



SPECIAL COUNCIL # 12

BUDGET MEETING # 7

Tuesday, February 19, 2002
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 Naresh Bhargava (arrived at 7:40 p.m.), Denis Carr, Susan Carter, Donald Deebank, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Corey Kennedy, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier and André Rivette

ADMINISTRATION: Cecil Vincent, Chief Administrative Officer, Denise Labelle-Gélinas, City Clerk, David Dick, Manager of Finance, and the following Management Personnel: Stephen Alexander, Susan Cain, Barry Coleman, Carmen Cousineau, Debora Daigle, Graham Dart, Roger Desjardins, Donna Ferguson, David Fielding, Paul Fitzpatrick, Sherman Goodwin, Fernand Hamelin, Frances Lafave, Tracy Poirier and Anita Roach

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Mr. Cecil Vincent, Chief Administrator, provided Council with a Power Point presentation that provided Council members with the City of Cornwall's present financial pressures that render the 2002 Budget Deliberation process more difficult than previous years. Two specific areas noted were the non controllable expenditures and the lack of assessment growth.

Comparable values were provided that indicated that year over year, many changes are to be noted in the wages and benefits payed to its manpower. Combined budget constraints and the related impact of inflation, negotiated settlements, increased expenditures are all major contributions to our present situation.

Several options presented. Essentially, Mr. Vincent indicated that borrowing would only delay the tax requirement and would add to the final costs of services. Less than 40% of city services were adjustable and of this 40%, wages represent only 32% of the costs. In order to reduce expenditures by \$1 million, the City would have to reduce its staff level by 15%.

In continuing, Mr. Vincent stated that payroll costs would continue to impact budgets at a rate of at least 3+% as a tax rate impact yearly; assessment growth had averaged less than 1% as a tax rate impact over the last 10 years; other budget costs would be at least equal to inflation, more likely double of 3+%.

At this rate, some suggestions brought forward are to eliminate, reduce service levels in non-mandated services, ie: snow clearing, recreation, planning or transit; increase taxes annually; debt financing; assessment growth and/or all of the above.

1. **Social Support Services**

(page 373)

SDMT Program

Moved by Councillors Claude Poirier and Dean Hollingsworth that Council approve the re-inclusion of \$155,000 (net cost) within the 2002 operating budget to the Social Support Services for cost increase for the Service Delivery Model Technology (SDMT).

Motion Carried

It was then moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Syd Gardiner that Council direct the Manager of Social Support Services and the Chief Administrator to prepare correspondence on behalf of the Mayor's Office to be sent to the Minister opposing these additional costs in order to provide the Service Delivery Model Technology Services .

Motion Carried

2. **Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge** [section 13]

3. **Planning and Housing** [section 14]

Moved by Councillors Naresh Bhargava and Don Deebank that Council endorse a minimum of \$5,000 to conduct the initial information sessions, provision of packages including signage, advertising, etc. and which would provide active enforcement during the normal hours of 8-5 Bylaw hours, where calls and complaints from after hours be handled the next day. Additionally, the EOHU would enforce restaurants and other places where a 100% ban is in effect in 2002 and City staff enforce the balance.

It was then moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Perry Lalonde that this motion be deferred until such time as Administration provide additional information on the financial expenditures surrounding the Enforcement Issue and who will be performing it.

Motion to defer was Defeated

The original motion Carried

Capital Projects- Renaissance Improvements

Moved by Councillors Susan Carter and Claude Poirier that Council support the Renaissance Improvements Capital Project in the amount of \$187,000.00.

Motion Defeated

Train Whistles

Moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Claude Poirier that Council support the Consultant fees in the amount of \$3,000 plus GST for Train Whistle Study.

Motion Carried

FINANCIAL POSITION

Moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Perry Lalonde that the Chief Administrative Officer present before the Citizens of Cornwall on Monday, February 25th, his presentation on "*Projection of Future Financing Position 2002 to 2006*."

Motion Carried

5. Economic & Recreational Services [section 15]

Capital Projects

Roof Repairs - Cornwall Civic Complex

Moved by Councillors Andre Rivette and Naresh Bhargava that Council endorse capital expenditures in the amount of \$134,000 for Civic Complex roof repairs.

Motion Carried

Roof Repairs - Bob Turner Memorial Centre

Moved by Councillors Claude Poirier and Dean Hollingsworth that Council endorse capital expenditures in the amount of \$65,000 for Bob Turner Memorial Centre roof repairs.

A recorded vote on this capital expenditure resulted as follows:

For: Councillors Naresh Bhargava, Denis Carr, Susan Carter, Don Deebank, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, Andre Rivette, and Mayor Brian Sylvester

Against: Councillor Korey Kennedy

Motion Carried

Roof Repairs - Si Miller Arena

Moved by Councillors Perry Lalonde and Don Deebank that Council endorse capital expenditures in the amount of \$40,000 for Si Miller Arena (west side) roof repairs.

A recorded vote on this capital expenditure resulted as follows:

For: Councillors Naresh Bhargava, Denis Carr, Susan Carter, Don Deebank, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, Andre Rivette and Mayor Brian Sylvester

Against: Councillor Korey Kennedy

Motion Carried

Adjournment: 10:00 p.m.


Denise Labelle-Gélinas
City Clerk


Brian Sylvester
Mayor

