

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

OPEN SESSION

REPORT 1-2012

Minutes of the Open Session portion of the meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held in Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, 2201 St. David's Rd., Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 commencing at 9:44 a.m.

Committee: Councillors Augustyn, Co-Chair; D'Angela (Co-Chair); Badaway; Barrick; Bentley; Bylsma; Caslin; Eke; Hodgson; Joyner; Maves; Petrowski; Rigby; Teal; Timms; Zimmerman.

Staff: Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Treasurer; Mr. Bain, Regional Clerk; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Others: Corporate Services: Ms. Elliott, Director, Human Resources; Mr. Hughes, Director, Properties Management; Ms. Marr, Manager, Real Estate; Mr. Pilon, Associate Director, Service Quality & Improvement.

Integrated Community Planning: Ms. Khoury, Manager, Corporate Records & Information Services.

Public Works: Mr. Cousins, Director, Transportation Services; Mr. Roach, Manager, Public Works.

Others: Ms. Beckwith, General Manager, Niagara Regional Housing.

Regrets: Chair Burroughs; Councillor Sharpe.

PRESENTATION

1. Corporate Services Department Strategic Plan 2012-2015

Dan Pilon, Associate Director, Quality & Improvement, appeared before the Committee to provide information respecting the Corporate Services Department Strategic Plan 2012-2015. Mr. Pilon outlined the process involved in the creation of the plan and highlighted the strategic plan's five directions with the associated initiatives and key actions. A further report in greater detail by division will be presented at a future Corporate Services Committee meeting.

Corporate Services Department Strategic Plan 2012-2015
CSD 01-2012

Moved by Councillor D'Angela
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That the presentation by Dan Pilon, Associate Director & Quality & Improvement, and Report CSD 01-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting the Corporate Services Department Strategic Plan 2012 - 2015, be received for information.

Carried.

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

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. Councillor Electronic Communications vis-à-vis Corporate Records
CSD 03-2012

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That Report CSD 03-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting Councillor Electronic Communications vis-à-vis Corporate Records, be received; and

That the practice of forwarding Councillor emails to external email addresses be discontinued as of January 30, 2012, and

That training tailored to Councillors on "Managing Information Risks" be presented to a Committee of the Whole on January 26, 2012.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Zimmerman

That Report CSD 03-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting Councillor Electronic Communications vis-à-vis Corporate Records, be deferred in order for staff to investigate further options for dealing with this matter and report back to the next Corporate Services Committee meeting (February 1, 2012).

Carried.

(Councillors D'Angela and Petrowski wished to be recorded as opposed to the foregoing motion.)

3. 2011 Interest Allocation to Reserves
CSD 04-2012

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report CSD 04-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting 2011 Interest Allocation to Reserves, be received and the following recommendations be approved:

That Interest income be allocated to reserve funds (excluding development charges) and some work-in-process accounts in a manner consistent with previous years, based on their average balance throughout the year at the 98-day treasury bill rate less 1.75% (minimum of 0.25% for 2011 0.25%);

That Interest income be allocated to development charge reserve funds based on their average balance throughout the year at the average annual bank rate as prescribed by the Bank of Canada (for 2011 – 1.25%);

That staff be directed to develop a long term strategic plan and formal policy for interest allocations that considers long term planning goals, sustainability and affordability. That this plan be presented to the Investment Committee for consideration in the second quarter of 2012 and incorporated in the 2013 budget cycle.

Carried.

4. 2012 Interim Levy Dates and Amounts
CSD 05-2012

Moved by Councillor Bylsma
Seconded by Councillor D'Angela

That Report CSD 05-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting 2012 Interim Levy Dates and Amounts, be received and the following recommendations be approved:

That the interim due dates for the Regional Levy be approved in the amounts and on the dates as shown on Schedule A attached to this report.

That the Regional Clerk ensure that the appropriate by-law is prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

This report be circulated to the Councils of the Area Municipalities for information

Carried.

5. 2012 Current Borrowing Bylaw
CSD 06-2012

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That Report CSD 06-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting 2012 Current Borrowing Bylaw, be received and the following recommendation be approved:

That the Regional Chair and Treasurer be authorized to borrow to meet current expenditures for the year 2012 pursuant to Section 407 of the Municipal Act, RSO 2001.

Carried.

6. Initiation of Projects Included in the 2012 Capital Budget – Public Works
CSD 07-2012

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report CSD 07-2012, January 11, 2012, Initiation of Projects Included in the 2012 Capital Budget – Public Works, be received and the following recommendations be approved:

That financing in the amount of \$81,881,000 gross and \$67,781,000 net be approved from the 2012 capital budget for fleet, transportation, water, wastewater, and waste management and allocated to the individual projects as summarized in Appendix A.

That approval be given to fund the projects with both Regional and external financing as summarized in Appendix A.

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

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests.)

7. Capital Budget Initiation 2012 Niagara Regional Housing Capital Program
CSD 08-2012

Moved by Councillor D'Angela
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report CSD 08-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting Capital Budget Initiation 2012 Niagara Regional Housing Capital Program, be received and the following recommendations approved;

That the capital program for Niagara Regional Housing (NRH) be initiated as approved in the 2012 capital budget.

ZRH1202	Building Capital	\$1,150,470
ZRH1203	Units Capital	\$2,156,608
ZRH1204	Grounds Capital	\$263,772
ZRH1205	Emergency Capital	\$120,000
ZRH1206	Community Remediation - COM 33-2010	<u>\$4,500,000</u>
	Total	\$8,190,850

That financing for the projects include long-term debentures in the amount of \$6,758,597; NRH Owned Units Reserve Funds of \$398,576 and \$1,033,677 federal funding.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council.

Carried.

8. Minutes - Property Assessment and Taxation Review Committee
December 12, 2011

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Petrowski

That the minutes of the Property Assessment and Taxation Review Committee meeting of December 12, 2011, be received and the following recommendations be approved:

That the Niagara Region engages Municipal Tax Equity (MTE) Consultants to conduct a region-wide assessment roll audit, at a cost of up to \$20,000, to be funded from the 2011 general government operating budget.

Carried.

9. Minutes - Audit Committee
December 14, 2011

Moved by Councillor Petrowski
 Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That the minutes of Audit Committee meeting of December 14, 2011, be received and the following recommendations be approved ***as amended***:

Date	Scheduled Agenda Items
December 14, 2011 10 a.m. - noon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipt of the 2012 Audit Committee schedule for information purposes • Receipt of financial statements for Niagara Recycling • Responsive Region Improvement Team (RRIT) kick-off presentation & discussion
January 16, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RRIT
February 13, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RRIT
April 2, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Region’s consolidated financial statements • Receipt of the financial statements for programs, agencies, boards, and commissions for information purposes • RRIT
May 7, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RRIT
June 11, 2012 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RRIT

July 16, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipt of the financial statements for Ministry funded programs for information purposes • Receipt of audit management letter for information purposes • RRIT
September 10, 2012 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2013 Auditor's Audit Planning Presentation • RRIT

Carried.

CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10. Moved by Councillor Badawey
 Seconded by Councillor Hodgson

That Communication CSC 3-2012, be lifted and dealt with separately.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
 Seconded by Councillor Bentley

That the following reports, correspondence and minute items be received for information:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| CSC 1-2012 | Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board (December 2, 2011) regarding Ontario Association of Police Services Boards – White Paper on Unpaid Fines 209.2011 |
| CSC 2-2012 | Capital Budget Reduction – ZC0709 Fielden Reservoir Expansion |
| Minutes | Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board meeting of October 27, 2011 |
| Minutes | Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board meeting of November 24, 2011 |

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Request.)

11. Inclusion of Niagara in South Western Ontario Development Fund
CSC 3-2012

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Hodgson

That Communication CSC 3-201 being a Letter (dated December 16, 2012) from the City of Port Colborne to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario respecting Inclusion of Niagara in South Western Ontario Development Fund, be received and the following resolution be supported, ***as amended***:

THAT WHEREAS communities in Niagara are facing significant socio-economic challenges including a dependency on declining manufacturing industries, out-migration of youth, insufficient telecommunications capacity and economic infrastructure deficiencies;

AND WHEREAS between 2000 and 2009 Niagara experienced a decline of 2.8% ***in employment growth*** in contrast to Ontario which experienced an increase of 12.2% ***in employment growth*** over the same period of time;

AND WHEREAS the unemployment rate continues to be a concern and Niagara has the third lowest employment participation rate in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS according to most recent census data available, Niagara's median employment lags behind all other Ontario's CMAs (Census Metropolitan areas);

AND WHEREAS the manufacturing sector, long a base of the Niagara Economy, has lost more than 36% of its jobs since 2000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Port Colborne calls upon the Government of Ontario to include Niagara in the new South Western Ontario Development Fund and expedite the roll-out of this new program;

AND THAT this resolution be circulated for support to the ***remaining 11 Niagara municipalities***.

Carried.

(Refer to Councillor Information Request.)

OTHER BUSINESS

12. Gun Club Matter

Councillor Petrowski inquired as to why the correspondence regarding the Gun Club matter was not on the Corporate Services Committee agenda. A memorandum providing further information on this matter will be presented at the next Corporate Services Committee.

13. Capital Close Out Matter

Councillor Petrowski inquired as to how the \$1.25 million surplus from a capital project will be allocated. Mr. Hutchings advised that this information will be available in the Capital Closeout report in February.

14. Pension Liability

Councillor Petrowski inquired as to when there would be an opportunity to have a fulsome discussion on defining the Region's Pension Plan. Staff advised that any influence in the design of the Plan is done through the OMERS Oversight Board.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION (Continued)

15. A Matter of Labour Relations: Interest Arbitration Process
CSD 02-2012

Moved by Councillor Augustyn
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report CSD 02-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting A Matter of Labour Relations: Interest Arbitration Process, be received and the following recommendation be approved:

That staff coordinate and collaborate with other Emergency Services Steering Committee (ESSC) member municipalities to request a joint meeting with the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Labour to outline changes required to re-balance the arbitration system so that arbitration awards are equally fair to both parties.

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

16. Moved by Councillor Bentley
Seconded by Councillor Petrowski

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to a Proposed Acquisition of Land by the Municipality Slope Stability and Road Improvements Regional Road No. 14 (Smithville Road) at Mill Creek, Township of West Lincoln; A Matter of Labour Relations: Interest Arbitration Process, Companion Report to CSD 02-2012; and Security of the Property of the Region: Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Upload from Province.

Carried.

The Committee moved into Closed Session at 12:15 p.m.

The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 12:40 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS (continued)

17. Interest Arbitration

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Maves

That staff bring a report and recommendation on a key decision point of negotiations to the Corporate Services Committee and Council when the agreement to appoint an arbitrator becomes part of a specific labour agreement negotiation between the Region and its workplace.

Carried.

18. Confidential Report CSD 11-2012

Moved by Councillor Bentley
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Confidential Report CSD 11-2012, January 11, 2012, respecting Security of the Property of the Region: Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Upload from Province, be forwarded to the Police Services Board.

Carried.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

That staff:

- (i) Change the description for the Burgoyne Bridge Project from “Structure Rehab” to “New Burgoyne Bridge”. (Petrowski) Refer to minute 7.
- (ii) Provide information on whether the Police Video Unit makes money on providing video services. (Petrowski) Refer to minute 11. (Councillor Badaway advised that he would provide further information to Committee on this.)
- (ii) That staff prepare detailed geographic information/map of the Niagara Region to assist staff in developing a stronger position to include Niagara in the new South Western Ontario Development Fund. (Timms) Refer to minute 12.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12:50 p.m. to meet again on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers.

Dave Augustyn
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Henry D'Angela
Co-Chair

Kevin Bain
Regional Clerk