


To view related Council minutes, select the Adobe hand tool  and click on the link below.
<http://www.regional.niagara.on.ca/clerks/minutes/2003/cl/cl06-2003.pdf>

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT 7-2003

Minutes of a meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, April 9, 2003, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Martin, Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Beamer; Burroughs; Davidson; Hildreth; Muir; Partington; Saracino; Timms.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Lockyer, Treasurer; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff
(Part-time): Mr. Banting, Director, Legal Services; Mr. Bernard, Manager, Niagara Area Courts; Mr. Cunnane, Director, Public Safety; Mr. Diakow, Director, Information Systems; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services, P.H.; Mr. Murphy, Manager, Policy & Development; Mr. Schlange, Manager, Partnership Development; Mr. Weaver, Corporate Effectiveness and Financial Performance Analyst.

ADMINISTRATION

75. Ontario Municipal CAO's Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI) 2002 "Getting Results"

Mr. Weaver, Corporate Effectiveness and Financial Performance Analyst, provided an update on the progress made and gains achieved through the Region's participation in OMBI. He highlighted the expert panels that include Long Term Care, Emergency Medical Services, Roads, Water and Wastewater and Solid Waste Management. Two other groups that provide support to the project are the Treasurers Group and the Communications Group. Mr. Weaver advised that each municipal service panel has been successful in moving forward.

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That Report CAO 8-2003, Aril 9, 2003, regarding Ontario Municipal CAO's Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI) 2002 "Getting Results", be received for information; and

That staff provide a further report in conjunction with MPMP reporting that highlights where Niagara stands relative to other OMBI municipalities.

Carried.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

76. Request for Capital Budget and Financing Approval for Public Health Project ZGR0302 – Purchase of Vehicles And Equipment for Land Ambulance Services

Moved by Councillor Partington
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report CSD 46-2003, April 9, 2003 (PHD 24-2003, April 7, 2003) regarding Request for Capital Budget and Financing Approval for Public Health Capital Project ZGR0302 – Purchase of Vehicles and Equipment for Land Ambulance Services, be received.

That the budget allocation from the approved 2003 Public Health Capital Budget in the gross amount of \$850,000 (net \$425,000) be approved for Capital Project ZGR0302 – Vehicles and Equipment re Land Ambulance Service;

That the debenture financing (1-5 years) of \$425,000 (net) for Capital Project – Vehicles and Equipment re Land Ambulance Service be approved; and

That the Regional Clerk be directed to prepare the appropriate by-laws for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

77. Outside Legal and Paralegal Services Request for Proposals #2002-RFP-18

Moved by Councillor Saracino
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That Report CSD 47-2003, April 9, 2003 (COM 18-2004, HR 14-2003, DPD 50-2003), regarding Outside Legal and Paralegal Services Request for Proposals #2002-RFP-18, be deferred pending further information.

That staff be directed to provide Council with a further report, which includes a comparison of staff lawyers in other Regional and local area municipalities, and reviews areas of law that might be more cost effectively addressed in-house.

That local law firms be contacted, through local bar associations, as to their interest in responding to the request for proposals.

Carried.

78. Request for Capital Budget and Financing Approval for Public Health Capital Project ZGR0101 – Land Ambulance Buildings

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report CSD 48-2003, April 9, 2003 (PHD 27-2003, April 7, 2003) regarding Request for Capital Budget and Financing Approval for Public Health Capital Project ZGR0101- Land Ambulance Buildings, be received.

That the budget allocation from the approved 2003 Public Health Capital Budget in the gross amount of \$700,000 be approved for Capital Project ZGR0101 – Land Ambulance Buildings;

That the project financing be approved as follows:

- \$309,456 debenture financing (1-10 years)
- \$203,931 Capital Levy Reserve
- \$186,613 Ambulance Severance Reserve Fund; and

That the Regional Clerk be directed to prepare the appropriate by-laws for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

79. Review of Regional Development Charges By-law
And Related Policies

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Timms declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Report CSD 49-2003 regarding Review of Regional Development Charges By-law and Related Policies, 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 Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report CSD 49-2003, April 9, 2003, respecting Review of Regional Development Charges By-law and Related Policies, be received.

That the Development Charges Staff Task Force be authorized to request proposals from qualified consultants to undertake a comprehensive review of the Region's Development Charges By-law and related policies and that the proposals so requested respond to the attached terms of reference.

That the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Regional Chief Administrative officer be authorized to execute the attached agreement to engage the selected consultant based on the criteria identified in Section 1 (15) of the attached terms of reference.

That 90% of the cost of the review be funded proportionally from the development charges reserve funds and that the remaining 10% be funded from the capital levy reserve.

Carried.

80. Closure of Various Water, Wastewater and
Waste Management Capital Projects

Moved by Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report CSD 50-2003, April 9, 2003 (PWA 54-2003, April 8, 2003) respecting Closure of Various Water, Wastewater and Waste Management Capital Projects, be received.

That transfers to and from the Wastewater Capital Works Reserve Fund (0030-0961), as shown in Appendix 1, be approved to accommodate substitution of previously approved debenture financing and closeouts for Wastewater Capital Projects. Since the net transfers to the Wastewater Capital Works Reserve Fund are equal to the transfers from the Wastewater Capital works Reserve Fund, the net effect on the reserve balance is nil;

That total net transfers to the Water Operations Capital Works Reserve Fund (0030-0962) of \$449,510.81, as shown in Appendix 2, be approved to accommodate substitution of previously approved debenture financing and closeouts for Water Capital Projects;

That total net transfers to the Solid Waste Reserve Fund (003-0970) of \$740.52, as shown in Appendix 3, be approved to accommodate substitution of previously approved debenture financing and closeouts for Waste Management capital projects;

That funding allocations and project closeouts be completed as indicated in the respective Appendices;

That the Regional Clerk be instructed to prepare the appropriate by-law(s) for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

81. Award of Quotation Contract RN 03-16
Ontario Street Pumping Station Upgrades
Town of Lincoln

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Saracino

That Report CSD 51-2003, April 9, 2003 (PWA 55-2003, April 8, 2003), respecting the Award of Quotation Contract RN.03-16, Ontario Street Pumping Station Upgrades in the Town of Lincoln, be received.

That financing (Wastewater Capital Reserve) in the gross and net amount of \$150,000.00 be transferred from Project ZSW0104 Victoria Avenue Pumping Station Upgrades to Project ZSW0105, Ontario Street Pumping Station Upgrades.

That Quotation Contract RN 03-16, Ontario Street Pumping Station be awarded to W. A. Stephenson Mechanical Contractors Ltd. at their bid price of \$345,000.00, plus GST.

That a contingency amount of \$35,000.00 be provided for this project.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-laws are prepared for submission to Regional Council, including authorizing the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

That all project costs be charged against Project I.D. SW0105.

Carried.

82. Request for Capital Budget Allocation and Financing Approval for Projects from the 2003 Community Services Capital Programs

Moved by Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That Report COM 23-2003, April 7, 2003 (CSD 52-2003, April 9, 2003) regarding Request for Capital Budget Allocation and Financing Approval for Projects from the 2003 Community Services Capital Programs, be received.

That budget allocations in the gross and net amount of \$380,717 as submitted in the 2003 Capital Budget be approved for the Community Services Capital Program.

That the financing for the project include Capital Levy Reserve of \$380,717.

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

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

83. Moved by Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Muir

That Communication CFS 11-2003 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara (April 7, 2003) regarding NRPS Finance – Project ZPO 0301 IT Equipment Replacement 66.2003, be referred to staff.

Carried.

84. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That the following communications be received:

CFS 12-2003 Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara (April 7, 2003) regarding NRPS Finance – Award of Tender 2003-T-24 6-Compartment Offender Transport Units 68.2003.

CFS 13-2003 Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara (April 7, 2003) regarding NRPS Finance – NRPS Award of Tender 2003-T-16 – Replacement Vehicles 67.2003

CFS 14-2003 Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of
Niagara (April 7, 2003) regarding NRPS Finance – 2003
Vehicle and Special Equipment Replacement 69.2003

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

85. Moved by Councillor Partington
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Accounts Payable Expense Summary for the Period Ending February 28,
2003, in the following amounts be approved:

Administration & Corporate Services	\$ 2,474,353.43
Community Services	3,687,575.90
Planning & Development	4,765.29
Public Health	1,369,207.28
Public Works	4,577,978.04
Police Service	1,019,361.10
Outside Board's & Agencies	364,381.00
Non Departmental	<u>22,042,931.72</u>
Total	35,540,553.76
G.S.T. Rebate	<u>777,139.95</u>
Total Expense Payable	36,317,693.71
Holdback Amount	7,107,050.32
Total Expenses Paid	<u>\$29,210,643.39</u>

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

86. Provincial Budget

Chair Zimmerman advised that she would be writing the Minister of Finance to request clarification to the announcement by the Province that area municipalities will be receiving increased revenues. Clarification is required with respect to where this revenue is coming from and whether it is sustainable. Committee was advised that staff is preparing a report on the Provincial budget for Committee.

Moved by Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That the Regional Chair write a letter to the Minister of Finance requesting clarification to the Province's announcement that area municipalities will be receiving increased revenues; and

That staff, in its report to Committee, clarify what kind of revenue stream is being planned to increase revenues to area municipalities, is the funding limited and who pays it (province?).

Carried.

87. Expenditures of the Region

Councillor Burroughs advised that he has received a list from finance staff indicating that the Region's expenses are approximately \$700 million. He requested a breakdown of expenses for each Department.

CLOSED SESSION

88. Moved by Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

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

Carried.

89. Financial Support for Regional Staff Charged or Penalized

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Beamer

That Report CSD 53-2003, April 9, 2003 (HR 19-2003/PWA 64-2003, April 8), respecting Financial support for Regional Staff Charged or Penalized, be received; and

That, effective immediately, Regional Council approve the granting of financial support for Regional staff of the Water and Wastewater Division and Councillors, who are charged with offences or ordered to pay administrative Monetary Penalties, even though they were not negligent and did carry out their duties in a good, faithful and duly diligent manner.

That a corporate policy be prepared as quickly as possible, to provide more specific guidelines on Councillor and Employee Legal Indemnification; and

That the policy be forwarded to area municipalities to ensure uniformity across the Region.

That Regional Council members be polled by phone or e-mail to ratify this decision, effective the date of the poll.

Carried.

90. Legal Agreement with NRBN

Moved by Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Partington

That Report CSD 54-2003, April 9, 2002, respecting Legal Agreement with NRBN, be received for information.

Carried.

91. Niagara Region Broadband Network (NRBN)
Agreement Financial Review

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Muir

That Report CSD 55-2003, April 9, 2003, regarding Niagara Region Broadband Network (NRBN) Agreement Financial Review be received for information.

Carried.

92. Memorandum
Re: Award of Contract, POA Third Party Collections
Request for Proposals #2002-RFP-16
Report CLK 11-2003

Moved by Councillor Muir
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That the confidential memorandum from Bill Bernard, Manager, Niagara Area Courts, regarding Award of Contract, POA Third Party Collections Requests for Proposals #2002-RFP-16 Report CLK 11-2003, be received.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to meet on Wednesday, April 23, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Doug Martin
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk