

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

AUDIT COMMITTEE

OPEN SESSION

REPORT 1-2012

Minutes of the Open Session portion of the Audit Committee meeting, held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, January 16, 2012, commencing at 9:40 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors D'Angela (Chair), Burroughs, Regional Chair; Augustyn, Badawey; Bentley; Maves; Rigby.

Staff: Messrs. Hutchings, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer; Boles, Director, Financial Management Planning/Deputy Treasurer; Mr. McDougall, Continuous Improvement Leader; Mr. McQueen, Director, Organizational Performance; Ms. Papaiz, Associate Director, Communications; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Regrets: Councillors Bylisma, Petrowski and Zimmerman.

PRESENTATION

1. Responsive Region Improvement Team
Lean Introduction

Randy McDougall, Continuous Improvement Leader, provided an overview of the process Lean follows. He advised that "Lean Thinking" is a methodology that is the most effective Continuous Improvement approach because it is grounded in process thinking and a proven science (the elimination of the 7 wastes). Mr. McDougall highlighted the five critical concepts of Lean: Specify Value; Identify the Value Stream; Make the Value "Flow"; "Pull" to Customer Demand and Pursue Perfection.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That the presentation by Randy McDougall, Continuous Improvement Leader, on the Responsive Region Improvement Team Lean Introduction, be received.

Carried.

(A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.)

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. RRIT Survey Response

Mr. McQueen, Director, Organizational Performance, distributed a summary of the input received from Regional Councillors on the following various elements of the RRIT work plan:

- Suggestions for programs, services or ideas that could be considered for the RRIT
- Need for further consultation at that time
- Specific criteria and its importance in selecting and prioritizing RRIT projects.

The feedback and information will be used to assist with the development of the 2012 work plan for the RRIT team.

Following discussion, it was:

Moved by Rigby
Seconded by Augustyn

That staff bring back information on the previous review work that has been done (what worked/what didn't); an inventory of programs/services; an updated summary of proposed projects after final follow up with Regional Councillors; draft matrix with selection criteria for prioritizing proposed RRIT projects; suggestions for communicating information to staff, local municipalities, and others; the value of this process as it impacts the levy; taking into consideration that the process is to be developed on a long term basis.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 11:35 a.m. to meet again on February 13, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in C.R. 4.

Henry D'Angela
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Kevin Bain
Regional Clerk