



General Committee – Budget Meeting Report
Tuesday, February 9, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, Town Hall

Mayor A. Thompson (remote)
Councillor I. Sinclair (remote)
Councillor L. Kiernan (remote)
Councillor J. Downey (remote)
Councillor C. Early (remote)
Councillor J. Innis
Councillor N. deBoer (remote)
Councillor A. Groves (remote)
Councillor T. Rosa (remote)

Chief Administrative Officer: C. Herd (remote)
Manager, Revenue / Deputy Treasurer: H. Bryers (remote)
Acting Director, Finance / Treasurer: H. Haire (remote)
Director, Corporate Services / Town Clerk: L. Hall
Deputy Clerk, Council and Committee Services: J. Lavecchia
Manager, Transportation Engineering: A. Olia (remote)
Director, Engineering Services: A. Pearce (remote)
Coordinator, Council Committee: R. Reid (remote)

INTRODUCTION

Town Clerk, L. Hall, advised that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Bill 187, Emergency Management Act, 2020, that the meeting would be held as an electronic meeting and open to the public through an audio broadcast and streamed live on the Town's website. She advised Members of Committee of procedural functions of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair J. Innis called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

The General Committee reports that the following matters were dealt with on the consent portion of the agenda and recommended to Town Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on February 16, 2021:

Staff Report 2021-0020: Ontario Regulation 284/09 2021 Budget

That the full accrual accounting items identified in Staff Report 2021-0020 be approved and included as budget figures in the December 31, 2021 audited financial statements; and

That the Treasurer be authorized to make the required amendments to the budget figures in the Town's audited financial statements for any amendments to the Town's budget approved by Council.

Confidential Staff Report 2021-0035: Labour relations or employee negotiations – Total Rewards Review

That Staff be directed to proceed with increasing the Short-Term Disability Plan maximum to 75% for 2021 for all eligible Town Staff as outlined in Table 2 of the Confidential Staff Report 2021-0035;

That the 2020 WSIB NEER rebate be directed to the Group Benefit Stabilization Reserve to fund the expected shortfall in 2021 employee benefits premiums; and

That Staff be directed to proceed with increasing the Long-Term Disability Plan maximum to 75% for 2021 for all eligible Town Staff as outlined in Confidential Staff Report 2021-0035.

DELEGATIONS

Judy Mabee, on behalf of the West Caledon Communities Traffic Group, provided a delegation regarding agenda item no. 5.3 Staff Report 2021-0023: 2021 Proposed Budget. She requested that Council implement a full Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) program in Caledon immediately by including ASE units in the 2021 budget and in future budgets. She indicted the traffic concerns within the villages have a negative impact on the community due to excess speed and noise from modified vehicles. She concluded her delegation advising that the West Caledon Communities Traffic Group will be mailing a letter to the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General / MPP Dufferin-Caledon to endorse and expedite the implementation of both the ASE and AMPS programs and further requested that Mayor Thompson follow-up with the Province regarding proposed changes to the Highway Traffic Act.

Members of Council provided several comments in relation to Ms. Mabee's delegation and the ASE program.

Chair Innis thanked Ms. Mabee for her delegation.

STAFF REPORTS

The General Committee recommends adoption of the following recommendation:

Staff Report 2021-0005: Proposed 2021 Fees and Charges By-law

That Fees and Charges By-law 2019-78, as amended be repealed and replaced with the proposed 2021 Fees and Charges By-law attached as Schedule A to Staff Report 2021-0005 to take effect February 17, 2021;

That the 2021 tax subsidy for Recreation Services of 53% approved;

That a post-pandemic recreation subsidy be brought forward for approval in a future budget once the impacts of the pandemic have subsided and Recreation operations have normalized;

That the 2021 Proposed User fee by-law be amended to remove the Statement of Account – up to 2 years of history fee in the amount of \$20.00; and

That the 2021 Proposed Budget be amended to reduce user fee revenues in the 2021 budget by \$18,000 funded from the tax levy.

This matter was recommended to Town Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on February 16, 2021.

The General Committee recommends adoption of the following recommendation:

Staff Report 2021-0023: 2021 Proposed Budget

That the 2021 Operating Budget net increase of \$800,568 representing 1.08% average residential tax increase to the Town levy only be approved;

That the 2021 Budget, be approved at a net Town tax levy amount of an estimated \$75,171,106 inclusive of:

- a) a base operating budget increase of \$2,478,043 which includes \$1,495,237 in recommended Change in Service Levels (as outlined in Schedule B of Staff Report 2021-0023), and
- b) the total tax funded capital program of \$20,751,144 (as outlined in Schedule A of Staff-Report 2021-0023);

That for 2021, assessment growth revenues of \$1,677,475 be used to offset the financial impact of the operating budget;

That the special levy for Broadband be increased to \$307,011 from \$300,000 to include assessment growth of \$7,011;

That the Town's operating budget, in the gross expense budget amount of \$114,113,910 be approved and funded from the following sources:

Operating Budget Funding Sources	Amount \$
Tax Revenue (including supplementary, PILs)	77,383,414
Fines & Penalties	6,286,911
User Fees / Rentals	19,322,011
Transfer from Development Charge Reserve fund to fund the Fire Aerial growth-related debt servicing costs and fully repay this principal in 2021	431,308
Transfer from Community Improvement Plan Reserve	100,000
Transfer from Tax Funded Operating Contingency Reserve/Safe Restart Funding for Pandemic related expenditures	1,240,971
Transfer from Tax Funded Operating Contingency Reserve for Stormwater plan update and one-year contract project manager	175,000
Transfers from Tax Funded Operating Contingency Reserve/Safe Restart funding related to recommended Change in Service Levels. Please note other transfers relating to the Development Approval Stabilization and Building Stabilization Reserve have been netted against the budgeted contributions to Reserve under Expenditures.	165,995
Transfers from Tax Funded Operating Contingency Reserve to deferring the 2020 one-time village Bi-Centennial events to 2021 due to the pandemic	15,000
Transfers from Tax Funded Operating Contingency Reserve to provide additional funding for the School Green Fund in 2021	10,000
Interest	3,915,143
Grants	974,939
Sales	206,465
Other – Internal recoveries, etc.	3,886,753
Total Operating Budget Funding	114,113,910

That the 2021 capital program (expenditures and funding sources), in the gross capital budget amount of \$73,006,269 as listed in Schedule A of Staff Report 2021-0023 be approved and funded from the funding sources as follows:

Tax	\$20,751,144
Gas Tax	\$4,029,314
Aggregate Levy	\$362,000
Broadband Levy	\$306,524
Animal Shelter Contingency Reserve	\$32,900
Building Permit Stabilization Reserve	\$160,000
Comprehensive Adaptive Management Plan Reserve	\$50,024
Capital Asset Replacement Reserve	\$1,525,000
Cash In Lieu Parkland Reserve	\$255,554
Facility Repairs & Reinvestment	\$122,086
Fire Equipment Reserve	\$91,000

Fleet Equipment Reserve	\$465,000
Tax Funded Capital Reserve	\$2,468,142
Development Charge Reserves	\$30,486,648
Debentures	\$6,475,000
Region of Peel	\$1,504,675
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Grant	\$1,422,004
Grant – Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund	\$2,459,254
Other	\$40,000
Total Capital Funding	\$73,006,269

That the Town's Enhanced Roads Program capital project 21-047 in the amount of \$4,100,000, be funded from a debenture to be issued, through the Region of Peel, following substantial completion;

That the Town's Caledon East Community Complex Phase 3 and 4 Expansion capital project 21-095 in the amount of \$10,725,000, which will partially fund the non-growth portion of the project from a debenture in the amount of \$2,375,000 to be issued, through the Region of Peel, following substantial completion;

That the Treasurer's update of the Town's projected debt servicing charges as it impacts the Town's Annual Repayment Limit for all previously approved debentures and the proposed debenture outlined in Staff Report 2021-0023, be received;

That a 2021 wage increase of 1.75% for all eligible non-union staff including Council members be approved for 2021, effective for the first pay period in January 2021;

That the Treasurer be authorized to issue cheques or in-kind grants to the organizations in the amounts listed in Schedule C of Staff Report 2021-0023 as part of the Town's Municipal Agricultural and Community grants program (MACG);

That the Treasurer be authorized to make technical adjustments to the 2021 Capital and Operating budget based on business needs, good accounting practices and assessment growth from the return of the municipal assessment roll to be received from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation;

That staff be authorized to submit applications for grants that would reduce expenditures associated with projects, programs and services approved as part of the operating and capital budgets, or to advance improvements where such grants represent the full value of the service or capital improvement;

That staff be authorized to submit and authorize claim summary reports, project status update reports, any other grant reporting that is required as part of the grants that would reduce expenditures associated with projects, programs and services approved as part of the operating and capital budgets, or to advance improvements where such grants represent the full value of the service or capital improvement;

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any agreements that may be required to accept grant funding from other levels of governments or other partners to reduce expenditures associated with programs, services and/or capital projects or to advance improvements where such grants represent the full value of the service or capital improvement;

That the Town's 10-year capital forecast and basic principles for a multi-year long term plan, approved in principle, and incorporated into the Town of Caledon's Council Work Plan;

That the Treasurer be authorized to make adjustments to the 10-year capital forecast as a result of any changes made by Council to the budget, any technical changes required or based upon budget discussions that have occurred if deemed appropriate;

That the Treasurer be authorized to establish new reserve funds as a result of the 2021 Budget;

That the property tax assistance grant for Low Income Seniors and Low-Income Persons with Disabilities be increased to \$514.00 for 2021 to keep pace with inflation and tax increases;

That the Clerk be authorized to prepare all necessary by-laws to implement the above recommendations;

That the 2021 Budget be amended to fund Change in Service Level #43, Implementation of Automated Speed Enforcement on Town Roads Program in the amount of \$106,962 funded by the tax levy;

That Schedule C of Staff Report 2021-0023 Proposed 2021 Budget be amended to remove the Municipal Agricultural and Community Grant allocated to Ontario Farmland Trust in the amount of \$15,000;

That the 2021 Budget be amended to remove Capital Project #21-091 Caledon East Community Complex Pad 1 Arena Boards, in the amount of \$25,000 funded by Tax levy funding;

That the 2021 Budget be amended to reduce the scope and budget of unfunded capital project #21-119 Dog Park Caledon East to install only a chain link fence in the amount of \$25,000 funded by the tax levy;

That the 2021 Budget be amended to fund capital project #21-119 Dog Park Caledon East to in the amount of \$25,000 funded by the tax levy; and

That the 2021 Budget be amended to fund Change in Service Level #48, Facility Parking Lot - Contracted Services in the amount of \$70,000 funded by the tax levy.

This matter was recommended to Town Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on February 16, 2021.

Councillor A. Groves left the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and returned remotely at 8:04 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

The General Committee recommends adoption of the following recommendation:

Infrastructure Funding

That the Town of Caledon support the Town of Bracebridge's request regarding Infrastructure Funding to assist in economic recovery in order to rebound from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, the Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Kyle Seebach, MP Dufferin-Caledon, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon and the Town of Bracebridge.

This matter was recommended to Town Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on February 16, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 8:07 p.m.