

**THE FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Council Chamber
Tom Davies Square**

**Wednesday, June 7, 2006
Commencement: 5:35 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR THOMPSON, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Berthiaume; Bradley; Callaghan (A7:05pm); Craig (D7:25pm); Dupuis; Gasparini; Kett; Reynolds; Rivest; Mayor Courtemanche (A5:55pm)

City Officials

P. Thomson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer; C. Matheson, General Manager of Community Development; H. Mulc, Acting General Manager of Growth & Development; G. Clausen, Acting General Manager of Infrastructure & Emergency Services; L. Hayes, CFO/Treasurer; G. Lamothe, Manager of Communications & French Language Service; M. Murdoch, Coordinator of Emergency Shelters & Homelessness Initiatives; H. Duff, Director of Social Services; R. Clouthier, Manager of Citizen Service Centres; M. Blanchard, Call Centre Lead; R. Henderson, Director of Citizen Services; M. Hardie, Administrator of Customer Relationship Management; C. Ouellette, Manager of Children Services; P. Demers, Community Relations & Policy Advisor; A. Haché, City Clerk; F. Bortolussi, Planning Committee Secretary; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

C.U.P.E. Local 4705

W. MacKinnon, President

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; CIGM; Channel 10 News; Le Voyageur; Northern Life; CBC Radio-Canada; Big Daddy

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

PART I

5:30 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

Item 2
3-1-1 Service

Report dated 2006-05-30 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding 3-1-1 Service for the City of Greater Sudbury was received.

Letter dated 2006-06-07 from Councillor Ted Callaghan regarding this matter was tabled.

Mr. Ron Henderson, Director of Citizen Services and Ms. Marg Hardie, Administrator of Customer Relationship Management gave an electronic presentation and outlined the history of the City of Greater Sudbury call centre at TD Square.

Item 2
3-1-1 Service
(continued)

Mr. Henderson advised that the software program will identify response times to resolve citizen issues, track open work orders, identify most common citizen complaints, and allow for a fully operational call centre.

He stated that 311 would be utilized for non-emergency calls for the City of Greater Sudbury and will be easier to remember. A breakdown of costs was provided:

- a start up administrative fee of \$2,500
- \$25,000 for advertising campaign
- annual service charge of \$4,800
- an annual service charge for enhanced routing of up to \$3,500 depending on the number of telephones impacted and number of calls made
- some added costs for staffing to offer extended hours of service

The following recommendation was presented:

WHEREAS City Council directed staff to investigate the value of a 3-1-1 telephone service for the City of Greater Sudbury;

AND WHEREAS a 3-1-1 telephone service will provide citizens greater convenience by eliminating many individual municipal telephone numbers;

AND WHEREAS a 3-1-1 telephone service will permit citizens to easily report or make inquiries about a vast array of city services;

AND WHEREAS a 3-1-1 telephone service is a major service enhancement for a minimal budget increase;

AND WHEREAS CGS operates a successful municipal call centre with customer relationship management software;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Greater Sudbury agrees to implement 3-1-1 telephone service with a target date of November 1, 2006;

FURTHER THAT initial start-up costs of \$27,500 be funded from the Information Technology Reserve Fund; and operating costs be budgeted in the 2007 and future Current Budgets;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be authorized to enter into the necessary agreements to implement this service.

The Members of the Committee noted that the above matter is to be considered as a Policy Discussion Paper - Preliminary Discussion only, and will be dealt with at the next Priorities Committee meeting of June 21, 2006.

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

Item 3
Best Start Child Care
Plan Update

Report dated 2006-05-24 from the General Manager of Community Development regarding 2006-2007 Best Start Child Care Plan Update was received.

Bound report entitled "City of Greater Sudbury Best Start Child Care Plan Update" - May 2006 was received under separate cover.

The following recommendation was presented:

WHEREAS research has demonstrated that children's participation in high quality child care results in greater success in school and supports parents efforts to work and/or attend school;

AND WHEREAS Children Services has been advised by the Ministry of Children and Youth that it plans to proceed with the Best Start Child Care Initiative and has allocated \$5,350,000 in 2006-2007 for the development of 692 licensed child care spaces;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council endorse the attached 2006-2007 Best Start Child Care Plan Update dated May 2006 demonstrating commitment to the Best Start Child Care Initiative.

This matter will be included on the next Priorities Committee agenda for a decision.

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - DECISION REQUESTED

Item 4
Cap on RRSP/RESP
Expense

Report dated 2006-05-25, with attachments, from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Cap on RRSP/RESP Expense for Children Services Needs Test was received.

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2006-115: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

WHEREAS in 2004 the Ministry of Children and Youth allowed RRSP and RESP contributions as an allowable expense on the Child Care Subsidy Needs Test;

AND WHEREAS the City implemented this policy with no caps on the amount of RRSP/RESP contribution individuals could make, resulting in families entering the child care subsidy system paying zero contribution to their child care costs;

AND WHEREAS the City is committed to retaining its current child care spaces, and provide access to as many families in need to the licensed system;

Item 4
Cap on RRSP/RESP
Expense
(continued)

AND WHEREAS the City estimates an increase in access for more families if a cap on RRSP/RESP expenses is introduced;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the allowable expense for RRSP's and/or RESP's be capped at \$300 per month per family.

CARRIED

Item 5
Emergency Shelters
& Homelessness
Initiatives

Report dated 2006-05-26, with attachments, from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Addendum to Sustainability Strategy for Emergency Shelters and Homelessness Initiatives was received.

Letter from the Canadian Red Cross regarding their position on administering the Provincial Rent and Utility Bank was tabled.

Mr. Harold Duff, Director of Social Services gave an electronic presentation which outlined the thirteen recommendations presented to the Priorities Committee on May 17, 2006. The presentation also provided information regarding funding for the "Red Jackets", where the Outreach Programs take persons to find affordable housing, detailed information regarding the Community Advisory Committee for Homelessness Initiatives and Committee representation, and concerns regarding internalizing the Provincial One-time Rent Bank and the Provincial Emergency Energy Fund.

It was stated that there are insufficient administration dollars to fund the Provincial One-time Rent Bank and the Provincial Emergency Energy Fund, which is why the decision to bring the programs in-house.

Mr. Duff indicated that the Short Term Action Plan would be to begin the RFP process for the delivery of emergency shelter services and for the delivery of an outreach support service in the summer 2006. Staff will review with the community its capacity to develop an affordable and sustainable emergency shelter system as a Long Term Action Plan.

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2006-116: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

THAT Recommendations 1 to 13, as outlined in the report dated May 9, 2006 by the General Manager of Community Development, be accepted.

DEFEATED

Item 5
Emergency Shelters
& Homelessness
Initiatives
(continued)

2006-117 Kett: THAT the foregoing resolution be reconsidered.

CARRIED BY TWO-THIRDS

Reconsideration

Recommendation
2006-116

The motion was once again presented:

Dupuis: THAT Recommendations 1 to 13, as outlined in the report dated May 9, 2006 by the General Manager of Community Development, be accepted.

Amendment to the
Recommendation

The following amendment to the foregoing resolution was then presented:

2006-118 Kett: AND THAT Recommendations 8 and 9 be deleted from the motion in order that staff can present options at a future meeting.

CARRIED

Main Motion
(as amended)

The main motion, as amended, was then presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2006-119: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

THAT Recommendations 1 to 7, and 10 to 13, as outlined in the report dated May 9, 2006 by the General Manager of Community Development, be accepted, in order that staff can present options at a future meeting regarding Recommendations 8 and 9.

CARRIED

Change of Chair

At 7:38 p.m., Councillor Thompson vacated the Chair.

COUNCILLOR KETT, IN THE CHAIR

PART II
7:00 P.M.

CITIZEN DELEGATIONS

Item 6
Northeast LHINs

Mr. Dave Murray, the CEO of the Northeast Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and Ms. Margaret Ashcroft, a Member of the Northeast LHINs Board, provided an electronic presentation to the Committee regarding an Update on the Northeast LHINs for information only.

Item 6
Northeast LHINs
(continued)

Mr. Murray stated that the Provincial context for the development of the Local Health Integration Networks is to have LHINs geographically based, not-for-profit, designed to plan, integrate, and fund local health care services, provide community based care, reflect the needs of that community, and to have them planned, coordinated and funded in the community.

The Local context for the LHINs development is to work with health care providers to adapt and customize services to address local health needs, collaborate and integrate with other LHINs, and have the MOHLTC develop and implement provincial strategies.

LHINs core functions are to provide local health system planning and local community engagement, provide accountability and performance management, and provide funding and allocation to health service providers within the scope of LHINs and within the available LHIN funding envelope.

Mr. Murray provided a time-line of LHIN functions, current state of core functions and responsibilities, activities, principles of community engagement, proposed geographical approach, the Integrated Health Service Plan, and proposed priorities.

Change of Chair

At 7:50 p.m., Councillor Kett vacated the Chair.

COUNCILLOR THOMPSON, IN THE CHAIR

Item 7
Pesticide Use in the
CGS

Ms. Suzanne Harvey, Registered Nurse and member of Pesticide Free Sudbury, and Dr. Andrew Knight of the Northern Ontario Regional Cancer Centre (NORCC) provided an electronic presentation regarding cosmetic pesticide use within the City of Greater Sudbury.

Ms. Harvey stated that the goals of Pesticide Free Sudbury was to motivate City Council to “begin an aggressive education campaign aimed at teaching citizens about the alternatives to and dangers of cosmetic pesticides and to create and implement a municipal bylaw which would dictate a total ban on the use of cosmetic pesticides within the City of Greater Sudbury due to their health and environmental risks. This ban would encompass lawn and garden care products used by the City, businesses (including golf courses and lawn care companies) and private residents”.

She provided information regarding how pesticides negatively impact the environment, communities that are supportive of bylaws, how pesticide testing is insufficient, how education campaigns help to make bylaws work, healthy alternative uses for weed control, and the effects on human health.

“My Sudbury! Is Pesticide Free Sudbury!”

Item 7
Pesticide Use in the
CGS
(continued)

Dr. Knight explained how pesticides get into the food chain and water table and the effects they are having on the environment, children, etc. He stated that there is an increase in cancer between the ages of 20 to 44, and an increase in infertility. He stated that one-third of the current ingredients in pesticides were developed in the 1960's and have never undergone testing. Dr. Knight indicated that Council has the opportunity to make Sudbury a cleaner and healthier place for our children and their future.

Proceed Past
8:30 p.m.

2006-120 Dupuis: THAT we proceed past the hour of 8:30 p.m.

CARRIED

CITIZEN PETITIONS

Ban the Use of
Pesticides

Ms. Suzanne Harvey, on behalf of Pesticide Free Sudbury, submitted a petition to the City Clerk signed by approximately one thousand six hundred (1,600) residents of the City of Greater Sudbury which will be forwarded to the General Manager of Growth & Development and the Director of Planning Services. The petition is requesting the immediate creation and implementation of a bylaw to ban the use of all lawn and garden pesticides and herbicides on all residential and City properties within the City of Greater Sudbury.

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION 2006-121: Moved by Councillor Dupuis

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 8:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor Caldarelli, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk