

THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY

Garson Community Centre
100 Church Street, Garson

Wednesday, November 21, 2007
Commencement: 6:00 p.m.

Chair

COUNCILLOR GASPARINI, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Cimino; Barbeau; Berthiaume; Dutrisac; Dupuis; Rivest (D7:05pm); Thompson; Callaghan (A7:03pm); Craig; Landry-Altman; Mayor Rodriguez (D7:57pm)

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; R. Henderson, Acting General Manager of Community Development; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Growth & Development; G. Clausen, General Manager of Infrastructure Services; D. Donaldson, Fire Chief; T. Beadman, Chief of Emergency Services; L. Hayes, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer; C. Dawe, Assistant City Solicitor; P. Thomson, Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development; R. Falcioni, Director of Roads & Transportation; J. Cameron, Manager of Budgets and Central Inventory; C. Gore, Manager of Community Partnerships; N. Mihelchic, Manager of Operations; Carmen Ouellette, Manager of Children Services; L. Tucker, Community Development Coordinator; A. Haché, City Clerk; F. Bortolussi, Council Secretary

Others

W. MacKinnon, President, CUPE Local 4705; S. Sanfelice, CUPE Local 4705

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; CIGM; Persona 10 News; Le Voyageur; Northern Life; Radio-Canada

COMMUNITY TOUR

Testmark
Laboratories Ltd.

Prior to the meeting, the Members of the Priorities Committee participated in a tour of Testmark Laboratories Ltd.

PART I

6:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

Opening Remarks

Councillor Thompson welcomed those in attendance including the seventeen (17) people in the audience to the Priorities Committee meeting.

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Gasparini declared a conflict regarding Item 8 (Physician Recruitment and Retention Program 2008 - 2010), as her daughter is graduating from medical school this year.

PART I
5:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

CITIZEN DELEGATIONS

Garson-Falconbridge
Community Action
Network

Dave Duncan spoke as a representative of the Garson-Falconbridge Community Action Network (CAN). He indicated he became involved with the CAN as a liaison with the mines and that Garson Mine has donated equipment to the CAN. He stated the CAN was involved in the Junction Creek Cleanup. CVRD Inco, partnered with the CAN, and was a major player in refurbishing the walking trail behind St. John's School. He indicated they are now starting to review the terms of reference for the Community Action Networks.

Russ Thompson, Ward Councillor, indicated that, when the CAN first started, not too many people were interested in joining. However, now they have a strong group of individuals and are an asset to the community. He indicated the CAN help with the cleanup behind the school providing an outdoor classroom. He further indicated that CVRD Inco provided much assistance.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

Item 3
Summer Maintenance
Program

Robert Falcioni, Director of Roads & Transportation, made an electronic presentation regarding the Summer Maintenance Program. He listed all their responsibilities; i.e. 3,560 lane kilometres of road, 59,250 metres of road culverts, 14,136 streetlights, etc. He outlined the cost centres and their budget and detailed the existing service levels for each cost centre. He concluded by explaining the four year funding implementation from 2008 to 2011.

In response to a query from Councillor Dutrisac, the General Manager of Infrastructure Services indicated a report will be prepared setting out cost options for the replacement of culverts along with the criteria and process for such replacements.

Point of Order

As this matter had been discussed at length by Committee Members, the Committee Chair requested Councillor Rivest keep his presentation brief due to the length of the agenda and the limited amount of time left to deal with the remaining items on the agenda. Following a portion of Councillor Rivest's presentation, the Committee Chair indicated that the remaining items on the agenda should be dealt with at this time and Councillor Rivest could continue with his presentation at the end of the meeting should time permit. Councillor Rivest challenged the Chair ruling. By a show of hands, the ruling was upheld by the Committee.

Item 4
Year of the Employee
- Job Redesign
Outcomes

Report dated 2007-11-16 was received from the Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development regarding Year of the Employee - Job Redesign Outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION 2007-60: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

THAT Council approve the addition of one (1) permanent position in the Outside Unit, and eleven (11) position in our other Unions and in the Non Union Group, as per the report dated November 16th, 2007 from the Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development and that the added cost associated with these permanencies be added to the 2008 Base Budget;

AND THAT Council direct staff, in 2008, to continue to receive and review proposals from our Unions to convert Part Time/Temporary work to Permanent Full time Permanent positions, through standing venues [e.g. Joint Continuous Improvement Program (CIP), Joint Labour Management Committees, etc.]. These later proposals may be brought forward as Reports for decision making, as appropriate during the year, based on the direction Council has provided to staff.

CARRIED

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

Item 5
Adoption of Policies

Report dated 2007-11-08 was received from the Executive Director, Administrative Services regarding Adoption of Policies: 1) Accountability and Transparency Policy; and 2) Delegation of Powers and Duties Policy.

The following recommendation was presented:

THAT Council consider the draft policies, regarding accountability and transparency, and delegation of powers and duties, attached to the report dated November 8th, 2007 from the Executive Director, Administrative Services and adopt them;

AND THAT the necessary By-laws be passed.

The Chair advised that this item is for preliminary discussion only and will be voted on at the next meeting of the Priorities Committee.

Item 6
For-profit Child Care

Report dated 2007-10-31 was received from the General Manager of Community Development regarding For-profit Child Care in Greater Sudbury.

With the consensus of the Committee, Lois Mahon, Chair, Child Care Supervisor's Network, was allowed to speak on this matter.

Item 6
For-profit Child Care
(continued)

She indicated that a letter has been sent to the Mayor and Council requesting that they review the agreements with child care providers and restrict public funding to not-for-profit or public child care providers only. She further asked there be an exception of the five for-profit owner-operators currently having an agreement with the City of Greater Sudbury. She stated there is research indicating that the quality of child care is greater in not-for-profit child care centres. She indicated that 'big box' child care operators are attempting to become established in Canada creating the 'incorporation of child care' which is not the way to care for children.

The following recommendation was presented:

WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury works with local child care agencies to provide high quality licensed child care to thousands of children, including some of Greater Sudbury's most vulnerable children;

AND WHEREAS Canadian and international studies have shown that overall quality in child care centres is higher in not-for-profit child care programs and in centres where parents have input into programs;

AND WHEREAS interest from a well known multinational corporation in purchasing for-profit child care centres in Greater Sudbury and throughout Ontario has raised concerns about the impact of corporate, for profit child care on the development of a high quality, accessible system of early learning and care in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the City's Children Services Purchase of Service Policy allows the City to set criteria which operators must meet in order to access start-up, operating and fee subsidies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Greater Sudbury amend its Purchase of Service policy so that new public funding in the form of start-up, operating and fee subsidies, is only available to public and/or non-profit child care operations located in Greater Sudbury;

AND THAT the five for-profit owner-operators who have current Purchase of Service agreements with the City of Greater Sudbury and have demonstrated their willingness to work with the City and other partners to provide responsive, quality programs, will continue to be given equal consideration for funding and subsidies, as long as they remain under their current ownership and continue to meet the conditions of their legal agreements;

AND THAT Children Services be directed to amend its "Purchase of Service" policy to reflect this resolution.

Item 7
Leisure Quality of Life
Levy (continued)

The Chair advised that this item is for preliminary discussion only and will be voted on at the next meeting of the Priorities Committee.

Councillor Cimino asked if there would be any legal risk of discrimination if funding is not provided to for-profit operators. He also asked that some options be prepared to satisfy the concerns of the five for-profit owner-operators currently having an agreement with the City that their business would be devalued at the time of a sale.

Report dated 2007-10-14 was received from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Leisure Quality of Life Levy.

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2007-61: Moved by Councillor Berthiaume:

WHEREAS Council approved the creation of a Leisure Quality of Life Levy as part of the 2007 Budget;

AND WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury is in need of new leisure, parks and recreational infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS leisure, parks and recreational infrastructure are a key component of creating a quality of life and quality of place;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that implementation of Leisure Quality of Life Levy be referred to the 2008 Budget deliberations for one-time consideration.

CARRIED

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - DECISION REQUESTED

Item 8
Physician
Recruitment and
Retention Program
2008 - 2010

Report dated 2007-11-05 was received from the General Manager of Growth & Development regarding Physician Recruitment and Retention Program 2008 - 2010.

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2007-62: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

WHEREAS, satisfying the health care needs of local citizens is a priority of the City of Greater Sudbury;

AND WHEREAS competition between municipalities for recruitment and retention of physicians has intensified in recent years;

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Greater Sudbury to have a competitive and effective Physician Recruitment and Retention program;

Item 8
Physician
Recruitment and
Retention Program
2008 - 2010
(continued)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Draft Strategic Physician Recruitment and Retention Program 2007 - 2011 dated November 5th, 2007 be approved and implemented subject to available funding in 2007;

AND FURTHER that budget options be prepared for funding in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

CARRIED

Councillor Gasparini, having declared a conflict of interest in the foregoing matter, did not take part in the discussion, vote on any matter or try to influence the vote in respect thereof.

Item 9
Graffiti Abatement
Program

Report dated 2007-10-11 was received from the General Manager of Community Development regarding Graffiti Abatement Program.

The following recommendation was presented:

THAT Council approve the development of a By-law to restrict the sale of spray paint to unaccompanied minors (persons under the age of 18);

AND THAT a budget option be prepared to address:

- a) the cost of communications and advertising of the By-law;
- b) the development of the Adopt-A-Spot program;
- c) the allocation of dollars for the continuation of two (2) annual Graffiti Eradication Days; and
- d) the development and implementation of a program to address the removal of graffiti on municipal buildings and facilities, and approve the annual funds required for implementation.

The following amendment was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2007-63: Moved by Councillor Thompson:

THAT the first paragraph be deleted from the motion.

CARRIED

The main motion as amended was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2007-64: Moved by Councillor Barbeau:

THAT a budget option be prepared to address:

- a) the cost of communications and advertising of the By-law;
- b) the development of the Adopt-A-Spot program;

Item 9
Graffiti Abatement
Program (continued)

- c) the allocation of dollars for the continuation of two (2) annual Graffiti Eradication Days; and
- d) the development and implementation of a program to address the removal of graffiti on municipal buildings and facilities, and approve the annual funds required for implementation.

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Item 10

Report dated 2007-11-14 was received from the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer regarding Payment in Lieu of Taxes for information only.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Tracy Saarikoski

Tracy Saarikoski, Teddy Bear Day Care, advised she is an advocate for children and families. She stated she has been lobbying for a turning lane in front of the First Baptist Church. She asked where this project is on the 10-year road plan.

The Manager of Operations indicated that she would obtain the information and provide it directly to Ms. Saarikoski.

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION 2007-65: Moved by Councillor Berthiaume:

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 8:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor J. Gasparini, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk