

VILLAGE OF POINT EDWARD

MINUTES - OPERATING BUDGET MEETING

**March 30, 2006
9:00 a.m.**

Council Members Present:

**Mayor Kirkland Deputy Mayor Robson Councillor MacKenzie
Councillor Bourrie**

Staff Present:

Deputy Treasurer Thibeault, CAO Cramp

Also Present:

Auditor Jim Dunlop

Deputy Mayor Robson chaired the budget meeting and provided an overview of the proposed budget for 2006.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

**9:00 A.M. Arena
 Mayor Kirkland, E. Helps**

The recommendations of the Arena/Community Hall Committee were brought forward to the budget meeting.

**9:25 A.M. Fire Department
 Mayor Kirkland, Chief MacKenzie**

The recommendations of the Fire Committee were brought forward to the budget meeting.

Councillor Bourrie asked about the aerial truck. It was suggested that the Power Point presentation be shown at the upcoming Open House. Councillor MacKenzie also suggested that photos be added to show the difficulty of getting the ladder off the truck and situated, where needed.

Chief MacKenzie noted there are a lot of items maintenance items required for the Library. It would also be beneficial to change the heat from hot water to gas. After that,

the other renovations could be completed. This can be referred to next year's capital budget.

9:45 A.M. Bingo
Chairperson Robson, C. Maguire

The recommendations of the Finance Committee were brought forward to the budget meeting.

It was noted that there is a reduction in revenues due to a decrease in the number of sessions. Council has provided funds under the Capital budget to provide additional promotions with the hope of increasing attendance at the Village Bingo.

10:00 A.M. Water and Pollution Control
Chairperson Bourrie, J. Sloma and C. Maguire

The recommendations of the Water/WPCP Committee were brought forward to the budget meeting.

The Radio Reads have been completed and only need a couple further adjustments. This will reduce the monthly cost for water readings. They work excellent. They have changed the Casino meter as it was a Neptune meter, which was not compatible with the reading equipment.

There has been an increase projected for revenues because last year, the first quarter of the year was on the old rates so this is approximately a 4% increase. They based their revenues on 475,000 cu. m., which is hopefully on the low side.

They have two hydrants in stock so a new one was not budgeted for this year.

They have added money into the budget to begin exercising the valves. This is a Best Practice recommended by the MOE.

The lease on the truck has expired so this expenditure has been used in other areas.

They plan to paint the hydrants this year.

Councillor MacKenzie asked about the salaries but it was clarified that some of the WPCP salaries are incorporated into the Pump Stations budget.

10:20 A.M. Public Works, Garbage Collection, Streetlights
Chairperson MacKenzie, C. Murphy

The recommendations of the Public Works Committee were brought forward to the budget meeting.

Councillor Bourrie noted that the arena signs may require changing so that they are reflective and can be seen at night.

Councillor MacKenzie noted that the Christmas light costs are still high because the rope lighting has to be completely changed each year. Other lights will be considered for this year.

Councillor Bourrie noted that the revenues for recycling do not offset the large expenditures for this service. However, it was noted that the costs have been reduced substantially as a result of the recent tender.

Parks
Chairperson MacKenzie, C. Murphy

The recommendations of the Parks Committee were brought forward to the budget meeting.

It was noted that there would be three students assisting this year in Public Works and Parks.

All other areas
Chairperson Robson

Chairperson Robson advised Council that consideration had been given to the elimination of Transit service on Saturdays. However, if this were done, the pamphlets would have to be redone and there wasn't sufficient savings to make it worthwhile.

There was a discussion regarding the placement of the Technology Department into the Capital budget as most of the work done is on capital projects. Councillor Bourrie noted that a lot of money has been saved on engineering as a result of the addition of this position. It was agreed that it would remain in the operating budget.

It was agreed that discussions are required with the BWBA regarding the 18% funding of the Bayview Pumping Station.

Comments from the Public

Opportunity for the Public to make any presentation or comments on the budget

There was no one present from the public to make any presentations or comments on the budget.

OTHER

Auditor Jim Dunlop – Financial Statements

There were no recommendations to Council at this time.

Auditor Dunlop presented the draft Financial Statements to Council and answered any questions of Council members.

2006 Operating Budget

Moved by Councillor Bourrie
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson
THAT Council approve the 2006 proposed budget, as printed.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Bourrie
Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie
THAT Council approve the 2006 proposed budget for the Water/WPCP Department, as printed.

CARRIED.

Interim Revenue Model for Pooling Bingo Halls

Licensing Officer Maguire reviewed her report with Council regarding the changes being implemented by the OLG.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson
Seconded by Councillor Bourrie
THAT Council endorse the Interim Revenue Model for the Pooling Bingo Hall, “Agreement to Proceed” and the “Memo of Understanding” from Village Bingo and the Village Charitable Association submitted on March 29th, 2006, to go into effect March 1st, 2006 to September 30th, 2006, and furthermore that the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario be so informed.

Recorded Vote:

Mayor Kirkland – Yea
Deputy Mayor Robson – Yea
Councillor MacKenzie – Yea
Councillor Bourrie – Yea

CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Request from City of Sarnia re: Bequest

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Bourrie

THAT Council request that the City of Sarnia consider funds towards artistic activities in the Point Edward Library under the leadership of Denise Aldrich subject to submission of an acceptable business plan.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Bourrie

THAT the Council Meeting be adjourned at 12 Noon until the April 11th, 2006 call of the Chair or at such time as a Special Committee meeting is held to discuss legal matters, property matters or personnel matters.

CARRIED.

Mayor Dick Kirkland

CAO Peggy Cramp