

SPECIAL REGULAR COUNCIL #09-2000
BUDGET MEETING #5
Monday March 6, 2000

Meeting began at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: A Special Budget meeting was held this evening with the following members present: Mayor Brian Sylvester, Councillors Denis Carr, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, Korey Kennedy, Brian Lynch, Sheila Airey, André Rivette, Chris Savard and Naresh Bhargava.

ABSENT: Dean Hollingsworth

ADMINISTRATION: Cecil Vincent, Chief Administrative Officer, Richard Allaire, City Clerk, Denise Labelle-Gélinas, Deputy Clerk and Managers were present with the exception of Susan Cain. Also in attendance were Bonnie Ruest, Tracy Poirier, Gerry Godard, Ron Cotman, Barb Landry, and Linda Bethune.

Land Ambulance Services

Mayor Brian Sylvester proudly announced that the Ontario's Health Minister, the Honourable Elizabeth Witmer has designated the City of Cornwall as the delivery agent for the Land Ambulance Services for the City of Cornwall and the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

Economic Development Department

Moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Andre Rivette that Council approve the 2000 Economic Development Budget as presented.

Motion Carried

Transit Services

\$1.00 for \$1.00 ratio

Moved by Councillors Chris Savard

WHEREAS the cost of the Transit service in the City of Cornwall based on a ratio of user generated revenue compared to taxpayer contribution, is out of line with other municipalities of similar size; and

WHEREAS both the Manager of Public Works and the Manager of Transit have an exceptional understanding of their respective budgets; and

WHEREAS Administration is better able to evaluate the current system and make recommendations with respect to operational cost efficiencies within the Transit service than individual members of Council,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Administration prepare a report for Council, outlining the necessary actions and changes that would need to be implemented in order for the City of Cornwall to have the revenue generated by transit users match the level of contribution from the taxpayers, or in other words a \$1.00 for a \$1.00 ration.

Motion Carried

School Board Transit Fee

Moved by Councillors Chris Savard and Andre Rivette:

Whereas based on Transit budget submissions, the two local school board contribute 18.6% towards the cost of the transit but yet use close to 50% of the riders; and

WHEREAS the contribution from the two school boards has decreased by \$163,337 or 21.3% since 1995, even with the proposed fare increase in the 2000 budget submission; and

Whereas as recently as 1997 the School Boards were contributing in excess of 25% of the cost; and

Whereas Council is always concerned that any User Fee policy is fair and equitable for all users,

Therefore be it resolved that Administration prepare a report that would outline an increased rate (in addition to the fare increase already proposed) for the two school boards; and

That Administration also obtain a cost from Laidlaw for the delivery of this service for comparison purposes.

Motion Carried

SCM Public Transit

Moved by Councillors Andre Rivette and Chris Savard that the Chief Administrator and Manager of Transit Services review the probability of providing Transit Services to employees of SCM starting at the end of the month of March 2000, and if unable to provide the service, that Council be advised at the earliest possible time.

Motion Carried

Intercity Transit System

Moved by Councillors Andre Rivette and Perry Lalonde that the city sent a letter to the Minister of Transportation requesting that municipalities be given the right to have intercity licences allowing municipalities to generate revenues and reduce the overall operating costs; and
That this resolution be forwarded to our local MP and MPP.

Motion Carried

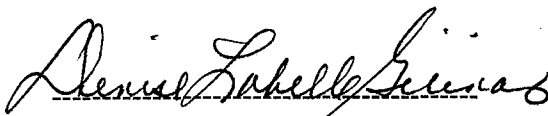
Adjournment: 9:30 p.m.



Richard Allaire ~ City Clerk



Brian Sylvester ~ Mayor



Denise Labelle-Géjinas
Deputy City Clerk and
Recording Secretary