



Committee of the Whole Minutes May 8, 2018

Present: Mayor Trish Stewart, Deputy Mayor Tom Kay, Councillor Wes Adshade, Councillor Dave Clark, Councillor Brenton Colborne, Councillor Rick Draper, Councillor Dawn Thompson, CAO Rachel Jones, Consultant Kevin Matheson

1. Call to Order

Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED to approve the agenda as circulated.
Motion Carried

3. Draft Operating Budget 2018-19

Mr. Matheson reviewed the current draft budget, further to previous discussion by Council, which noted the following:

- rate increases of three cents for residential;
- six and a half cents for commercial;
- a sewer rate increase by 50% ;
- the sewer rate has not been adjusted to accommodate any increase in costs since 1994;
- there is the same gross commercial revenue from last year due to assessment changes that are reflective of current business property sales ;
- combined residential and commercial rate increase of one cent generates approximately \$7,700 in revenue;
- the increase in sewer rates as suggested generates almost \$60,000 more in revenue for the Town, that will be allocated to the sewer treatment operations.

Discussion included the importance of a review of the RCMP members allocated to Oxford as a potential cost savings in the future. The following changes were suggested:

- arena sign rental increased by \$2,800
- communities in bloom revenue increased by \$2,000
- implement a deed transfer tax of 1% with an estimated \$5,000 in revenue
- decrease Council conferences and workshops by \$4,000

- remove YMCA grant of \$2,500
- reduce streets maintenance by \$10,000
- remove tree expense/trail reserve and offer in-kind work as needed to the amount of \$5,000
- remove the theatre telephone of \$475 and notify the Main Street Music Society if they would like to cover the cost, or the service will be discontinued at that facility
- reduce Recreation Coordinator travel by \$900
- reduce recreation summer students by \$3,000 due to receiving grants for two instead of three students
- remove tennis program of \$200
- reduce recreation general programs by \$2,000

It was agreed that the revised draft based on the above-noted changes will be brought forward to the regular Town Council meeting on May 22, 2018.

4. Draft Capital Budget 2018-19

Mr. Matheson presented the draft capital budget, noting that the arena roof costs had been inserted twice in error, and that the breathing apparatus for the Fire Department should be added at a cost of \$37,000. All funding sources were identified, with no capital out of revenue for this fiscal year.

The draft capital budget will be brought forward to Town Council at its regular meeting on May 22, 2018.

5. Pride Flag

Mayor Stewart noted that the pride flag will be raised and consideration is being given to a ceremony around that. The Town has participated in the Pride Parade in past years and support will continue. The date is June 13 at 6 pm.

6. Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm.
Motion Carried

Patricia Stewart, Mayor
Chair

Rachel Jones, CAO
Recording Secretary