

MINUTES
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE
COUNTY OF OXFORD

County Council Chamber
Woodstock
November 5, 2009

MEETING #27

Oxford County Council meets in a special session this fifth day of November 2009, in the Council Chamber, County Administration Building, Woodstock.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1:08 p.m., with Warden Holbrough in the chair.

All members of Council present except Councillors Hayes, Howling, Sobeski and Talbot.

Councillor Sobeski arrives at 1:11 p.m.

Staff Present: M. R. Bragg, Chief Administrative Officer
L. S. Buchner, Director of Corporate Services
R. G. Walton, Director of Public Works
B. J. Tabor, Clerk

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 1:

Moved by: Margaret Lupton
Seconded by: Michael Harding

That the Agenda be approved.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

NIL

4. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS – WARDEN:

Warden Holbrough welcomes the members to the special session. The primary focus of the meeting will be in Committee of the Whole to discuss how the County will move forward with water and wastewater rates beyond 2010. He explains that Council has received a lot of information for review and his expectation would be to receive the information today and that the Public Works Department would report again next year. He thanks Public Works staff for the information provided.

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2:

Moved by: Don McKay
Seconded by: Donald Doan

That the Council rise and go into Committee of the Whole.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried (1:10 p.m.)

1. Robert Walton
Director of Public Works
Re: Water and Wastewater Rates Study – Project History and Next Steps

Robert Walton, Director of Public Works, proceeds through a PowerPoint presentation, titled "Oxford County Water and Wastewater Rates Study – Special Council Meeting, November 5, 2009". R. Walton apologizes for the fact the presentation was not provided prior to the meeting, but explains that most of the information is historical, much of which was contained in previous reports to Council. He provides history on the study; key accomplishments/decisions to date; an explanation of the Hemson and Genivar Reports; next steps and conclusions. The presentation today will be posted to the electronic Agenda, following the meeting, for future reference. The revised November 2009 Hemson Report and revised October 2009 Genivar Report, referred to in R. Walton's presentation, were provided as attachments to Council's electronic Agenda.

The Warden opens the floor to general discussion. R. Walton responds to questions and comments from Warden Holbrough, Councillors Molnar, Sobeski, Harding and Deputy Warden McKay. Public Works staff will review the Hemson and Genivar Reports thoroughly for inaccuracies as noted by Council members. R. Walton suggests, regarding a timeline, that he would like to see the Hemson and Genivar Reports adopted by January of 2010 and that staff be directed to set out a three year plan and by-law for rates by May or June of next year.

Warden Holbrough, in response to an enquiry regarding the need to adopt the Hemson and Genivar Reports, suggests that the information be received and used in consultation with the Area Municipalities and stakeholders to develop a clear and concise report to move forward.

At 2:23 p.m., during discussions, Council, in Committee of the Whole, recesses for a break.

At 2:34 p.m. Council, in Committee of the Whole, resumes with Warden Holbrough in the chair.

All members of Council present except Deputy Warden McKay and Councillors Hayes, Howling and Talbot.

R. Walton, clarifies the need to adopt the Hemson and Genivar Reports, in their final revised format, if they are to be part of the County's financial plan which must be adopted by resolution to meet the provincial requirements for submission to the Ministry of the Environment.

Direction is provided to staff to simplify the information that has been provided to Council into area specific systems rather than the County as a whole in order for the taxpayer to see what rates apply to them. R. Walton suggests that staff can take the information contained in the reports and, for the next three years that rates will be proposed for, provide a synopsis of the projected revenue, expenses and rates for the Woodstock, Ingersoll, Tillsonburg and Township water systems and each of the wastewater systems. He explains that the Hemson/Genivar Reports are a blueprint to 2021, but every time rates are set the process will be tweaked with anomalies in certain areas addressed. R. Walton suggests that the next step for his Department will be to correct the inaccuracies contained in the reports provided today and then circulate the documentation to the Area Municipalities for their information and, in the time leading up to producing a package for rates for the next three years, hold information sessions to have dialogue with them.

RESOLUTION NO. 3:

Moved by: Stephen Molnar
Seconded by: Donald Doan

That Council, in Committee of the Whole, rise and reconvene as Oxford County Council.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried (2:46 p.m.)

6. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

F C.A.O./CLERK

F-1 2009-18
Re: Hiring Committee

RESOLUTION NO. 4:

Moved by: Stephen Molnar
Seconded by: Donald Doan

That the recommendation contained in Report No. F-1 2009-18, titled "Hiring Committee", be adopted with the name Deputy Warden McKay inserted.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Recommendation Contained in Report No. F-1 2009-18:

That Warden Holbrough and _____ be added to the Hiring Committee to assist in the process of identifying and hiring a Director of Public Health & Emergency Services.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Council adjourns its proceedings until the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

2:49 p.m.

Minutes adopted on November 12, 2009 by Resolution No. 2

Paul J. Holbrough
WARDEN

Brenda J. Tabor
CLERK