

Minutes of the General Government Committee Meeting

Held on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Kevin Woestenenk, Councillor, Chairperson

Dan Osborne, Mayor

Paulie Nodecker, Councillor

Annette Clarke, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

Tom Sasvari, Reporter

Beulah Hester, Joan Prior, Nancy Clark (arrived 7:30, left at 7:45)

Absent:

Deborah Woods, Citizen Representative

Jack Clark, Citizen Representative

1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

2. Deputation: Beulah Hester re: Downtown Revitalization

Beulah made a presentation to Committee asking that a Resource Committee be developed for the purpose of the Downtown Revitalization Project. Herself, Joan Prior and Nancy Clark would like to sit on the committee. They made the following recommendations for Downtown Meredith Street

1. Lamp posts with hanging baskets;
2. Two locations with lights across Meredith Street;
3. LED lights should be installed on the trees on a timer from dusk to dawn for year round enjoyment;
4. Trees should remain and be trimmed semi annually by an arborist;
5. Interlocking brick is unique and should be preserved. By installing a root excluding base beneath the concrete which must be at least 18 inches deep and the top must be above the soil and mulch surface to be effective will control the root problem. (Research Laboratory Technical Report) Bartlett Tree Experts.
6. Increase the number of garbage cans and benches on Meredith Street and boardwalk.

Committee discussed. They agreed to forming a Resource Committee which would report directly to Council. It was felt Council should determine who will sit on the committee with the three citizen representatives.

Paulie feels an increase in garbage cans is a problem. She advised that there is already a problem with overuse of the garbage cans for the purpose of dumping personal garbage vs normal public usage. This increases the work load on public works. Adding more garbage cans will only worsen this problem. Annette noted that she believed the additional garbage cans and benches were meant for the area between the grocery store and McQuarrie's. Paulie suggested redistributing

what we already have. Annette advised that this would be a discussion for The Resource Committee to have and report/recommend to Council for final approval.

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Paulie Nodecker

THAT the General Government Committee recommend to Council that a Resource Committee be formed for the purpose of Downtown Revitalization comprised of Joan Prior, Beulah Hester and Nancy Clark and two members of Council and Stasia Carr as Administrative Representative. Further the Resource Committee report back to Council for final approval recommendation.

Carried

3. Adoption of the November 28, 2018 Minutes

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Kevin Woestenenk

THAT the minutes of the November 28, 2018 meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

4. Business Arising out of the Minutes

i) Recreation Park

- a) Fitness Centre Update – Annette advised that Council has changed the location of the new Fitness Centre back to 1 Agnes Street. Annette has authorized Pinchin to complete the Geotechnical Soil Condition Report and send it to JL Richards. It should be ready by the end of this week. Upon receipt, JL Richards can proceed with the final design and drawings necessary for tendering. Need to sort out water, sewer, hydro and phone hook ups. Annette will coordinate this to ensure it is completed in time. As a result of moving the Fitness Centre, public washrooms will still be required at the Water Street Recreation Park location. Annette has asked JL Richards to provide her with costing to design and tender this project as well. Nothing has been received yet.
- b) Tennis Courts – Spencer of Court Surface Specialists has provided a further update on the tennis courts. He had indicated they have slotted us in for May 13th and that we are a priority. Wait for further updates with respect to Pioneer’s commitment to conduct their work.
- c) Parking lot – completed, no further updates.
- d) Security – Lighting and cameras will have to be installed in the spring. Roger is supposed to get this information for budgeting purposes.

ii) Ontario Main Street Revitalization Initiative

- a) Electrical - Will put out tenders for this in early spring.
- b) Mural – Annette asked that a representative(s) from this committee meet with Marcus Mohr and Ashley & Dylan White to discuss the project design. Paulie agreed to meet with them. Stasia will attend as well.

- ii) **Buoy's Lease** – Richard Anger and Susan Garlock would like to renew their lease for a further five year term renewable for another five years but have requested that the lease rate remain the same for 2019, 2020 and 2021 seasons. They have plans to replace the white vinyl siding with a stain treated wood. Annette advised that any leasehold improvements must be approved by Council. Discussion ensued. Committee felt an increase was necessary to keep up with rate of inflation. Dan suggested that a clause needs to be in the lease that states “any leasehold improvements to the building are to be removed and returned to original condition if Council makes request for same.”

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Paulie

THAT we recommend to Council that the Buoy's lease be renewed on a five year term, renewable for a further five year term subject to a three percent increase to the rent for the 2019 renewal term and that any future lease rates be negotiated on an annual basis (as per the current lease).

Carried

- iii) **Bottle Return** – Annette noted that the bottle return depot is now operating at a loss and will probably continue to do so until summer months. This may not be recuperable. It was agreed that we knew this would be a challenge but we are providing a service to the community. It was also noted that the hours continue to be an issue with members of the public. However, we cannot afford to extend the hours and operate at an even bigger loss. It was agreed to make another request to the Transfer Station Committee to consider operating from that location which is open more hours.

Moved by Paulie Nodecker

Seconded by Dan Osborne

THAT we accept the Bottle Return Report as presented.

Carried

5. Correspondence

- i) Municipality of Mattice – They have asked Councils to consider petitioning the province to change legislation to change the statutory wording for the declaration of office for council members. Discussion ensued. Accepted as information.
- ii) Manitoulin Art Tour – They have requested Council support in the form of financial or donated space. Council has offered the community hall in the past but the fact is the hall is not available to them due to the theatre taking place at the same time. Discussion ensued. Suggested use of the Harbour Centre space, Arena or basement of Medical Centre. Annette will speak with Nicole and report back to Council for a final decision.

6. New Business

i) Welcome Centre - Dan updated the Committee on the status of the Welcome Centre. A meeting is scheduled for next week to try and negotiate an agreement with MTA for the operation of the centre. Dan will report back to Council.

ii) Rate Book – Committee reviewed the rate book items and agreed as follows:

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Paulie Nodecker

THAT we recommend to Council that the following Rates be approved:

Tax Certificates – increase from \$25.00 to \$30.00 plus add a new rate of \$50.00 for a tax certificate request made demanding a response within 24 hours.

Water/Sewer Certificates – increase from \$15.00 to \$20.00 plus add a new rate of \$40.00 for a certificate request made demanding a response within 24 hours.

Wood Waste – ½ ton load increase from \$10.00 to \$20.00; Dump truck increase from \$20.00 to \$50.00. Also agreed that signage needs to be placed at the site outlining the process/rules for using site.

Arena Rates – 2% increase rounded up for all rates

Chair Rentals from Hall – increase from \$1.50 ea to \$2.00 ea

Table Rentals from Hall – Round Tables \$12.00 (new) ea. Rectangular Tables - \$10.00 ea (same)

Community Hall Rates – increase of 2% rounded up for all rates

Council Chambers/Committee Room – increase of 2% \$85.00 to \$87.00 per day

Dockage Rates – increase of 2% rounded up for all rates

Medical Centre – Contact North remains free; Open Hands 2% from \$50. To \$51./day;

Mental Health 2% \$123.15 to \$125.61

Carried

iii) Council Remuneration – Annette advised that effective January 1st, all monies paid to council is taxable. There is no longer a 1/3 tax exemption. This will effect “take home pay”. Gore Bay is well below most of the municipalities on the Island. Annette wants to know if Committee wants to make a recommendation to Council for an increase to Council Remuneration. Annette advised that in order to bring Council remuneration more in line with the other municipalities it would require a 31.5% increase. Kevin felt this was way too high and not necessary. Discussion ensued. It was agreed to table this matter until citizen representatives can attend the meeting. Paulie asked if they could be compensated for training sessions if they are mandatory. She was advised this would form part of the discussion at the next meeting.

- iv) Commercial Lease Rates – Annette advised that there has been a standard 2% per year applied over the last term of Council. Committee has already made a recommendation to increase the Medical Centre commercial rates by 2%. The lease for Buoy’s is recommended for a 3% increase. The only other lease to be discussed is the Pavilion. It was agreed this should also be a 3% increase.

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Paulie Nodecker

THAT we recommend to Council that the Pavilion lease rate be increased by 3 percent.

Carried

- v) 2019 Budget Discussion – Annette explained the budget process. She asked if anyone had anything in particular they wanted to have added into the agenda. They did not. She will put together a draft for next meeting. Kevin indicated that he would like to see the budget adopted in January. Annette advised that January is an incredibly busy time of year for the office. Year end and Audit takes up a lot of time. She indicated that if Council wants the budget adopted earlier the process has to start the year before. Council has to be prepared to discuss and approve projects for implementation into the budget. As well, some of the numbers required for budgeting won’t be available and estimates will have to be made. It can be done.

7. Other

8. Closed Session

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Paulie Nodecker

THAT we enter a closed session at 9:09 p.m. to discuss the following:

- i) Staff***

Carried

Moved by Paulie Nodecker

Seconded by Dan Osborne

THAT we come out of closed session at 10:23 p.m.

Carried

9. Adjournment

Moved by Dan Osborne

THAT we adjourn at 10:24 p.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted by:

Annette Clarke, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer