

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOLLASTON

May 19, 2021

By Electronic Participation

Mayor Kruger called the special budget meeting of Council to Order at 3:00 p.m. on the above noted date, with all members present by electronic means.

Staff Present Electronically: B. Crocker, Clerk/Administrator
 T. Vader, Treasurer
 K. McCaw, Public Works Supt.
 S. Reid, Acting Fire Chief

Consultant Present Electronically: B. Wannamaker

The meeting was opened with a reading of a Land Acknowledgement from the Mayor and then a greeting from the Mayor.

No declaration of pecuniary interest was declared.

MOTION NO.: 01 SWARTMAN - COLTON

RESOLVED, THAT the Council approves the Agenda, as presented.

Opposed: None

The Mayor then addressed the draft budget.

The Mayor addressed the Treasurer to begin the budget discussion process. The Treasurer began with her report which provided an overview of the draft budget including:

- Taxation required for the 2021 year in the amount of \$1,477,513.00
- Total taxable assessment up overall at 1.056%
- Property classifications
- Municipal 2021 tax rate at 0.844298 versus the 2020 rate of 0.848491

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- Overall residential 2021 tax rate of 1.294617 versus the 2020 rate of 1.284531 which is an increase of 0.785%. Taxpayers would see an increase of \$10.90 per \$100,000.00 of assessed residential in 2021
- Full Commercial municipal 2021 tax rate of 0.928728 versus the 2020 rate of 0.924549
- Hastings County levy increased in 2021 and School Board levy basically maintained rate as 2020
- OMPF Revenue of \$964,799 remained the same as 2020
- Use of modernization, COVID-19, OCIF and Gas Tax funding to assist in offsetting expenses within the 2021 budget
- Overall estimated expenses including salary and related expenses
- Insurance expenses with a significant increase of approximately 51%
- Increase in governance expenses with an increase in an Election Reserve and an increase in Council remuneration
- Corporate Management expenses decreased. Use of Modernization funding to offset some expenses. Additional monies contributed to Reserves
- Money allotted for Fire Chief wages and an increased contribution to Reserves and training
- Emergency Management and COVID expenses as a result of the ongoing pandemic
- Decrease in policing costs but increase in costs for Crowe Valley Conservation Authority
- Building Inspection expenses increased. Joint agreement with Carlow/Mayo for new CBO/By-law Enforcement Officer
- Increase in Transportation services for necessary road work offset by OCIF and Gas Tax funding. Possible purchase of a new $\frac{3}{4}$ ton truck to be offset from proceeds of the sale of surplus roads equipment and trad-in value of current $\frac{3}{4}$ ton truck. Concern regarding pricing increases due to Carbon taxes and additional surcharges related to COVID. Monies also continue to be contributed to Reserves
- Increase in waste site expenses have increased due to the requirement of a new Waste Site Transfer Station to be offset by

Infrastructure Ontario and/or reserves.

- Funds for the Library
- Contingency expense for any un-anticipated items not included in the 2021 budget

Concern was raised by members of Council regarding the purchase of a new truck. Discussion occurred and the following Resolution was adopted:

MOTION NO.: 02

CONLIN - COLTON

RESOLVED, THAT the Council directs Staff to prepare a more detailed report on the Roads truck, trade-in value versus repairs and warranty and detailed quoted.

Opposed: None

Once the budget had been discussed by members of Council, Deputy-Mayor Conlin suggested a Resolution for Staff to look into the future of Wollaston Township Road's Department as it pertained to feasibility moving into the future. Members were concerned that the request was not clear, and no resolution was adopted.

Councillor Swartman asked to discuss a "Wish List" of items which was read by Mayor Kruger and included:

- Possible purchase of a Zamboni
- Directional signage for The Gut Trail
- Money in reserves for the Heritage Museum
- Work at the Wollaston Lake Public Boat Launch
- Money for the Eurasian Milfoil Committee to be put into a contingency account
- Survey for Nellie Lunn Park

- Demolition of Township Property

The Treasurer indicated that should Council wish to consider these projects at a later date, a Resolution of Council could be adopted directing Staff to pull the money from Reserves to assist with these projects

At this time, Mayor Kruger also mentioned the Coe Hill Legion which is used as a warming Centre during emergencies. She suggestion a possible donation to the Legion. Councillor Swartman suggested that the Legion members appear as a delegate should they wish to discuss a donation of money.

With no further budget items for discussion, the following Resolution was adopted:

MOTION NO.: 03 MORRISON – COLTON

RESOLVED, THAT Council approves the draft budget, as presented, amended, and hereby directs the Clerk to prepare a By-law for adoption at a meeting to be set by Council before the end of May 2021.

Opposed: None

MOTION NO.: 04 CONLIN – SWARTMAN

RESOLVED, THAT By-law No.: 34-2021, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council for the May 19, 2021 meeting, be signed this 19th day of May 2021, by the Mayor and Clerk with the Corporate Seal affixed hereto.

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MOTION NO.: 05

SWARTMAN – COLTON

RESOLVED, THAT Council adjourn the special budget meeting of May 19, 2021 at 4:18 p.m. to meet again on June 14, 2021, or at the call of the Mayor.

MAYOR: LYNN KRUGER

CLERK: BERNICE CROCKER