

Minutes of Committee of the Whole
December 11, 2018



Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers

Meeting # 25

Present: Mayor Ron Vandewal, Pat Barr, Ray Leonard, Doug Morey, Alan Revill, Norm Roberts, Randy Ruttan, Ron Sleeth, Ross Sutherland

Staff: Wayne Orr, Chief Administrative Officer, Mark Segsworth, Director of Public Services, Darcy Knott, Fire Chief, Angela Maddocks, Clerk

1. Call to Order
 - a) Mayor Vandewal called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Declaration of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof
 - a) There were no declarations of pecuniary interest or general nature thereof.
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a) The agenda was approved as presented.
4. Scheduled Closed Session
 - a) Council moved into closed session to discuss litigation, matters about identifiable individuals, and matters subject to client solicitor privilege.

Councillor Sutherland felt that in his opinion there was not proper notification on the agenda for what will be discussed in closed session.

The CAO noted that as per the longstanding practice there is no formal motion at Committee of the Whole to go into Closed Session. There is a difference of opinion on this subject and there is an outstanding closed meeting investigation that addresses the concerns of Councillor Sutherland.

5. ***Recess - reconvene at 7:05 p.m. for Open Session
6. Public Meeting - n/a
7. Delegations - n/a
8. Reports Requiring Direction
 - a) Splash Pad/Spray Park Feasibility

Tim Laprade reviewed the background for a feasibility study for a splash pad including the results from the 2016 recreation survey, the benefits of a splash pad, potential risks, capital and ongoing operational costs.

Comments from Council included:

- the initial costs and ongoing operational costs would be too great for a township this size
- there is no room in the long range capital budget in the next ten years
- is there a need when we have a community with so many lakes

- the demographics of our community are changing, consideration of these types of requests need to be considered
- there are already several large projects that require financial commitment.
- Recreation is on the verge of being based on taxation
- the public needs to know why a splash pad is not feasible

At this time, Council did not support including the costs for a feasibility study in the 2019 budget.

b) Skate Park Feasibility Study

Council was supportive of undertaking a feasibility study for a skateboard park as part of the budget process. The operating costs would not be as significant as the splash pad.

c) 2019 Budget Direction

Council provided direction that the budget be drafted based on the 2% increase as they felt this has served the community well in the past.

d) Fire Services - Operational Review and Recommendations

Council was supportive of including the following items in the draft 2019 Budget:

- A combined position - Fire Prevention Officer/Public Education (recommendation 4.1)
- Recruitment of 25 Volunteer Firefighters in 2019 to bring SFFR closer to the minimum staffing levels (recommendation 4.2)
- Acquire a demo or refurbished mobile air trailer unit (recommendation 6.2) immediate action - fund from reserves
- A reserve of pages to support the overall function of dispatching firefighters to emergencies (recommendation 10.1) immediate action - fund from reserves
- Close and surplus the current Station 9 Firehall, this building is not providing any service to the community and surplus the old Station 6 in Perth Road village.
- Station Location Study - 7 station model.

9. Reports for Information

a) Draft Code of Conduct/Council and Staff Relations Policy

Council was advised that these will be brought forward to Council in January.

b) Training Opportunities offered by AMO

10. Rise & Report from Committees of Council

a) County Council - no updates.

b) Arena Board

Councillor Revill reported that some lighting has been changed to LED lighting and some switches were activated 24/7, with changes made the energy costs for the arena have dropped significantly.

c) Police Services Board

The annual Police Services Board was held in November.

d) Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority

Councillor Sutherland reported that there has been restructuring in the Cataraqui Trail Management Board. The management and costs will be assumed directly by the authority. Bridge replacements and washouts need to be addressed. The Cataraqui Trail Management Board continues to be operational.

e) Quinte Conservation Authority

Councillor Roberts reported that a CAO has been hired instead of replacing the general manager position. There is no meeting in December.

f) Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

Councillor Barr reported that the 2019 preliminary budget has been completed.

g) Portland Heritage - no updates

11. Information Items

a) Honourable Steven Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, re: support for local government

b) Frontenac Federation of Agriculture - Support for Bale Wrapper initiative

12. Notice of Motions

13. Announcements/Statements by Councillors

a) Councillor Sutherland noted that with regard to the disclosure of Closed Session agenda items he felt the meeting was not properly constituted or defined. He was supportive of the agreement but not the process.

b) Mayor Vandewal reminded Council about the "Christmas Meet and Greet" with Council and staff at 5:00 pm on December 18, 2018.

14. Question of Clarity (from the public on outcome of agenda items) - n/a

15. Closed Session - n/a

16. Adjournment

a) The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.