

The Corporation of The Town of Parry Sound

Special Council Meeting Minutes February 13, 2024

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Special Council Meeting Minute - February 13, 2024

7:00 PM, Parry Sound Council Chambers 52 Seguin St. Parry Sound

Members Present

Mayor McGarvey, Councillor Ashford, Councillor Borneman, Councillor Keith, Councillor McCann, Councillor McDonald

Members Absent: Councillor Beleskey

Staff Present:

CAO Clayton Harris, Clerk Rebecca Johnson, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns, Director of Finance Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson, Manager of Operations Vinni Bonazza

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1. Agenda and Minutes Review, Pecuniary Interest

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

1.2 Presentations/Announcements - N/A

1.3 Additions to Agenda - N/A

1.4 Prioritization of Agenda - N/A

1.5 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Borneman

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

That the Special Council agenda for February 13, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Carried

1.6 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

2. Resolutions and Direction To Staff

2.1 2024 Budget Overview and Draft Capital Budget

Spokespersons: Clayton Harris, CAO, Administration;

Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance

Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance provided Council with an overview of the Capital budget from a prepared power point presentation. Ms. Phillips covered the following topics: Behind the 2024 Budget, Fiscal Policy Framework, Interest Rate & Inflation Forecast, Continuous Improvement, Benchmarking, Draft Capital Budget, Funding the Capital Budget, Reserves/Debentures, Grants/Current Yr Property Tax Funding, The Dedicated Capital Levy, 2024 Capital Items.

Staff responded to members of council requests for explanation on the reason for the costs of various items.

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Councillor Borneman suggested that Mayor McGarvey might bring forward to advocacy associations and organizations to call upon the province to provide incentives to move from gas powered equipment to electrification.

CAO Clayton Harris and Director of Public Works Mike Kearns responded to questions of Council regarding the benefits of proceeding with budgetary infrastructure items, taken in steps such as engineering design, and application for environmental permits for construction, while making application to the province to fund infrastructure in pursuit not only of the province's goal of more housing, but of cleaning up former oil brownfield properties. Mr. Harris identified that this was the subject of the Town delegation to the Minister of Infrastructure at the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) Conference last month. Mr. Harris also noted that MPP Graydon Smith was impressed by the Town map showing imminent development of a dozen properties including upon the former Shell and Imperial Oil lands just awaiting infrastructure and capacity upgrades.

Mr. Kearns noted that staff have been attending webinars on the recently announced provincial grant program - Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund (HEWSF), the requirements of which the Town readily meets.

Resolution 2024 - 022

Moved by Councillor Borneman

Seconded by Councillor McDonald

That the staff report, the 2024 Budget Overview and Draft Capital Budget presentation be received for information purposes: and

That Council approve the Draft Capital Budget and directs staff to include it in the preparation of a By-law to set the estimates following the 2024 Draft Operating Budget deliberations.

Carried

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3. Adjournment

Mayor McGarvey adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM

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Mayor Jamie McGarvey

Clerk Rebecca Johnson