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## **THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA**

### **PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

#### **REPORT 20-2001**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, December 11, 2001 commencing at 1:50 p.m.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Badawey, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Eke, Harry, McMullan, Redekop, Rigby, Trombetta.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Neville, Commissioner of Public Works; Cousins, Director, Transportation Services Division; Payne, Director, Waste Management Services Division; Brcic, Director, Water & Wastewater Services Division; Sidawi, Director, Operation Support Services Division; Ms. Pilon, Legislative Assistant.

Staff (Part-time): Messrs. Bousfield, Manager Property and Facility Management; Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Roach, Manager, Public Works Financial Services; Kaas, Acting Manager of Budgets & Reporting; Ms. Habermehl, Manager, Solid Waste Collection & Diversion Operations.

Other: Councillors Burroughs, Beamer.

There being a lack of ordinary quorum at the meeting, the Committee Chair determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to six members, pursuant to Part II, Section 11.7 of the Procedural By-law 7174-93.

#### **PRESENTATION**

507. Overview of the 2002 Consolidated Budget

Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services, highlighted the timetable for the 2002 Budget Process. He commented that the budget process is on schedule and it is anticipated that the budget will be presented to Committee

of the Whole for approval on January 17, 2002. Mr. Bacchus cautioned that the only difficulty that could develop would be with the Police Budget.

*At this point in the meeting a quorum was achieved.*

Mr. Bacchus provided an overview of the proposed 2002 Consolidated Budget, noting that the information presented does not include the Police Budget. Proposed 2002 net expenditures are estimated at \$147,368,046. This represents a change of \$7,203,240 or 5.14% over 2001. 2002 proposed revenue is estimated at \$10,539,596, which represents a revenue loss of \$3,518,121 over the 2001 budget. Mr. Bacchus highlighted the contributing factors to the budget increase of \$10,721,361. This amount, he commented was adjusted for the Budget Review Committee recommendation to add \$320,000 to the Community Services Budget. The Net Tax Levy Burden to the taxpayer for Regional Departmental Services is \$9,208,076 or 7.30% after assessment growth of 1.2%.

Mr. Bacchus advised that the Corporate Management Team (CMT) met and following review of each department's budget, developed a proposal for a reduction of expenditures in the amount of \$2,865,500. A review of revenues also provided for an additional \$1,710,000. These reductions were accepted by the Budget Review Committee at its meeting of December 5, 2001.

Mr. Bacchus advised the Committee that the Canada Pension Plan expenditure would be reduced by an estimated \$704,000, following the receipt of the regulations.

The revised net levy impact (excluding Police), if reductions are approved, and the estimated \$740,000 reduction in Canada Pension Plan expenditure is applied, would then represent an increase of an estimated 3.12%.

A discussion ensued regarding the revised Net Levy impact (excluding Police) and it was:

Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the 2002 Consolidated Budget be referred back to the Budget Review Committee with the direction that the 2002 Budget be reduced to achieve a 0% Net Levy increase.

That staff of each department be requested to make recommendations and suggestions on how their department's expenditures can be reduced and revenues increased, to facilitate an overall 2002 0% Net Levy increase.

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

**CLOSED SESSION**

508. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Regional Chair Zimmerman

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

Carried.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Councillor McMullan declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the matter of PWA 220-2001, December 11, 2001, Property Matter, Confidential Report, as his father is a volunteer at the Niagara Recycling Facility, and therefore left the room.

509. Property Matter  
City of Niagara Falls  
**PWA 220-2001 CONFIDENTIAL**

Moved by Councillor Harry  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report PWA 220-2001, dated December 11, 2001, respecting the Property Matter in the City of Niagara Falls, be received and the recommendations therein approved.

Carried.

510. Property Acquisition  
Widening of Regional Road 57 (Thorold Stone Road)  
Between Kalar Road and Davis Road  
City of Niagara Falls  
**PWA 221-2001 CONFIDENTIAL**

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWA 221-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Property Acquisition, Widening of Regional Road 57 (Thorold Stone Road) between Kalar Road and Davis Road in the City of Niagara Falls, be received and the recommendations therein approved.

Carried.

511. American Ref-Fuel - Proposal for  
Solid Waste Disposal Pilot Program

The Committee was provided with an update on negotiations with American Ref-Fuel – Proposal for Solid Waste Disposal Pilot Program.

512. Moved by Councillor Redekop  
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

**DEFERRED REPORTS**

513. Proposed All Way Stop Control  
Intersection of Regional Road 122 (Helena Street)  
and Washington Road/Albany Street  
Town of Fort Erie  
**PWA 214-2001**

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report PWA 214-2001, November 27, 2001, respecting the Proposed All Way Stop Control, Intersection of Regional Road 122 (Helena Street) and Washington Road/Albany Street in the Town of Fort Erie, be received.

That an all-way stop control be erected at the intersection of Regional Road 122 (Helena Street) and Washington Road/Albany Street; and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to ensure that the necessary by-law amendment be presented to Council on December 20, 2001. (Transportation)

Defeated.

Councillor Badawey, Committee Chair vacated the Chair, and Councillor Redekop, Committee Vice Chair, presided over the remainder of the meeting.

514. Road Salt Management Assessment Study  
Phase I – October 2001

**PWA 219-2001**

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWA 219-2001, November 27, 2001, respecting the Road Salt Management Assessment Study Phase I – October 2001, be received.

That the report entitled "Road Salt Management Assessment Study – Phase I", prepared by Ecoplans Limited be received and that staff proceed as expeditiously as possible with implementation of the recommendations contained therein;

That a copy of the report be forwarded to the Ecological Environmental Advisory committee for their information. (Transportation)

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

A copy of the Toronto Star article, respecting an alternative to salt, that will be used in Grey County this winter has been distributed to all Regional Councillors for their information.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Staff Recommendations  
For Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the following staff recommendations contained in PWA Summary, December 11, 2001:

515. Regional Approval of Municipal Traffic By-laws

**PWA 222-2001**

That Report PWA 222-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting Regional Approval of Municipal Traffic By-laws, be received.

That Regional Council pass a by-law, under Section 34(3) of "*The Regional Municipalities Act*", eliminating the need for area municipalities to have the approval of Regional Council for local by-laws regulating traffic.

That this by-law require that the Commissioner of Public Works (or designate) still be required to carry out a peer review of all local by-laws

regulating traffic to ensure that there are no potential negative impacts on the King's Highway or Regional Road systems.

516. That this by-law become effective January 1, 2002. (Transportation)  
Agreement for Road Improvements

Proposed Supermarket  
Owner: 1445640 Ontario Inc.  
Regional Road 20 (formerly Highway 20)  
Town of Pelham

**PWA 223-2001**

That Report PWA 223-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Agreement for Road Improvements, Proposed Supermarket, Owner: 1445640 Ontario Inc., Regional Road 20 (formerly Highway 20) in the Town of Pelham, be received.

That 1445640 Ontario Inc., owner of a proposed supermarket to be located on the south side of Regional Road 20 (formerly Highway 20) and known municipally as 110 Highway 20 East, be required to enter into an Agreement with the Region to address the conditions as outlined in this report;

That the Agreement outline responsibilities and secure financial commitments associated with the construction of the required road improvements at this location;

That the Director Legal Services be requested to prepare the necessary Agreement;

That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk be authorized to execute this Agreement; and

That the Commissioner of Public Works be authorized to proceed with the publication of a Notice of Meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal and Environmental Assessment Acts. (Operational Support)

517. Municipal Traffic By-laws

**PWA 224-2001**

That Report PWA 224-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Municipal Traffic By-laws, be received.

That the following local traffic by-laws be approved:

No. 2001-227	City of Niagara Falls	Stop Signs and Through Highways
No. 2001-228	City of Niagara Falls	Heavy Vehicle Restriction

& Prohibited Turns

(Transportation)

518. Appointing Municipal By-law  
Enforcement Officers  
City of St. Catharines

**PWA 225-2001**

That Report PWA 225-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Appointing Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers in the City of St. Catharines, be received.

That the Regional Municipality of Niagara By-law appointing certain employees of Larkwood Communications Limited to enforce parking regulations on Regional roads in the City of St. Catharines be amended by deleting Shaun Robbie and Shawn Lawrence and adding Clifford Jessome and Frank Mallette as Municipal By-law Enforcement officers;

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the necessary by-law is presented to Council on December 20, 2001. (Transportation)

519. Proposed Speed Limit Reduction  
Regional Road 27 (formerly Highway 57)  
and No Engine Brake Sign  
Regional Road 63 (Canborough Road)  
Township of West Lincoln

**PWA 226-2001**

That Report PWA 226-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Proposed Speed Limit Reduction, Regional Road 27 (formerly Highway 57) and No Engine Brake Sign, Regional Road 63 (Canborough Road) in the Township of West Lincoln, be received.

That a speed limit reduction from the posted speed of 80 km/h is not warranted on Regional Road 27 (Former Highway 57) from the Township of Wainfleet boundary northerly; and

That staff are not recommending the installation of signs "Truck Avoid Use of Engine Brakes" due to legal implications; and

That a copy of this report be forwarded to the Township of West Lincoln.  
(Transportation)

520. Proposed Closing and Conveying of  
Part of Graham Street  
City of Niagara Falls

**PWA 227-2001**

That Report PWA 227-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Proposed Closing and Conveying of Part of Graham Street in the City of Niagara Falls, be received.

That the City of Niagara Falls be advised that the Region of Niagara has no objections to the closing and conveying of an untravelled portion of Graham Street. (Transportation)

521. Transfer of the Fonthill Well Site  
Town of Pelham

**PWA 228-2001**

That Report PWA 228-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Transfer of the Fonthill Well Site in the Town of Pelham, be received.

That the Fonthill Wells (Sites 1 and 2) and their appurtenant watermains be decommissioned and removed from the Regional Water System.

That the associated lands and buildings be conveyed to the Town of Pelham for nominal consideration, provided the lands are used for park purposes and no other, without the consent of Regional Council.

That the easements associated with the watermains be released and abandoned.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-law is submitted to Regional Council authorizing the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk to execute the necessary documents. (Operational Support)

522. Closure of the Line 5 Residential Waste Drop-Off Depot

**PWA 229-2001**

That Report PWA 229-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Closure of the Line 5 Residential Waste Drop-Off Depot, be received.

That the Line 5 Residential Waste Drop-Off Depot be closed on March 31, 2002 and further that the residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake be informed to use the new Residential Waste Drop-Off Depot being constructed at the Niagara

Waste System Limited (Walker Industries) Facility in the City of Thorold.  
(Waste Management)

523. Completion Certificate for Contract RN. 99-46  
Decommissioning of Coon Road Sludge (Biosolids)  
Storage Site  
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

**PWA 230-2001**

That Report PWA 230-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Completion Certificate for Contract RN. 99-46, Decommissioning of Coon Road Sludge (Biosolids) Storage Site in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, be received.

That a completion certificate, in the amount of \$655,712.68, payable to Hard Rock Paving Co. Ltd., for the decommissioning of Coon Road Waste Storage site, be authorized;

That a completion date for this contract be established as September 21, 2001. (Water & Wastewater Services)

524. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That PWA Summary, December 11, 2001, and the foregoing recommendations of Reports PWA 222-2001 to PWA 230-2001 inclusive, be received and accepted.

Carried.

**PROGRESS REPORTS**

525. Proposed 2002 Public Works Current Budget

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That the Report PWP 115-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the 2002 Public Works Current Budget for Administration, Transportation Services and Operational Support Services Divisions, be deferred to the next meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee.

Carried.

526. 2002 Capital Budget and Nine-Year  
Forecast for Roads and Buildings and  
Equipment Programs

Moved by Councillor Eke  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 116-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the 2002 Capital Budget and Nine-Year Forecast for Roads and Buildings and Equipment Program, be deferred to the next meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee.

Carried.

527. Public Works Staff Comments on  
Development and Related Proposals

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 107-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Public Works Staff Comments on Development and Related Proposals, be received for information.

Carried.

528. Public Works Staff Comments on  
Municipal Servicing Applications

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 108-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Public Works Staff Comments on Municipal Servicing Applications, be received for information.

Carried.

529. Construction Progress Report  
Waste Management Services

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 109-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Construction Progress Report, Waste Management Services, be received for information.

Carried.

530. Billing Meters

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 110-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting Billing Meters, be received for information.

Carried.

531. Construction Progress Report  
Water & Wastewater Services

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 111-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Construction Progress Report, Water & Wastewater Services, be received for information.

Carried.

532. Construction Progress Report  
Transportation Division

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 112-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Construction Progress Report, Transportation Division, be received for information.

Carried.

533. Road Closure Action Plan Update

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 113-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Road Closure Action Plan Update, be received for information.

Carried.

534. Biosolids Master Plan  
Implementation of Recommendations

Moved by Councillor Trombetta  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PWP 114-2001, December 11, 2001, respecting the Biosolids Master Plan, Implementation of Recommendations, be received for information.

Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

535. Communications listed in Report PWC Summary, December 11, 2001, were received and dealt with as follows:

PWC 85-2001 – (November 21, 2001) – **Paul Nieweglowski**, District Manager, Ministry of the Environment, to Robert Lyng, Environment Division, Electricity Production, regarding the Lake Gibson sediment and providing comments on the Supplemental Sediment Survey Scope of Work.

-- Received

PWC 86-2001 – **Articles from Environment Canada's Backgrounder** – "Science Assessment and Risk Management of Road Salts" and "Road Salts – Frequently Asked Questions".

-- Received

PWC 87-2001 – (December 5, 2001) – **Status on Proposal from American Ref-Fuel for Solid Waste Disposal Pilot Program.**

-- Received

536. Moved by Councillor McMullan  
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That the PWC Summary, December 11, 2001, be received and dealt with as directed by this Committee and as noted in these minutes.

Carried.

#### **MINUTES**

537. Minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee Meeting of Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That the minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee meeting held Tuesday, November 27, 2001, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

#### **ACCOUNTS**

538. Moved by Councillor Rigby  
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That the following accounts list be approved for payment:

for the period ending November 30, 2001	\$5,116,724.02
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Carried.

#### **STAFF DIRECTIONS**

Staff was requested to:

- Provide information on the number of outside consultants the Region of Niagara retains and the associated costs. (Corporate Services)

- Provide information on the number of existing staff members and the number of proposed new staff members being proposed in the 2002 budget by department. (Corporate Services)
- Provide Councillor Redekop with a copy of the complete "Road Salt Management Assessment Study – Phase 1" report, prepared by Ecoplans Limited. (Public Works)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 4:10 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on January 15, 2002 at 1:30 p.m.

Vance Badawey  
Chair

Wayne Redekop  
Vice Chair

Janet Pilon  
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick  
Regional Clerk