January 27, 2006) to The Honourable Dalton McGuinty requesting immediate attention to the Resolution on Meeting Food Costs for All Low Income and Social Assistance Recipients, be received.

Carried.

28. Moved by Councillor Almas
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Communication COM 05-2006, Social Planning Council – Niagara Social Planning Network Progress Report, be received.

Carried.

29. Moved by Councillor Almas
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Communication COM 08-2006, Seniors Services Nursing Revenue 2006: A Status Report , be received.

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

30. Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Salci

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

Carried.

31. Organizational Structure and Program Adjustments
COM 06-2006 (HR 02-2006)

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Almas

That Report, COM 06-2006 (HR 02-2006), January 31, 2006, respecting Organizational Structure and Program Adjustments, be received and the recommendation therein approved.

Carried.

32. License Renewal – City of Niagara Falls
COM 07-2006 (PWA 26-2006)

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report, COM 07-2006 (PWA 26-2006) dated January 30, 2006, be received and the recommendation therein be approved.

Carried.

33. Moved by Councillor Almas
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTION

That staff be directed to:

- (i) Distribute copies of the Ambulance Offload Report, with respect to PHD 06-2006, Niagara Ambulance Communication Services (NACS) and Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS): Six Month Update, to Committee Members.
- (ii) Arrange for a presentation from NHS to address Ambulance Offload issues.
- (iii) Prepare a report to the Public Health and Social Services Committee regarding the smoking by law enforcement on school property.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee Adjourned at 5:00 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4, February 21, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

Bruce Timms
Co-Chair

Wendy Middleton
Administrative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk