



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street (Box 400)
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Minutes - Final General Committee

Monday, March 2, 2015

7:00 PM

Council Chamber

GENERAL COMMITTEE

For consideration by the Council of the City of Barrie on March 9, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lehman at 7:00 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 11 - Mayor, J. Lehman; Councillor, B. Ainsworth; Councillor, R. Romita; Councillor, D. Shipley; Councillor, B. Ward; Councillor, P. Silveira; Councillor, M. Prowse; Councillor, J. Brassard; Councillor, A. Khan; Councillor, S. Morales; and Councillor, M. McCann

STAFF:

Acting Director of Planning Services, R. Windle
Chief Administrative Officer, C. Ladd
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, D. McAlpine
Deputy City Clerk, W. Cooke
Deputy Treasurer, M. Jermey
Director of Building and By-law Enforcement, G. Allison
Director of Business Development, H. Kirolos
Director of Engineering, J. Weston
Director of Environmental Services, J. Thompson
Director of Facilities and Transit, K. Bradley
Director of Human Resources, A.M. Langlois
Director of Information Technology, C. Glaser
Director of Recreation, B. Roth
Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet, D. Friary
Executive Director of Access Barrie, R. James-Reid
Executive Director of Innovate Barrie, R. Bunn
Executive Director of Invest Barrie, Z. Lifshiz
Fire Chief, J. Lynn
General Manager of Community and Corporate Services, P. Elliott-Spencer
General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, R. Forward

Infrastructure Program Engineer, K. Oakley
Manager of Business Services, R. Emerson
Manager of Traffic and Parking Services, S. Rose
Waste Reduction Coordinator, T. Quann-Strasser.

The General Committee recommends adoption of the following recommendation which was dealt with on the consent portion of the agenda:

SECTION "A"

15-G-047

CONFIRMATION OF THE COUNTY OF SIMCOE'S AND TOWNSHIP OF ORO-MEDONTE'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE LAKE SIMCOE REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. That in accordance with Section 6.09 of the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Agreement, the City of Barrie approves of the County of Simcoe's appointment of Deputy Warden Terry Dowdall and Councillor Mike Burkett to Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Board of Directors for a term of office ending December 31, 2015.
2. That in accordance with Section 6.09 of the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Agreement, the City of Barrie approves of the Township of Oro-Medonte's appointment of Deputy Mayor Hough and Scott Running to the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Board of Directors for a term of office ending December 31, 2016.
3. That the County of Simcoe and the Township of Oro-Medonte be advised of the City of Barrie's approval of each municipality's appointments. (Item for Discussion 8.2, March 2, 2015) (File: C05)

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 09/03/2015.

The General Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "B"

15-G-048

2015 BUSINESS PLAN

Patti Elliott-Spencer, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services provided a slide presentation concerning the 2015 Business Plan providing updates since the binder distribution on February 2, 2015 and the workshop held on February 10, 2015.

Ms. Elliott-Spencer discussed the following topics:

- A summary of the proposed budget;
- An overview of the tax-supported base budget adjustments;
- Adjustments to Scenario A (Service Level Changes), Scenario B (Service Partner Changes) and Scenario C (Parking);
- Scenario D - Dedicated Infrastructure Fund;
- Information related to multi-residential front-end garbage collection, organics collection program enhancement (diapers), operations rightsizing, changes to drop-in programs, and the downtown parkade as detailed in Staff Report EMT001-15; and
- The total tax impact on an average home.

A member of General Committee asked a question regarding the information presented and received a response.

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 09/03/2015.

The General Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s):

SECTION "C"

15-G-049

2015 BUSINESS PLAN

1. That the 2015 tax-supported base operating budget for municipal operations, with total gross expenditures of \$200.1 million and a net property tax levy requirement of \$120.8 million, be approved with the following amendments to reflect changes since the Business Plan's publication on February 2, 2015:
 - a) That contracted services within Transit Operations be reduced by \$210,000 to reflect the accurate calculation of inflation on the transit contract;
 - b) That contracted services for the Mady Theatre be reduced by \$40,000 to reflect savings resulting from moving to internal custodial staff;
 - c) That a Seniors Advisory Committee Budget be established in the amount of \$3,500 as per Resolution 14-A-122 adopted by City Council on June 25, 2014 for consideration in the 2015 Business Plan;
 - d) That the tax supported debt charges be decreased by \$6,268.30 to reflect the portion of the Operations Centre Site Works debt issuance that relates to wastewater operations and the corresponding amount be recovered from the wastewater rate;
 - e) That salary and benefits for Access Barrie be decreased by \$53,222 and \$7,868 respectively, and LUMCO funding be reduced by \$17,500, for a net reduction to the tax levy of \$43,590;
 - f) That budgeted Blue Box Revenue be increased by \$150,000 to reflect information received subsequent to the release of the preliminary Business Plan;
 - g) That the 2015 budgeted contribution to the Development Charge Discounts/Exemptions reserve be decreased by \$200,000;
 - h) That the 2015 budget for Tax Increment grants be reduced by \$30,000 in respect of the Mady Lakeview development;

- i) That contracted services within Facilities Development Administration be increased by \$350,000 to reflect the carry forward of the Facility Condition Assessment Program approved in 2014 but not completed, and that \$350,000 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund be budgeted to fund the Program;
 - j) That contracted services within Facilities Development Administration be increased by \$200,000 for the anticipated cost of the 2015 Facility Drawing Inventory Project and that \$200,000 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund be budgeted to fund the Project;
 - k) That \$200,000 associated with the Transit increases be funded from the Provincial Gas Tax Reserve; and
 - l) That the alterations to the 2015 fees and charges identified in paragraph 15 be incorporated into the net levy requirement.
2. That the 2015 tax supported base operating budget for Barrie's Service Partners presented on Page 22 of the 2015 Business Plan, with total gross expenditures of \$82.7 million and a net property tax levy requirement of \$79.0 million, be approved with the following amendments to reflect changes since the Business Plan's publication on February 2, 2015:
- a) That the County of Simcoe capital program be increased by \$209,293 as approved by the County's Committee of the Whole, and that eligible Development Charge funding be increased by \$102,766, with a resulting increase budgeted draw from the County of Simcoe Capital Reserve of \$106,527;
 - b) That the portion of 2015 County of Simcoe tax-supported gross operating grant request related to the County of Simcoe capital reserve contribution with a preliminary base budget of \$1,408,533 be reduced by \$308,533 to a total of \$1,100,000;
 - c) That the County of Simcoe operating budget be decreased by \$315,171 as approved by the County's Committee of the Whole, with a matching reduction to the net tax levy;
 - d) That the Library Board 2015 Municipal Operating Grant Request be decreased by \$148,242 as approved by the Library Board and outlined in Scenario B on Page 26 of the 2015 Business Plan with a resulting reduction of \$146,242 to the net tax levy and a decrease in Development Charge funding of \$2,000;

- e) That the amount of \$170,000 included in the Library Board 2015 Municipal Operating Grant Request, as it relates to the estimated 2014 deficit related to maintenance costs for the library facilities, be funded from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve;
 - f) That the Physician Recruitment grant, as outlined on Page 22 of the 2015 Business Plan, be reduced by \$50,000 to a total of \$60,000 in 2015; and
 - g) That the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Grant Request be decreased from \$1,684,420.00 to \$1,632,370.12, with a resulting net levy reduction of \$52,049.88 in accordance with the recent correspondence from the Board of the Health Unit.
3. That Scenario A - Tax, with recommended tax-supported Service Level Changes as outlined on Page 25 of the 2015 Business Plan and as amended in Appendix "C", with a net cost of \$273,756 (operating) and \$124,850 (capital), be approved with the following further amendment(s):
- a) That the \$125,000 associated with the Contaminated Inactive Land - PSAB 3260 Project (page 285) be funded from Tax Capital Reserve;
 - b) That staff in the Environmental Services Department develop a multi-residential front-end garbage bin tipping service or a rebate for same, for implementation in Q4 of 2015, with an estimated increase to the tax supported levy of \$115,000, and report back to General Committee by July 1, 2015 with the preferred plan for implementation; and
 - c) That staff in the Environmental Services Department develop a diaper disposal program for implementation in Q3 of 2015 that would provide 40 tags per household per year to approved applicants for the collection and landfilling of clear bags of diapers curbside at no cost and/or resident drop off of clear tagged bags at the landfill for free on "off" weeks, with an estimated net increase to the tax supported levy of \$58,000.
4. That Scenario C - Tax, as amended in Appendix "F", to eliminate the tax-supported contribution to the Parking Reserve, with a net decrease to the tax levy of \$743,000, be approved.
5. That Scenario D relating to the creation of an Infrastructure Renewal Fund as outlined on Page 27 of the 2015 Business Plan, through the addition of 1% Dedicated Infrastructure Funding with a net increase to the tax levy of \$1,448,409, be approved.

6. That an economic adjustment for non-union staff salaries, of up to 1.5%, be approved.
7. That the Wastewater base operating budget, with gross expenditures of \$39.2 million and revenues of \$39.2 million, be approved with the following amendments to reflect changes since the Business Plan's publication on February 2, 2015:
 - a) That the wastewater funding for debt charges be increased by \$6,268.30 to reflect the portion of the Operations Centre Site Works debt issuance that relates to wastewater operations.
8. That Scenario A - Wastewater, with recommended wastewater supported Service Level Changes as outlined on Page 37 of the 2015 Business Plan, with a net cost of \$22,471 (operating) and \$8,150 (capital), be approved.
9. That the Water base operating budget, with gross expenditures of \$32.7 million and revenues of \$32.7 million, be approved.
10. That the Parking Operations base budget, with gross expenditures of \$2.3 million and gross revenues of \$2.3 million, be referred to the Infrastructure, Investment and Development Services Committee for further consideration and a report back to General Committee.
11. That Scenario C - Parking, as amended in Appendix "F", to recognize the full year implementation of waterfront meter and special events paid parking, and the addition of paid weekday evening parking, with the net impact of a \$58,329 2015 operating deficit in the Parking Fund, be referred to the Infrastructure, Investment and Development Services Committee for further consideration and a report back to General Committee.
12. That the 2015 capital budget requests of \$33.59 million, be approved with the following amendments to reflect changes since the Business Plan's publication on February 2, 2015:
 - a) That the following project(s) be added to the 2015 Capital Plan:

Project**Financial Impact**

Permanent Traffic Calming - Cumming Drive (raised intersection at Cumming Drive & Stapleton Place and curb bump outs in the vicinity of the park)

Gross = \$90,000
Tax Capital Res. = \$90,000

Permanent Traffic Calming - Cook
Street (raised intersection at Cook
Street & West Gate) Gross = \$80,000
Tax Capital Res. = \$80,000

Permanent Traffic Calming -
Sandringham Drive (permanent
raised intersection at Birkhall,
curb bump outs south of Birkhall
and temporary raised median
island at Birkhall North) Gross = \$45,000
Tax Capital Res. = \$45,000

13. That, consistent with the Capital Project Control Policy, the 2016, 2017, and 2018 capital budget relating to new 2015 capital projects of \$19.4 million in 2016, \$5.1 million in 2017, and \$300,000 in 2018, be approved.
14. That the 2015-2019 Capital Budget items not requiring approval, be received as forecast information.
15. That effective May 1, 2015, By-law 2014-021, as amended, be repealed and replaced with a by-law incorporating the fees and charges presented in the 2015 Business Plan, published February 2, 2015, Pages 327-367 with the following amendment(s).
 - a) That Schedule "G" of the Fees By-law be amended to reflect an increase to the Outdoor Solid Fuel Burning Appliance (OSFBA) Permit from \$10.00 to \$22.00, with a resulting decrease in the tax-supported operating levy in the amount of approximately \$42,000; and
 - b) That Schedule "N" of the Fees By-law be amended to reflect free landfill disposal of clear tagged bags of diapers, with a maximum weight of 20 kg per bag from the residential sector.
16. That pursuant to Ontario Regulation 284/09, this report serve as the method for communicating the exclusion of the following estimated expenses from the 2015 Business Plan:
 - a) Amortization expense - \$49.7 million;
 - b) Post-employment benefit expenses - \$2 million; and
 - c) Solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses - \$0.6 million.
17. That staff be authorized to submit applications for grants that would reduce expenditures associated with projects, programs and services approved as part of the operating and capital budgets.

18. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute any agreements that may be required to accept grant funding from other levels of governments or other partners to reduce expenditures associated with programs, services and/or capital projects.
19. That the Treasurer be authorized to make the necessary alterations to the transfer to and/or from reserves to reflect changes since the Business Plan's publication on February 2, 2015.
20. That Debenture financing as identified in the Capital Budget be approved.
21. That staff be directed to undertake a review of the City's Parkade business and report back to Council with respect to options that may include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - a) Maintaining the business as a going concern; and
 - b) Discontinuing operations and liquidating the asset.
22. That staff in the Building and By-law Services Department undertake a review of the cost and revenues associated with pet licensing as well as opportunities to enhance the level of pet owner compliance with licensing requirements and streamlining the licensing process, and report back to General Committee.
23. That staff in the Barrie Fire and Emergency Service in consultation with any other appropriate departments investigate opportunities to streamline the Outdoor Solid Fuel Burning Appliance Permit process to increase efficiencies and effectiveness.
24. That the City Clerk be authorized to prepare all necessary By-laws to implement the above recommendations. (EMT001-15) (File: F05)

This matter was recommended (Section "C") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 09/03/2015.

The General Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "D"

15-G-050

INVESTIGATION OF THE PROHIBITION OF ELECTRIC BICYCLES ON WALKING TRAILS AND SIDEWALKS

The Committee met and discussed the Item for Discussion concerning an investigation of the prohibition of electric bicycles on walking trails and sidewalks, as follows:

“That staff in Parks Planning in consultation with By-law Services, investigate the feasibility of prohibiting the use of electric bicycles on walking trails and sidewalks and report back to General Committee.”

A vote was taken and the motion was LOST. The Committee provided no further direction with respect to the Item for Discussion concerning the investigation of the prohibition of electric bicycles on walking trails and sidewalks. (Item for Discussion, 8.1, March 2, 2015) (File: R00)

This matter was recommended (Section "D") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 09/03/2015.

ENQUIRIES

There were no enquires at General Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of General Committee provided announcements concerning a number of matters.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

CHAIRMAN