

The “**SECOND MEETING**” (**SPECIAL**) of the Committee of the Whole was held at the Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne on Monday, January 21, 2013 commencing at approximately 6:22 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Vance Badawey presided with the following members in attendance:

COUNCILLORS:

D. Elliott	
A. Desmarais	Y. Doucet
F. Danch	B. Kenny
R. Bodner	B. Butters

Absent: W. Steele

STAFF:

R. Heil, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Aquilina, Director of Planning & Development
R. Hanson, Director of Engineering & Operations
P. Senese, Director of Community & Corporate Services
T. Cartwright, Fire Chief
H. Hakim, Manager of Community Services
S. Thompson, General Manager and Director, Economic Development, Tourism and Marketing
J. Parry, Director of Library Services
S. Powell-Baswick, Museum Curator
M. Minor, Asst. Marina Manager
K. Thomas, Manager of Accounting/Tax Collector
A. Molenaar, Recording Clerk

Also in attendance was a member of the news media.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – MAYOR VANCE BADAWEY

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor B. Kenny

That the Agenda dated January 21, 2013 be confirmed as circulated.
CARRIED.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. PRESENTATIONS

(a) **Draft 2013 Budget Overview**
Peter Senese, Director of Community and Corporate Services

Mayor Badawey welcomed everyone to the budget deliberations and advised DCCS Senese will be providing an overview of the budget package.

DCCS Senese advised he will be highlighting a few of the schedules in the budget package. He then proceeded to review the 2013 operating Levy Summary – page 1. He referred to the 2012 Tax Levy at \$12,701,541 and

advised the estimated overall 2013 Operating levy of \$13,190,452 = 3.85% increase.

DCCS Senese reviewed the Operating Costs, noting increases in OMERS, utilities, Library and Health & Wellness Centre. He referred to the cost item for three temp summer Park staff for this year, as the City will be operating 1 of the rinks all year long.

DCCS Senese reviewed new Debenture Costs for 2012 projects. He advised the operating Levy plus new debt costs is 4.35% increase.

DCCS Senese reviewed cost reductions and savings with street light hydro charges, life insurance benefit premiums and tourism co-ordinator vacancy. He noted the revised operating Levy is 2.75%.

DCCS Senese referred to unexpected costs, that being loss of revenues and property site clean up for demolition of properties taken over by the City which increases the budget by 2.01%. He noted the additional \$100,000.00 for capital amortization is added to the budget giving a 5.59% proposed levy increase.

Director of Planning & Development Aquilina reviewed the demolition properties for 2013.

DCCS Senese detailed the loss of revenues i.e. elevator wharfage fees, CNR line fees, OMPF Provincial funds, Marina revenues, planning revenues, Roselawn-Showboat, parking meter tickets.

DCCS Senese reviewed the Revenue Changes – increased i.e. Supplementary taxes, Wakeboard percentage of revenue, Transit, Building revenue, Admin fees-Water/Sewer.

DCCS Senese reviewed the Health & Wellness Centre Operating Budget estimates for Revenue and Expenditures. He noted the insurance is higher with the Vale Health & Wellness Centre as this is a newer building.

In response to an inquiry of cleaning the common area in the Vale Health & Wellness Centre. DCCS Senese advised that the YMCA is responsible for cleaning the Pool and gym, as well as the common area.

DCCS Senese referred to the schedules under Expenditures Changes as detailed in Schedules A-K. Combined Revenue Changes and Expenditures listed on page 3 provide a proposed 2013 Tax Levy of \$13,411,002 = 5.59% increase in the levy.

It was noted that Council will need to review the reducing of the levy. It was discussed reviewing the level of services offered and questioned if the services can be provided in a more efficient manner.

One level of service discussed was the watering of the flower baskets in the downtown. Staff advised the overall costs have been detailed on pages 38-44.

2013 Budget contract services (page 5) were reviewed. Staff advised the items contracted out are better done and at a better cost so as to free up staff to perform other duties/services.

DCCS Senese reviewed the 2013 Budget Worksheet, outlining requests or Initiatives which are items that staff have asked for.

DCCS Senese highlighted each department items listed with the estimated cost and how each item would be funded.

Schedule 'J' - 2013 Budget Debenture Costs was reviewed.

S. Powell-Baswick, Museum Curator provided Council with a brief update and overview of each of the Museum items listed, noting that the 1812 Anniversary Project in the amount of \$2,600.00 was covered by Hydro funding and therefore this item can be removed.

Fire Chief T. Cartwright reviewed the Fire Department Requests/initiatives items.

Director of Planning and Development D. Aquilina reviewed the Planning/Building Requests/Initiatives items.

Manager of Community Services H. Hakim reviewed the Community Services Requests/Initiatives items.

DEO R. Hanson reviewed the Engineering Requests/Initiatives items.

Assistant Marina Manger M. Minor reviewed the Marina's Requests/Initiatives items. Respecting the Dock Condition Study, it was requested for staff to consider \$10,000.00 for this Study be taken out of the Facility Conservation Fund. DCCS Senese to investigate this.

Public Works Superintendent P. Peyton reviewed the Parks and Public Works Requests/Initiatives items.

General Manager and Director, Economic Development, Tourism and Marketing S. Thompson reviewed the Economic Development Requests/Initiatives, noting all of these items were requested and reduced in 2012.

It was recommended to combine together the Residential Dev/Relocation Guide/Mkt from Economic Development with the Leisure Guide from Community Services.

DCCS Senese presented and highlighted the Physician Recruitment item and the Transit item.

**Council requests –
Promenade-snow removal sidewalks**

DEO R. Hanson advised that presently, the snow is not removed from the West Street Promenade and it is not sanded/salted. There is a problem if sand or salt goes into the Canal.

Discussion took place of a Council request to remove snow from sidewalks and curbs; as well as clearing snow from handicapped parking stalls in the business area.

Moved by Councillor B. Kenny

Seconded by Councillor A. Desmarais

That Council direct staff to provide costs for snow removal from boulevards and handicapped parking space in the downtown business area.

LOST.

**Council requests –
Skatepark – extended washroom hours**

DEO R. Hanson and Public Works Superintendent P. Peyton reviewed the Skatepark extended washroom hours.

Recommendation:

This item to be discussed at a Business Planning meeting/session.

Goderich Elevators

DCCS Senese advised this item was brought forwarded from a previous strategic planning recommendation.

4. ADJOURN

Moved by Councillor Y. Doucet
Seconded by Councillor D. Elliott

That there being no further business, the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at approximately 9:45 p.m.
CARRIED.

/am