

Minutes of the Special Town Council Meeting

Place: Council Chambers

Date: Monday July 8, 2019

Presiding Officer: Mayor Patricia Stewart

Councillors Present: Councilors Brenton Colborne, Dave Clark, Dawn Thompson, Wendy Sweet-Kontuk, Wade Adshade and Deputy Mayor Rick Draper

A quorum was present throughout the meeting

Staff in attendance: CAO Rachel Jones and Public Works Director Wes Adshade

Public in attendance: Bill Martin, Six Rivers News

1. Call to Order
Mayor Patricia Stewart call the Special Town Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Policing Review committee Terms of Reference
After a brief discussion,

It was moved and seconded to amend the Policing Review Committee Terms of Reference by removing the current service provider as part of the review committee.

Motion Carried

4. 2019-20 Draft Operating and Capital Budgets
Based on discussion and direction from Council at the special meeting on June 24, 2019, staff presented two options or the operating budget. The first option utilized half of last year's surplus, in the amount of \$26,690, to offset expenses. This left a deficit of just under \$66,000. The second option utilized the same amount of the surplus plus increasing all tax and sewer rates by 2%. This left a deficit of approximately \$26,500.

Options to balance the budget were discussed around service levels, staffing, programming and tax rate increases. General discussion was held on all matters.

It was moved and seconded that the Council of the Town of Oxford estimates that the sum required for the lawful purposes of the Town for the year 2019/20, after crediting probably revenues from all sources, other than the rates for the year, is the sum of \$2,534,162 and;

Further resolved that the Town Council hereby authorizes the levying and collection of a rate for the current year of \$4.1557 per \$100 on the value of the property assessed in the assessment roll as Commercial property and \$1.6874 per \$100 on the value of the property assessed in the assessment roll as Residential and Resource property, a sewer service charge per the Town's Sewer Charges Bylaw plus 2% increase per connection, these being the rates the Council deems sufficient to raise the sum to defray the expenditures of the Town for the current year and;

Further resolved that the rates and taxes be due and payable September 30, 2019 and;

Further resolved that an interest rate of 1.5% per month, or 18% per annum, compounded, be charged on the 2019/20 final tax bills still outstanding after September 30, 2019, and that interest charges are applied on the first day of each month for outstanding amounts.

Motion Carried

Discussion followed regarding the proposed capital budget. An increase of \$5,000 to paving to accommodate trail work was suggested, specifically more grading on the section from Water Street to the tunnel.

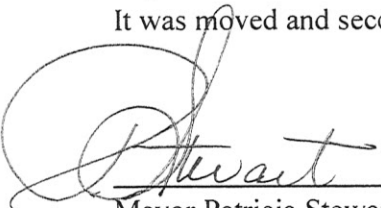
It was moved and seconded that the Council of the Town of Oxford approve the 2019/20 capital budget totalling \$192,450, including capital reserve funding of \$14,000, gas tax reserve funding of \$80,000, long-term debt funding of \$92,000, and other/external grant/contribution funding of \$40,000.

Motion Carried

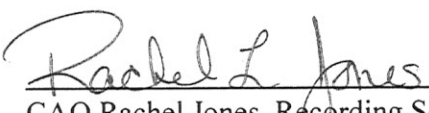
Further discussion took place regarding the cost of using just road salt versus a salt/sand mixture in the winter, to help alleviate the issues of storm drains being plugged with sand and gravel. The Public Works Director will look at the costs and, whenever possible, implement this approach based on budget availability.

5. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.



Mayor Patricia Stewart



CAO Rachel Jones, Recording Secretary