

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING #04-2000

BUDGET MEETING #1 TUESDAY~February 22, 2000

Meeting Began at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: A Special Budget meeting of Council was held this evening with the following members present: Mayor Brian Sylvester, Councillors Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, Sheila Airey, Korey Kennedy, Chris Savard, Naresh Bhargava Andre Rivette, Denis Carr, Dean Hollingsworth (arrived at 6:50pm) and Brian Lynch

ADMINISTRATION: Cecil Vincent, Chief Administrative Officer, Richard Allaire, City Clerk, all Managers were present. Also in attendance were, Bonnie Ruest, Conrad Miller, and Linda Bethune, and Gilles Ayotte

BUDGET PROCESS

Mayor Sylvester indicated to council that he would schedule meetings to be held at City Hall from 6:00pm to 10:00 pm. He also indicated that he would be looking for motions from Councillors if staff reports were required. He also advanced that Council may reconsider any motion previously adopted without the requirement of a two thirds vote.

FUTURE BUDGET MEETINGS

Council agreed to schedule the following dates as budget meetings:

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Tuesday, March 6 & Wednesday, March 7, 2000

All meetings will commence at 6 p.m.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The Acting Manager of Finance Anita Roach, in her review of the budget document indicated that a reduction of \$3,198,657 was needed to provide no increase from the 1999 budget. She also listed the following options Council may consider in reducing the budget:

Supplementary Taxes	\$660,000
Omers Savings	1,000,000
CRF Allocation	600,000
Working Capital	329,000
Investment Income	160,000
Tipping Fees	<u>130,000</u>
	\$2,879,000

If Council chose to accept all of these options, there will remain \$320,000 in reductions to balance the budget. She suggested that a 1% tax decrease in the budget represents \$363,200. She further advanced that there is no funding in this budget for the Renaissance Project nor for the Medical Recruitment at \$250,000.

BUDGET REDUCTION - 2%

It was moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Claude Poirier that:

Whereas the Council of Cornwall will soon be establishing it's tax rate for the year 2000; and

Whereas there has been concern raised from taxpayers in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, as well as private studies, that the level of taxation in our community is too high; and

Whereas an acceptable level of taxation is critical to the future growth and prosperity of our community; and

Whereas the City of Cornwall is presently halfway through the first quarter of our fiscal year without an approved budget; and

Whereas it is Council's responsibility to recognize that the tax levels in the City of Cornwall are too high and that a long term plan must be developed to address and rectify this problem,

NOW therefore be it resolved that the Council of the City of Cornwall commit itself to levying a 2000 tax rate that shows at least a 2% decrease over last year and

Be it further resolved that the City of Cornwall immediately begin the process of developing a comprehensive and progressive strategic plan for our community.

Motion defeated

CORNWALL & SEAWAY VALLEY TOURISM

Brian Mulligan and Michel Lalonde presented the Tourism budget. Following a question and answer period, it was moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Sheila Airey that the tourism budget be approved as presented

Motion Carried

RAISIN REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Roger Houde and Jacques Legault presented the Conservation Authority budget. Following a question and answer period it was moved by Councillors Claude Poirier and Brian Lynch that the Conservation Authority provide Council with an outline of the expenditures for this budget.

Motion Carried

It was then moved by Councillors Naresh Bhargava and Brian Lynch that administration report on the increase provided to the Authority in the 1999 Budget.

Motion Carried

REGIONAL ART GALLERY

Linda Halliday and Sylvie Lizotte presented the Art Gallery budget. Following a question and answer period, it was moved by Councillors Brian Lynch and Sheila Airey that the budget be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

CORNWALL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Debra Daigle and Robert Hubsher presented the Library budget. Following a question and answer period, it was moved by Councillors Korey Kennedy and Sheila Airey that a Capital Reserve of \$9,720 be approved.

Motion Carried

It was then moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Denis Carr that the Library's budget be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

EASTERN ONTARIO HEALTH UNIT

Dr. Robert Bourdeau presented the Health Unit budget. Following a question and answer period, it was moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Sheila Airey that the Health Unit budget be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

S.D.& G HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wes Libbey presented the Historical Society's budget. Following a question and answer period, it was moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Naresh Bhargava that a budget of \$107,000 be approved which includes \$10,000 for the Inverarden House exit

Motion Carried

CORNWALL REGIONAL AIRPORT

No presentations were made. It was moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Dean Hollingworth that the Regional Airport budget be approved as presented

Motion Carried

LACAC

No presentations were made. It was moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Brian Lynch that the LACAC budget be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

WATERWORKS

Following a presentation of the Waterworks budget by the Acting Manager of Finance, it was moved by Councillors Naresh Bhargava and Andre Rivette that administration report the total purchase of goods during the last 5 years

Motion Carried

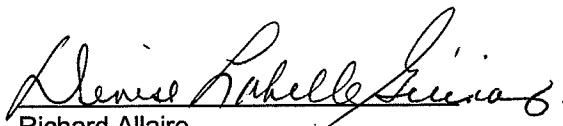
It was further moved by Councillors Dean Hollingsworth and Naresh Bhargava that administration report on the net operating costs during the last 5 years

Motion Carried

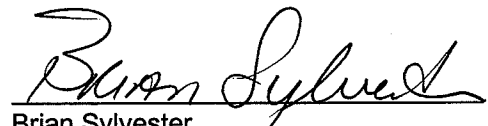
It was further moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Denis Carr that administration report on the steps needed to be taken to reduce water rates by 2% in year 2000

Motion Carried

Adjourned 10:00 p.m.


Richard Allaire
City Clerk

DEPUTY CLERK


Brian Sylvester
Mayor