



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Finance and Labour Relations Sub-committee MINUTES

Date: October 19, 2021
Time: 3:30 P.M.
Location: Electronic Meeting

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Gaffney - Chair Presiding, Councillor Clifford - Vice-Chair, Councillor Beatty, Councillor Bunting, Councillor Ritsma

Staff Present: Karmen Krueger - Acting Director of Corporate Services, Jodi Akins - Council Clerk Secretary, Chris Bantock - Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to Order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made by a Member at the October 19, 2021, Finance and Labour Relations Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Report of the Director of Corporate Services

4.1 Request for Funding from Stratford General Hospital Foundation and St. Marys Healthcare Foundation (FIN21-025)

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council provide direction to staff whether to include these requests for funding for the Stratford General Hospital and the St. Marys Hospital Foundation under the Community Grants Program upon adoption with the 2022 budget.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Acting Director of Corporate Services advised this report is in response to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation and St. Marys Healthcare Foundation requests for funding.

The report outlines several options, however, supporting these requests in 2022 will have significant financial impact which could not be accommodated within the original budget submission. The options are to look at a phased in commitment, or wait until the Rotary Hospice commitment is completed.

In response to questioning about the amount owing to the Hospice, the Director stated it is approximately \$425,000. Some of that amount has been committed by Festival Hydro however and the City's portion is approximately \$282,000 over the next two years. The Acting Director cautioned that even with waiting until the Hospice commitment is finished, there would still be budgetary implications to be considered.

Motion by Councillor Clifford

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the request from the Stratford General Hospital Foundation for support of its Catalyst for Campaign Launch in the amount of \$5 million over 10 years be supported in principle, with payments to commence following completion of the City's commitment to the Stratford Rotary Hospice.

Carried

Discussion took place regarding support of surrounding hospital foundations when Stratford has its own foundation that requires funding, the contribution of area foundations to Stratford General Hospital and the patient analysis the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation used to prorate their request.

Motion by Councillor Ritsma

THAT the request from the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation for funding in the amount of \$54,000 towards their Patient Room Renewal Project at the St. Marys Memorial Hospital be supported in principle after the commitment to the Hospice is completed.

Defeated

In response to whether Stratford General Hospital tracks other Perth County resident's attendance, the Director stated that in conversations with surrounding municipalities, they have not been approached by Stratford General Hospital for contributions. Concern was noted with the number of commitments the City already has.

Motion by Councillor Bunting

THAT consideration be given to including the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation request for funding during the 2022 Budget deliberations.

Defeated

4.2 Ontario Regulation 284/09 for 2021 Budget (FIN21-026)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the report from the Acting Director of Corporate Services regarding legislative requirements of Ontario Regulation 284/09, and the impact of excluded expenses from the City's 2021 budget, be adopted by Council resolution.

Sub-committee Discussion:

Motion by Councillor Ritsma

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the report from the Acting Director of Corporate Services regarding legislative requirements of Ontario Regulation 284/09, and the impact of excluded expenses from the City's 2021 budget, be adopted by Council resolution.

The Acting Director of Corporate Services advised that this a housekeeping report to comply with Ontario Regulation 284/09. An explanation was provided regarding the difference between how municipalities budget and how financial statements are reported. Some non-cash expenses related to long term liability such as amortization expenses, post-employment benefits and solid waste landfill closure costs are not included in the extended budget, however, staff are required to

report the financial impact to Council. When audits are completed at the end of the year, adjustments are made for those items on the financial statements.

In response to questioning about replacement costs, the Acting Director stated that amortization is based on spreading the expense of an asset over a length of time. The difference between that and the replacement cost is that the asset may cost much more to replace now. It varies significantly by asset type and it will be brought up under asset management and future capital requirements. The City offsets not including amortization costs by including transfers to reserves for future capital costs.

The Chair called the question on the motion.

Carried

5. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Finance and Labour Relations Sub-committee meeting is November 16, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Beatty

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Finance and Labour Relations Sub-committee meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 3:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 3:53 P.M.