

TOWNSHIP OF CHISHOLM

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: February 13th, 2014
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
LOCATION: Council Chambers

PRESENT: Mayor Leo Jobin
Councillors Susan Major and Cec Reid
Public Works Supervisor (PWS) Real Gauthier
Fire Chief Matt Plant
Clerk-Treasurer Linda Ringler
Members of the Public – As per attached sign in sheet

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Leo Jobin at 6:30 p.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution 2014-01 (FC)

Cec Reid – Susan Major: Be it resolved that the agenda be accepted as presented.
‘Carried’

3.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Resolution 2014-02 (FC)

Susan Major – Cec Reid: Be it resolved that the minutes of the November 5th, 2013 Finance Committee meeting be adopted as printed and circulated.
‘Carried’

4.0 REVIEW OF MEMO FROM CLERK-TREASURER

Clerk-Treasurer Linda Ringler read aloud her memo, dated February 10th, 2014, pertaining to Draft Budget No. 2 for the year 2014. The following items were also reviewed with the Committee:

- Board Levies
- Capital Projects
- Long Term Loan Repayments

- Summary of Reserve Funds to Feb. 10, 2014
- Local Tax Rate Survey – 2012
- Yearly surplus – 2008 – 2012
- Tax Rate/Levy Scenarios
- 2014 Tax Ratio Spread Sheet Data
- Seasonal Overtime
- Payroll costs

During the review of the above-noted items, the following questions/comments/decisions were made by the Committee:

- What percentage of calcium budget was used in 2013?
- The Committee was in favour of splitting the *Mandatory Maintenance Inspections* between 2014 and 2015.
- Committee would like bridges identified by names.
- Committee would like tender for Wasing Road Bridge done in early spring.

5.0 PRESENTATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Fire Chief Matt Plant was in attendance to question the Committee as to why his request to retain the 2013 Fire Dept. budgetary surplus in Fire Dept. reserves was refused by Council, and to discuss additional Fire Dept. budgetary needs for the year 2014 with the Committee.

Additional budgetary requirements approved by the Committee are outlined below:

- Three additional bunker suits for a total of \$5,000;
- Heat and hydro to be increased by \$1,000;
- Dry well installation - \$1,025, to be financed from contributions from reserves – Fire Dept.;
- Tanker Truck body work - \$7,000; and
- Fire Fighter Recognition – Increase of \$300 for a total of \$1,800, as there are 18 volunteer firefighters.

6.0 PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET

PWS Real Gauthier was in attendance to provide information with respect to his draft budget for the year 2014. PWS Gauthier provided a cost estimate from Spectrum Group for the purchase of new two-way radios, as a result of the Spectrum's discontinuance of its analog service at its Powassan tower site as of September 1st, 2014. PWS Gauthier was asked to look into how many new radios are required and report back to the Committee.

PWS Real Gauthier also advised that he will be looking at berm removal equipment at the OGRA Conference, and the Committee discussed items relating to this subject.

Mayor Leo Jobin advised the Committee that he has asked P. Eng. Antoine Boucher to look into repairs to the following roads in the event that government funding becomes available:

- Golf Course Road;
- Memorial Park Drive, west of Alderdale Road;
- Village Road;
- Golf Course Road; and
- Alderdale Road

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUDGET

There were no questions with respect to the Environmental Services Budget. PWS Gauthier left the meeting at this time.

Resolution 2014-03 (FC)

Cec Reid – Susan Major: Be it resolved that this Committee takes a ten-minute recess. **‘Carried’**

Time: 7:57 p.m.

Resolution 2014-04 (FC)

Susan Major – Cec Reid: Be it resolved that this Committee returns to regular session. **‘Carried’**

Time: 8:05 p.m.

8.0 OTHER DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS

The remaining departmental budgets were reviewed by Clerk-Treasurer Linda Ringler.

Councillor Susan Major put forward various reductions to budgetary allocations, which were accepted by the Committee.

9.0 OPEN FORUM

During the Open Forum, the following questions/comments were raised by the members of the public in attendance:

- Powassan Library – is this a cost we have to pay? Is it legislated?
- Why is the Administration budget 10% higher than last year?
- Why is the tax rate so high for all the years when there were surpluses?

- Why do we have so much in reserves – Take from reserve funds to reduce rate.
- Wistiwasing Committee – There is a bear proof container there – do we need another one?
- Why is garage phone bill so high? Is a land line necessary? Should we be looking at a cell phone bundle?
- Should we have two separate accounts for pick-up trucks.
- Don't believe septic inspections are mandatory.
- Will the computers be tendered because you can get three computers for less than \$10,000?
- What does the township pay the Landfill Contractor? Is it tendered?
- Why can't we get Public Works to take over the Landfill Site – get part-time workers to do the work – eliminate Landfill Site Attendant, no OMERS, get rid of winter hours/Wednesday.
- Is the burial of garbage something that has to be done?
- Residents are getting dinged on assessment and tax rates.
- Have to get tax rate down.
- Punishment can't be handed out when people are related – what are the hiring practices?
- Having Managers in the Union is a conflict of interest – have someone independent of union.
- How does it benefit the township to have a union?
- Does the township have a Health and Safety Committee?
- Public Works berm removal machine – if one is purchased you have to buy it and maintain it. Tender it out.

Resolution 2014-05 (FC)

Cec Reid – Susan Major: Be it resolved that the Finance Committee recommends to Council that the following revisions be made to Draft Budget No. 2 for the year 2014:

REVENUES

Account No.	Name	Increase	Decrease	Total
1-3-8000-9960	Contribution from Fire Dept. Reserve	\$1,025		\$1,025

EXPENDITURES

Account	Name	Increase	Decrease	Total
1-4-0500-2185	Clothing	\$5,000		\$12,500
1-4-0500-2210	Fire Fighter Recognition	\$ 300		\$ 1,800

1-4-0500-2235	Heat & Hydro	\$1,000		\$ 8,000
1-4-0500-2263	Expenses re: Drywell	\$1,025		\$ 1,025
1-4-0500-2270	Tanker Truck Work	\$7,000		\$ 7,000
1-4-0300-1440	Travel Conference & Other		\$ 440	\$ 3,000
1-4-0300-1478	Benefits OMERS	\$ 200		\$12,500
1-4-0300-1610	Office Supplies		\$1,000	\$ 4,000
1-4-0300-1660	Subscriptions & Memberships		\$ 245	\$ 3,000
1-4-0300-1660	Miscellaneous Expenses		\$ 150	\$ 100
1-4-0400-1690	Advertising		\$ 500	\$ 500
1-4-0400-1700	Civic Addressing		\$ 300	\$ 200
1-4-04--1720	Receptions		\$ 400	\$ 600
1-4-0400-1800	Awards & Recognition Programs		\$ 700	\$ 100
1-4-0400-2805	Web Site		\$ 240	\$ 1,500
1-4-1700-1115	Tennis Courts	\$ 175		\$ 700
1-4-2000-1330	Drainage Expenses		\$ 5,000	\$ 1,000

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 2014-06 (FC)

Cec Reid – Susan Major: Be it resolved that we do now adjourn this Finance Committee meeting. **‘Carried’**

Time: 9:35 p.m.

The next meeting will be scheduled after the Financial Statements are prepared and presented to Council in late April or early May.

Chairperson

Clerk-Treasurer

