

**Corporation of the Township of Guelph/Eramosa**

**Special Meeting of Council**

**MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

9:00 a.m.

Guelph/Eramosa Township Municipal Building

Present: Mayor Chris White, Councillors Corey Woods, David Wolk,  
Mark Bouwmeester

Regrets: Louise Marshall

Present from Staff: CAO Ian Roger, Director of Parks and Recreation Robin Milne, Director of Finance Linda Cheyne, Director of Public Works Harry Niemi, Fire Chief John Osborne, Deputy Fire Chief Jim Petrik, Chief Building Official Dan Sharina, Acting Clerk/Director of Legislative Services Amanda Knight

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

2017-01-11-2.1      Moved by: Corey Woods  
Seconded by: David Wolk

Be it resolved that the agenda for the January 11, 2017 Special Council Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Conflict of Interest

None.

4. Items for Discussion

Prior to the staff presentation of the 2017 Proposed Budget, Councillor Wolk announced an upcoming Farm Safety educational initiative including a series of videos in which he may appear.

4.1              Staff Presentation of 2017 Proposed Budget

Ian Roger, Chief Administrative Officer provided Council and members of the public an overview of the Township of Guelph/Eramosa. He briefly explained how municipal taxes are allocated, including the percentage received by the Township and the services that this figure supports. Mr. Roger noted that the purpose of this meeting is for department heads to present their proposed 2017 departmental budget and to engage in open discussion and to answer any questions that Council may have.

Linda Cheyne, Director of Finance summarized the proposed 2017 spending on both capital and operating expenditures, transfers to reserves and debt repayment. She also summarized projected 2017 revenues from water and wastewater, user fees and taxation. Ms. Cheyne noted that the 2017 budget is proposing a 1.99% increase for the municipal portion, for the average taxpayer. Ms. Cheyne listed all departments and their core functions.

Linda Cheyne, Director of Finance presented the 2017 proposed Budget for General Governance, which includes Council, Administration and the CAO. Ms. Cheyne highlighted the following budget items: maintaining existing levels of service, continuation of records management electronic software implementation and the two capital carry-over projects of asset management and salary review. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Ms. Cheyne provided responses.

Harry Niemi, Director of Public Works presented the 2017 proposed Budget for Public Works. Mr. Niemi highlighted the following budget items: road needs study, collecting asset data and arbourist student to begin tree inventory. Mr. Niemi noted that the roads capital spending is at approximately \$1.5 million as recommended in 4Roads Report. Mr. Niemi presented the suggested road projects for 2017. Mr Niemi also noted that the Public Works Department has realized efficiencies from having a licensed mechanic on staff that looks after various aspects of fleet maintenance. Lastly, Mr. Niemi noted an increase of contributions to infrastructure reserve. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Niemi provided responses.

Council recessed with unanimous consent.

Harry Niemi, Director of Public Works presented the 2017 proposed Budget for Water/Wastewater. Mr. Niemi highlighted the following budget items: a recommendation for hiring one additional operator for succession planning, Rockwood water and sewer system improvements and improvements to Well 4. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Niemi provided responses.

John Osborne, Fire Chief and Jim Petrik, Deputy Fire Chief, presented the 2017 proposed Budget for the Fire Department. Mr. Petrik highlighted the following budget items: increase in hydro as a result of rate increases, increases in paging services and increases in insurance rates. He also noted a proposed increase related to the Fire Services Agreement with the City of Guelph. Mr. Petrik presented the following proposed expenditures, including shifting dispatch responsibilities to the City of Guelph and installing a digital sign at the Rockwood Fire Station., Mr. Petrik noted that efficiencies were realized in a 25-30% savings in overall salary expenditures. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Osborne and Mr. Petrik provided responses.

Council recessed with unanimous consent.

Dan Sharina, Chief Building Official presented the 2017 proposed Budget for the Building Department. Mr. Sharina highlighted the following budget items: addition of a full-time administrative support position and additional electronic devices and software requirements. Mr. Sharina explained that his department is self-funding. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Sharina provided responses.

Robin Milne, Director of Parks and Recreation presented the 2017 proposed Budget for the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Milne highlighted the following budget items: renovations to facilities, truck replacement, Rockmosa Park development, including the skate park and funds allocated for Canada 150 celebrations as required by a Provincial Grant the Township has applied for. Mr. Milne noted that a source of revenue has been lost as a result of the closing of the daycare previously operating at Rockmosa. Mr. Milne indicated that the Cemetery budget is a stand-alone budget and self-funding. He indicated that this will be the first year that the Rockwood Cemetery is

managed by the Township. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Milne provided responses.

Ian Roger, CAO, presented the 2017 proposed Budget for the Planning Department. Mr. Roger highlighted the following budget item: continuation of MHBC Planning Ltd. providing planning services for the Township. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Roger provided responses.

Ian Roger, CAO, presented the 2017 proposed Budget for the Grand River Conservation Authority Mr. Roger highlighted the following budget item: general levy.

Ian Roger, CAO, presented the 2017 proposed Budget for the Protection of Persons and Property budget. Mr. Roger highlighted the following budget item: the first full year the Guelph Humane Society will be providing canine control services. Mr. Roger also noted that the current Livestock Valuer has submitted his resignation and staff are working on advertising for a replacement. Members of Council asked a number of questions and Mr. Roger provided responses.

Ms. Cheyne presented the list of proposed donations for 2017. Council discussed donations and in-kind rental agreements for community facilities and how these figures should be reported within the budget. Council supported the current list of donation commitments. Members of Council asked a number of questions and staff provided responses.

Mayor White, on behalf of Council, thanked staff for their presentations.

2017-01-11-4.1      Moved by:                      Mark Bouwmeester  
                                 Seconded by:                      David Wolk

Be it resolved that the agenda for the January 11, 2017 Special Council Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously

5.      Closed Session

None.

6.      By-laws

6.1 03/2017 A By-law to confirm the proceedings of the January 11, 2017 Special Meeting of Council.

2017-01-11-6.1 Moved by: David Wolk  
Seconded by: Corey Woods

Be it resolved that By-law 03/2017 to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Guelph/Eramosa at its Special meeting held on the 11th day of January, 2017, be taken as read three times and finally passed in open session.

Carried Unanimously

7. Adjournment

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.

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Chris White, Mayor

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Amanda Knight, Acting Clerk