

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES - OPEN SESSION**

**BRCOTW 3-2019
Thursday, January 31, 2019
Council Chamber
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bellows, Bradley (Regional Chair), Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Darte, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gibson, Heit, Huson, Insinna, Ip, Jordan, Junkin, Nicholson, Redekop, Rigby, Steele, Ugulini, Villella, Whalen (Committee Vice Chair), Witteveen

Absent/Regrets: Diodati, Disero, Gale, Greenwood, Sendzik, Zalepa (Committee Chair)

Staff: H. Chamberlain, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, D. Gibbs, Director, Legal & Court Services, J. Gilston, Legislative Coordinator, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Enterprise Resource Management Services, A. Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services, R. Mostacci, Commissioner, Planning & Development Services, M. Murphy, Associate Director, Budget Planning & Strategy, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Vice-Chair Whalen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 BRC-C 4-2019

Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority 2019 Municipal Levy Apportionments

Councillor Bylsma, Chair, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, provided introductory remarks related to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and introduced David Barrick, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

David Barrick, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, presented the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority 2019 Municipal Levy Apportionments. Topics of the presentation included:

- 2019 Budget Pressures
- Opportunities
- Budget Committee Direction
- 2018/19 Levy Breakdown and Sources Funding
- 2019 Niagara Region Special Levy
- Operating Expenditures
- Trends - Park Operations
- Operating Park Revenues
- Full-time Salary and Benefits
- Resources Spent in Niagara
- 2019 Capital Projects

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Huson

1. That Correspondence Item BRC-C 4-2019, being a letter from D. Barrick, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, dated January 9, 2019, respecting Municipal Levy Apportionments, 2019, **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. That the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority 2019 Municipal Levy Apportionments to Niagara Region **BE APPROVED**.

Moved by Councillor Ip
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That consideration of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority 2019 Municipal Levy Apportionments **BE DEFERRED** until the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority provides additional information requested during the Municipal Levy Apportionments presentation.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Committee requested the following information as a result of the NPCA Municipal Levy Apportionment presentation:

- Details respecting the 2018 and 2019 budget including operating expenditures
- Information respecting legal expenses from the last two year
- Status of the boat purchased for Binbrook
- The amount of severances paid in 2018 and anticipated amount for 2019
- Information respecting debt charges
- The 2018 audited financial statements including capital project details
- Provide a history and the intent of the waterfront investment fund.

5.2 BRC-C 5-2019

Niagara Regional Housing 2019 Operating Budget

Donna Woiceshyn, Chief Executive Officer, Niagara Regional Housing, presented the Niagara Regional Housing 2019 proposed operating budget. Topics of the presentation included:

- 2019 Organization Overview
- NRH Programs and Services
- 2019 Major Budget Drivers and Guidance
- 2019 Operating Budget
- Opportunities and Risks

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Easton

1. That Correspondence Item BRC-C 5-2019, being a letter from W. Sendzik, Chair, Niagara Regional Housing Board of Directors, dated January 11, 2019, respecting Niagara Regional Housing 2019 Operating Budget, **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. That the Niagara Regional Housing 2019 Operating Budget **BE APPROVED** in principle subject to consideration of the total tax levy for Niagara Region on February 14, 2019.

Carried

5.3 CSD 25-2019

Court Services - 2019 Budget Report

Monica Ciriello, Manager, Court Services, presented the Court Services 2019 proposed operating budget. Topics of the presentation included:

- 2019 Organization Overview
- 2019 Operating Budget
- Risks and Opportunities
- Full-time Equivalent Summary
- 2019 Budget Summary
- Multi-Year Budget (2019-2021)

Moved by Councillor Ugolini
Seconded by Councillor Bellows

1. That Report CSD 25-2019, dated January 31, 2019, respecting Court Services - 2019 Budget Report **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. That the 2019 Court Services Operating Budget **BE APPROVED** in principle subject to consideration of the total tax levy for Niagara Region on February 14, 2019.

Carried

5.4 BRC-C 3-2019

2019 Proposed Operating Budget Niagara Regional Police Service and Police Services Board

Ken Gansel, Chair, Police Services Board, provided introductory remarks on the Niagara Regional Police Service 2019 Proposed Operating Budget and introduced Chief Bryan MacCulloch, Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS).

Chief Bryan MacCulloch, Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS), presented the NRPS 2019 proposed operating budget. Topics of the presentation included:

- Changing Climate of Public Safety
- 2019 Budget Approach and Objective
- Program Model Review and Risk Assessment
- Service Delivery Model
- Calls for Service
- Service Delivery Efficiencies/Program Changes
- 2019 Proposed Operating Budget
- Risks and Opportunities

Moved by Councillor Bellows
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

1. That Correspondence Item BRC-C 3-2019, being a letter from D. Reid, Executive Director, Police Services Board, dated January 24, 2019, respecting 2019 Proposed Operating Budget Niagara Regional Police Service and Police Services Board, **BE RECEIVED**; and,
2. That the Niagara Regional Police Service 2019 Operating Budget **BE APPROVED** in principle subject to consideration of the total tax levy for Niagara Region on February 14, 2019.

Recorded Vote:

Yes (19): Bellows, Bradley, Butters, Bylsma, Campion, Chiocchio, Dante, Easton, Edgar, Fertich, Foster, Gibson, Huson, Insinna, Nicholson, Rigby, Steele, Ugolini, Villella.

No (3): Heit, Junkin, Redekop.

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no consent items for information.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Forks Road Bridge, City of Welland

Moved by Councillor Campion
Seconded by Councillor Chiocchio

Whereas the Forks Road Bridge was downloaded to the City of Welland on May 1, 2000 by the Region of Niagara;

Whereas the Forks Road Bridge was a 70 year old structure when downloaded by the Region in 2000;

Whereas the Forks Road Bridge is the largest and most costly structure downloaded by the Region to any of the local area Municipalities during the region-wide downloading in 2000;

Whereas Regional Road Criteria published as of April 1997, around the time that Regional Road downloading was initiated, stated that Regional Roads should do one or more of the following:

- Connect Urban Centres
- Service Heavy Industry and Tourism
- Cross Barriers (such as the Welland Canal)
- Be an Urban Area Connecting Link;

Whereas Forks Road is a Regional Road in Wainfleet, only 1 km away from the Forks Road Bridge;

Whereas a petition has been received by Welland City Council on January 15, 2019 signed by 1,947 petitioners;

Whereas approximately forty percent of those signing the petition reside in the Region outside of Welland;

Whereas roads and bridges makeup the largest subset of the Regional capital budget, with spending in 2019 of approximately \$100M;

Whereas the proposed capital spending in Welland on Roads and Bridges in 2019 by the Region is \$3.9M, and has been minimal in the past several years; and,

Whereas the Forks Road Bridge is important to the continued Regional economic development and job creation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Region of Niagara **ASSUME** the Forks Road Bridge and budget \$4 million in the 2019 capital budget for demolition, pier testing and detailed design of Forks Road Bridge.

Moved by Councillor Chiocchio
Seconded by Councillor Villella

That the following motion **BE REFERRED** to staff to provide a report for the Budget Review Committee of the Whole meeting being held on February 14, 2019:

That the Region of Niagara **ASSUME** the Forks Road Bridge and budget \$4 million in the 2019 capital budget for demolition, pier testing and detailed design of Forks Road Bridge.

Carried

8. CLOSED SESSION

There were no closed session items.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:41 p.m.

Councillor Whalen
Committee Vice-Chair

Jonathan Gilston
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk