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**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**  
**CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**REPORT 19-2001**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee, held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, October 24, 2001, commencing at 11:00 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Martin, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Badawey; Beamer; Bentley; Hildreth; Muir; Partington; Saracino.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner of Corporate Services; Mr. Hollick, Regional Clerk; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff  
(Part-time): Ms. Garrett, Manager, General Accounting.

Others: Police Chief Nicholls, Ms. Southall, C.A.O., Mr. Fisher, Finance Manager, Mr. Garvey, Human Resources Manager, Niagara Regional Police Services; Mr. Brunton, Member; Mr. Iggulden, Chair, Finance Committee, Police Services Board.

**PRESENTATION**

170. Niagara Regional Police Service

Councillor Muir, Chair, Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board, advised that members of the Niagara Regional Police Services and the Police Services Board were in attendance to provide an overview of the Niagara Regional Police Service Budget vs. Forecast for 2001 and to respond to any questions by Committee.

Councillor Muir introduced Mr. Iggulden, Chair of the Police's Finance Committee. Mr. Iggulden highlighted the expenditures and revenues of

the Niagara Regional Police Service for 2001, as well as the revisions made to the budget. Mr. Iggulden commented that the biggest impact on the budget and the most difficult to forecast, continues to be "Other Benefits & Allowances", specifically overtime costs. The budget to date reflects a small surplus, (in effect a break-even situation) but is subject to adjustments for the remaining quarter. The actual impact of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Terrorism Attack on the budget is still unknown.

Chair Zimmerman advised that the Province has indicated that they are prepared to pay for costs incurred by municipalities and regions related to the attack, in particular border towns. The Regional Chair recommended that she forward a letter, together with Councillor Muir, as Chair of the Police Services Board, enclosing an invoice for costs. Ms. Southall advised that they have already isolated the costs and prepared an invoice for this purpose.

Councillor Badawey commented that the other item that will affect the budget relates to the Ministry's order with respect to the Voice Radio Project and the improvements required to maintain the safety of the current system through the transition period to a stand alone system. The Police Services Board has approved \$100,000 out of the current operating budget for this purpose. Committee was advised that the impact of the Voice Radio Project would be reflected in the 2002 budget.

In discussion of the proposed 2002 operating budget, Ms. Southall advised that the Police's budget will be going to their Finance Committee in November and final approval of the budget is expected for November 29<sup>th</sup>. She commented that there are some outstanding issues with respect to the Police's Capital Budget relating to facility and technology matters. Mr. Bacchus asked that the Police submit their budgets as soon as possible, noting that the Capital Financing Policy recommends that Capital Budgets be approved prior to approval of current budgets.

#### **CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

171. Update on the Use of the Reduction Relief Reserve for Local Service Realignment Costs

Moved by Councillor Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report CSD 108-2001, October 24, 2001, respecting Update on the Use of the Reduction Relief Reserve for Local Service Realignment Costs,

be received for information and amended as suggested by the Commissioner of Corporate Services.

Carried.

172. Summary of Quotations, Tenders and Authorizations

Moved by Councillor Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

That Report CSD 109-2001, October 24, 2001, respecting Summary of Quotations, Tenders and Authorizations, be received for information.

Carried.

**MINUTES**

173. Report BRC 2-2002

Moved by Councillor Badawey  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report BRC 2-2002, being the minutes of the Budget Review Committee meeting of Monday, October 15, 2001, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

174. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Moved by Councillor Badawey  
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That the following communications be received:

CFS 59-2001      Resolution from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent requesting the Ontario Ministry of Energy Science & Technology to consider the economic implications of the drastic increase in energy costs to all Ontario energy providers.

CFS 60-2001      Tom Sweeting, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance (September 20, 2001) advising that the Minister of Finance has indicated that the Province will

not be providing municipalities with financial assistance with respect to the costs associated with implementing new municipal tax bills.

CFS 61-2001 Ann Mulvale, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (October 9, 2001) regarding New Strategy for Federal and Provincial Participation in Municipal Infrastructure.

Carried.

175. **CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Councillor Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

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

Carried.

176. Communication CFS 61-2001/PWC 76-2001

Moved by Councillor Beamer  
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That staff be directed to prepare a report on the Niagara Regional Police Services' radio communications system, in consultation with Police Service's staff, that addresses legal, spending authority and financing issues prior to any single source commitments being made.

Carried.

177. Water and Wastewater Division's Energy Audit  
And Energy Management Plan – Electrical Energy  
Procurement Procedures in a Deregulated Marketplace

Moved by Councillor Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report CSD 110-2001, October 24, 2001 (PWA 190-2001, October 23, 2001) respecting Water and Wastewater Division's Energy Audit and Energy Management Plan – Electrical Energy Procurement Procedures in a Deregulated Marketplace, be received.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw is prepared for submission to Regional Council authorizing the Commissioner of Corporate Services to sign, on behalf of the Water and Wastewater Division, Confidentiality Agreements with potential electrical energy suppliers, and;

That the Regional Clerk be directed to prepare the appropriate bylaw permitting the Commissioner of Corporate Services and the Commissioner of Public works to co-sign, at their discretion and in the best interests of the Region, a Confidential Electrical Supply Contract with the preferred electrical energy suppliers.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Partington  
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Committee adjourned at 11:35 a.m. to meet on Wednesday, November 7, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Doug Martin  
Committee Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick  
Regional Clerk