



SPECIAL COUNCIL # 21

BUDGET MEETING # 11

Tuesday, April 23, 2002
Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: A special Budget meeting was held this evening with the following members present: Mayor Brian Sylvester, Councillors Denis Carr, Susan Carter, Donald Deebank, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Korey Kennedy, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier and André Rivette

REGRETS: Councillor Naresh Bhargava

ADMINISTRATION: Cecil Vincent, Chief Administrative Officer, Denise Labelle-Gélinas, City Clerk, and the following Management Personnel: Stephen Alexander, Susan Cain, Debora Daigle, Roger Desjardins, David Dick, David Fielding, Paul Fitzpatrick, Fernand Hamelin, Mike Joubert, Tracy Poirier and Anita Roach

Mayor Brian Sylvester called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Overtime/Sick Leave (CAO # 02-2002)**

Council reviewed the data provided.

2. **Tax Rate Variance**

A review of Tax Rate information was summarized by the Manager of Financial Services.

3. **Tax Study Comparisons**

4. **Minor Sport subsidy**

It was moved by Councillors Perry Lalonde and Dean Hollingsworth that Council reverse its decision to reduce the minor sports subsidy and as in the past, allow the User Fee Policy Committee to review fees and report back to Council with recommendations as soon as possible.

Motion Defeated

Council members reviewed the information provided and requested that they be kept informed of financial documents received by all minor sport organizations.

5. 2002 Budget

Moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Andre Rivette:

Whereas the City of Cornwall has not been able to complete discussions with the appropriate school board officials in respect to recovering a fairer financial compensation for the provision of school transportation services contained within the City's public transit system; and

Whereas it is important to finalize this year's budget in a timely fashion to ensure projects are completed in an efficient manner; and

Whereas it is apparent that the school boards will need some additional time to complete their own investigations on school transportation costs; and

Whereas the impact of the immediate cancellation of the provision of School Transportation as a special pass carries minimum savings for this years budget;

Be it resolved that the City of Cornwall pass this year's budget as presented with a tax increase of 3.98% with the following conditions:

Transit - School Board Contract

That all affected school boards be informed that unless Council is able to negotiate an appropriate recovery of all additional incidental cost associated with the provision of buses for the peak hour school transportation service including a recovery of capital, that the City provide notice as a part of the passing of this budget of cancellation of any special bussing arrangements for school transportation effective July 31, 2002 unless such satisfactory arrangements are approved by Council by June 10, 2002; and

Further that without a satisfactory agreement that City staff be directed to configure the current regular bus service to run at ½ hour intervals from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and

Further that staff prepare a report for Council on the projected financial operational impacts of the reduction of Dial-a-Bus / Handi-transit service from the present 10:45 p.m. closing to 9:45 p.m. closing of the service, along with any other cost reducing measures.

A recorded vote resulted as follows:

For: Councillors Denis Carr, Donald Deebank, Dean Hollingsworth, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, André Rivette and Mayor Brian Sylvester

Against: Councillors Susan Carter, Syd Gardiner, and Korey Kennedy

Absent: Councillor Naresh Bhargava

Motion Carried

Average Tax Rates for 2003

Moved by Councillors Denis Carr and Andre Rivette that staff be instructed to provide a proposal for debate as part of the 2003 budget that will see tax rates for the commercial sector, residential sector, and multi-residential sector move toward the average tax rates demonstrated in the City's recent tax study and as updated to reflect 2001 FIR's. This proposal should also include a mechanism for annual review of any rate changes to adjust for any Provincially legislated impacts that may negatively affect Council's intended effect.

A recorded vote resulted as follows:

For: Councillors Denis Carr, Susan Carter, Donald Deebank, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, André Rivette and Mayor Brian Sylvester.

Against: Councillor Korey Kennedy

Absent: Councillor Naresh Bhargava.

Motion Carried

4% Reduction 2003 Budget

Moved by Councillors Andre Rivette and Korey Kennedy that the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to formally inform all outside agencies to prepare their 2003 budget submissions with a 4% budget reduction.

A recorded vote resulted as follows:

For: Councillors Denis Carr, Korey Kennedy, Donald Deebank, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Perry Lalonde, Claude Poirier, André Rivette and Mayor Brian Sylvester.

Against: Councillor Susan Carter

Absent: Councillor Naresh Bhargava.

Motion Carried

1% Differential Ratio

Moved by Councillors Donald Deebank and Susan Carter that Council bring a 1% differential ration between the commercial and other residential sectors based on a 3.98% rate.

A recorded vote resulted as follows:

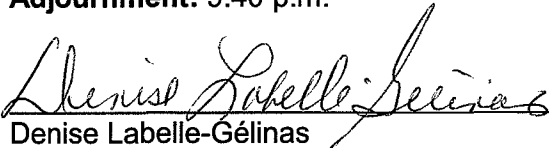
For: Councillors Susan Carter, Donald Deebank and Claude Poirier,

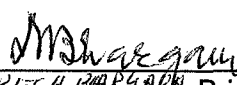
Against: Councillors Denis Carr, Syd Gardiner, Dean Hollingsworth, Korey Kennedy, Perry Lalonde, André Rivette and Mayor Brian Sylvester.

Absent: Councillor Naresh Bhargava.

Motion Defeated

Adjournment: 9:40 p.m.


Denise Labelle-Gélinas
City Clerk


NARESH BHARGAVA
Brian Sylvester
ACTING Mayor

