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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 4-2003

Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, February 26, 2003, commencing at 10:10 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Martin, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Badawey; Bentley; Burroughs; Davidson; Partington; Saracino; Timms.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, C.A.O.; Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Mr. Hollick, Regional Clerk; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff
(Part-time): Mr. Banting, Director, Legal Services; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operational Support Services, C.S.D.; Mr. J. Murphy, Mgr., Policy & Development; Mr. Robson, Director, Corporate Strategy; Ms. Williams, Senior Financial Analyst.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

38. West Nile Virus – Budget 2003

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Partington declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report CSD 28-2003/PHD 14-2003 regarding West Nile Virus – Budget 2003, as his spouse is employed by the Public Health Department, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on this matter.

Dr. Williams, Medical Officer of Health, together with Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection and Promotion, provided an overview of the activities related to the control of the West Nile Virus. Information was provided on the enhanced budget submitted to the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) for a total of \$1,428,702. Also, highlighted was the enhanced contingency funding that will be required if the MOHLTC does not provide 100% funding for this program.

Committee members reiterated the concerns of the Community and Health Services Committee members that a Province wide strategy needs to be developed with respect to activities and funding to control the West Nile Virus.

Moved by Councillor Saracino
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That Report PHD 14-2003, February 24, 2003 (CSD 28-2003, February 26, 2003), respecting West Nile Virus – Budget 2003, be received.

That Committee and Council receive for information the enhanced budget for West Nile Virus that has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as per direction from Committee (CHSC-PHD 05-2003).

That consideration be given to a financing plan for this program following a determination by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on its financial assistance.

That staff report back with respect to the direction towards a Province-wide strategy and funding regarding West Nile Virus Control; and

That staff report on the results of Regional/ Municipal Consultation.

Carried.

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

39. County of Renfrew Resolution
Re: Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMP's) &
Impact on POA Revenues

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That Report CLK 08-2003, February 26, 2003, respecting County of Renfrew Resolution Re: Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMP's) & Impact on POA Revenues, be received.

That the Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara affirm its support for the position taken by the County of Renfrew which opposes the adoption of an Administrative Monetary Penalties Policy by any Ministry of the Government of Ontario and

That the Government of Ontario set aside implementation of the Administrative Monetary Penalties Policy pending further consultation with municipalities administering Provincial Offences Courts and

That the Ministry of the Attorney General provide a report of historical data relating to convictions under the Acts for which AMP's have been introduced or are contemplated for introduction and

That a copy of the resolution in support of this position be forwarded to the Councils of all devolved municipal POA courts, all local area municipal Councils, and to all local area members of Provincial Parliament for their information and support.

Carried.

Members of Committee, while supporting the County of Renfrew resolution, expressed their concern regarding the perceived contradiction as it relates to the redirection of funds from municipalities administering Provincial Offences Courts to the Police S.T.E.E.P. Program and suggested that the Police Services Board provide an information report to Committee regarding the program.

Moved by Councillor Partington
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board be requested to provide an information report to the Corporate and Financial Services Committee regarding the S.T.E.E.P. Program.

Carried.

40. www.regional.niagara.on.ca
Regional Website Evaluation Survey

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report CLK 09-2003, dated February 26, 2003 and titled www.niagara.on.ca Regional Website Evaluation Survey, be received for information and referred to the Public Information and Communications Advisory Committee for discussion.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT (continued)

41. Niagara Regional Housing Debt and Mortgage Structures

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Badawey declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report CSD 26-2003 regarding Niagara Regional Housing Debt and Mortgage Structures, as a member of his family is Chair of the Board, and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report CSD 26-2003, February 26, 2003, respecting Niagara Regional Housing Debt and Mortgage Structures, be received for information.

Carried.

42. Annual Review of Investment Policies and Practices

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report CSD 27-2003, February 26, 2003, regarding Annual Review of Investment Policies and Practices, be received.

That the amended guidelines, attached to Report CSD 27-2003, for 2003 governing investments of Regional funds not currently being used be approved and adopted.

That the Chief Administrative Officer send a letter to the Province expressing appreciation for the current legislative requirements contained in the Municipal Act and the Trustees Act that allows for a significant enhancement of the Niagara Region's Investment Program.

Carried.

43. 2003 Federal Budget

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report CSD 29-2003, February 26, 2003, regarding the 2003 Federal Budget, be received for information.

Carried.

44. Amendment to Development Charges By-law No. 111-1999

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report CSD 30-2003 regarding Amendment to Development Charges By-law No. 111-1999, as his family has an interest in a development company and he therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on this matter.

Moved by Chair Zimmerman

Seconded by Councillor Partington

That Report CSD 30-2003, February 26, 2003, respecting Amendment to Development charges By-law No. 111-1999, be received.

That staff be authorized to proceed with the process to amend Regional By-law 111-1999 as outlined in this report.

That the attached draft amending by-law be received and made available for public review.

That Report CSD 30-2003 be adopted as the Development Charges Background Study required to be completed under Section 10 of the Development charges Act, 1997.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

45. Alert! – Member Communication
Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Mr. Bacchus apprised Committee of the AMO Alert with respect to “Why Ontario’s Municipalities are Disappointed in the Federal Budget and Why Leadership from the Province is Needed”. Committee suggested that Council prepare a resolution with respect to this matter for Regional Council’s support at its next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

46. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Chair Zimmerman

That Communication CFS 9-2003 from Garry Cartwright, President, Search and Rescue Niagara (January 29, 2003) requesting funding of \$3,000.000 to assist them in their training efforts be received and that a letter be forwarded to Mr. Cartwright advising that the Region no longer has a Permissive Grant Policy.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Communication CFS 10-2003 from Douglas Lapp, General Manager, Niagara Region Enbridge (February 3, 2003) regarding Natural Gas Prices and Energy Efficiency, be received for information.

Carried.

MINUTES

47. **Report 1-2003**

Moved by Councillor Partington
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report 1-2003, being the minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee of Council on Property Assessment and Taxation Reform meeting of February 19th, 2003, be approved.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 11:15 a.m. to meet on Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Doug Martin
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk