



The Corporation of the Township of Dawn-Euphemia

- M I N U T E S -

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2021
4:00 pm, Municipal Office, 4591 Lambton Line

Meeting was held by Teleconference, #17 (in accordance with S.4.6 of Procedural By-Law 2020-13, Electronic Meetings During a Declared Emergency)

Present: Mayor: A. Broad
Councillors: A. Gray (4:18pm due to technical difficulties)
M. McGuire
J. Meyer
L. Williams

Staff Present: D. Clermont, Administrator-Clerk
P. Dalton, Public Works Superintendent
S. Gawley, Treasurer
T. Towstiuc, Deputy-Clerk

Public Present: J. Allaert, Resident

Disclosures: None

**4:00 pm – 5:50 pm: Scott Gawley, Treasurer
Re: Presentation of Draft 2021 Budget**

2021 Budget Deliberations

The Treasurer presented the draft 2021 budget to Council and reviewed the operating and capital budgets for the following departments: General Government, Administration, General Operations, Protection to Persons & Property, Transportation, Environmental Services, Recreational and Culture, Planning and Development, Health, Drainage, Health and Social Services, Cemeteries, General Revenue, Taxation Revenue, Police Services, Emergency Planning, Conservation Authority, Building Department and Animal Control. The Treasurer further reviewed the Reserve Summary and proposed contributions to Reserves. The budget estimates, draft calls for:

	<u>Potential Rate Impact</u>	
1. OMPF decrease funding (from \$334,100 to \$285,400)	\$ 48,700.00	1.25%
2. Planned increase in gravel budget (planned increase is not included in proposed budget)	\$ 50,000.00	1.25%
3. Gravel price increase (factored into draft budget)	\$ 30,000.00	0.8%
4. Insurance Premium increase (10.5%)	\$ 11,851.00	0.3%
5. Policing Increase (5%) (proposed to \$17,000 Police reserve to offset budget increase)	\$ 17,733.00	0.5%
6. Staffing Change with Treasurer position going fulltime	\$ 44,438.00	1.1%
7. Average cost of living CPI for October	\$ 7,500.00	0.2%
8. Assessment shift from Farm Tax to Residential Tax class (This shift in Tax class has been factored into the Tax rate proposal to maintain the tax rates at the 2020 rates with basically the same assessment as 2020, therefore no tax increase for the tax payers of the Township).	\$ 77,000.00	1.83%

Items 1 to 7 would have resulted in a 5.4% increase on the Township taxes; however, it is proposed in the budget to find the funding using surplus from prior years, reserves for some on the capital projects & policing and additional grant funding to help offset a tax increase in 2021.

The following provincial grants can provide some relief to the 5.4% increase in funding required as listed above:

- | | | |
|--|--------------|------|
| 1. COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream
(expected to receive approval in March 2021) | \$100,000.00 | 2.5% |
| 2. COVID Relief funding | \$ 53,500.00 | 1.3% |
| 3. Safe Restart Agreement funding | \$ 16,000.00 | .4% |

The proposed budget will provide relief for the taxpayer in 2021, however in the long term for future budget and service levels cannot be maintained without an increase. The proposed budget allows current service levels to be maintained.

Council made the following changes to the 2021 proposed budget:

Council directed staff to wait on servicing new camp sites at the Shetland Campground until an Operating Agreement is in place between the Township and St. Clair Region Conservation Area.

Council also directed staff to hold off on the upgrades to Oakdale Boulevard until the London Line Pipeline project has been confirmed, and/or additional funding is provided by Lambton County.

Council requested the Treasurer include \$50,000 to the budget for 2021 gravel, in accordance with the gravel restoration plan, and include \$10,000 to the budget for the Lambton Police Services Board for the increased rental of their facility in St. Clair Township.

Council requested the changes be made and presented at the regular meeting of Council on Monday, January 18, 2021 for review and reconsideration.

2021-01 Councillor Williams – Councillor McGuire

That Council receives and reviewed the draft budget report FIN 21-01-01, as presented by the Treasurer; and further that the Treasurer implement the amendments to the budget (policing increase and gravel costs) as directed by Council, for consideration at the next Regular Meeting of Council. *Carried*

Draft Budget 2021

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
Y	L. Williams

2021-02 Councillor Williams – Councillor Gray

That Council receive report FIN 21-01-02 Insurance Renewal-2021 AND Further accepts renewal proposal of \$125,032.00. *Carried*.

Insurance Renewal 2021

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
Y	L. Williams

2021-03 Councillor Gray – Councillor Meyer

That this Regular Session of Council be hereby adjourned at the hour of 5:53 pm, to meet again on January 18, 2021 @ 6:30 pm (Regular Meeting), or at the call of the Chair. *Carried*.

Adjournment

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
Y	L. Williams

Mayor

Administrator-Clerk