

Minutes of a Council Budget Meeting held March 25, 2004.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Wayne Hurst  
Deputy Mayor Anthony Leardi  
Councillor Robert Bailey  
Councillor Gord Freeman  
Councillor Carl Gibb  
Councillor Paul Renaud  
Councillor Rosa White

**ALSO PRESENT:** Hilary Payne, CAO  
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer  
Ray Marentette, Police Chief (for Police Budget Only)

### Police

The following points were noted:

- Question as to need for marine policing. Chief advises only about 6 times/year.
- Intend to purchase one car this year – two next year.
- Explanation regarding gym costs.
- Dispatching cost lower in Leamington.
- Explanation of Board expenses.
- Chief emphasized need for answer on proposed radio system as soon as possible.
- In response, administration was directed to include an option for approval on the March 29<sup>th</sup> agenda. Cost will be debentured. The Chief was also requested to contact Motorola for a lower price.
- The Mayor suggested that Council should meet with the Chief occasionally.

### Capital Works Program

Discussion regarding need for Fire Rescue Truck.

Moved by G. Freeman, seconded by A. Leardi that the Pickup for Meter Reading Water (#1) be deleted.

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by P. Renaud that Auditorium Repairs (Arena #10) be deleted.

Motion Carried

Moved by R. Bailey, seconded by G. Freeman that Bauer Park Garage (Parks #29) be deleted.

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. White that Centennial Park Horses (Parks #21) be removed but no alternative provided.

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. White that Toddy Jones Park Horses (Parks #16) be removed but no alternative provided.

Motion Carried

The possibility of providing baseball facilities in Bauer Park was noted.

Moved by P. Renaud, seconded by A. Leardi that Centennial Park Court Rehab (Parks #20) be deleted.

Motion Carried

It was decided to defer consideration of Arena Flooring Repairs (Arena #9) until current budget is finalized.

Motion Carried

It was noted that the \$1,100,000 increase in the Current Budget included \$483,000 for OMERS contributions and salary increases.

Current Budget

Moved by G. Freeman, seconded by A. Leardi that Conventions and Seminars (Pg. 1) be reduced by \$10,000.

Motion Lost

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. Bailey that Legal Fees (Pg. 2) be increased to #35,000.

Motion Carried

The CAO distributed additional information regarding the GIS matter (Pg. 5) and it was agreed to leave the requested funding in the budget pending a further presentation by staff.

It was noted that the Police requirement was up \$68,800 over the amount now before Council made up of the proposed \$50,000 reduction plus \$18,800 extra requested by the Chief.

Councillor Freeman suggested that zone painted angle parking be provided along side Wigle and Toddy Jones Park (shoulder to be removed).

Deputy Mayor Leardi enquired if the Traffic Lights at Texas Road and County Road 20 (Item #52 Public Works in Capital) would be contributed to by the Dombrowsky Subdivision and Ms. Bratt responded in the negative.

Moved by P. Renaud, seconded by A. Leardi that \$18,800 be deleted from Reforestation Expenses (Pg. 10) as recommended by the Manager of Public Services.

Motion Carried

Moved by R. White, seconded by C. Gibb that funds be provided for the provision of one street light at each of County Road 20/Third Conc., Alma St./6<sup>th</sup> Conc. and County Road 10/2<sup>nd</sup> Conc.

Motion Carried

The possible deferment of the opening of the Visitors Information Centre until May 1<sup>st</sup> was discussed and it was decided to revisit the matter in 2005.

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by G. Freeman that the Hotel Study (Professional fees Pg. 17) be deleted.

Motion Carried

It was noted that the labour for Hanging Basket Program (Pg. 19) was provided elsewhere in the budget. A total of 100 baskets would be provided. It was noted that the revenues for the Hockey and Figure Skating Schools were shown separately.

It was noted that the Canteen operation at the Arena required further discussion in the future.

It was noted that the Arena net projected operating cost was \$90,647.

It was noted that further discussion should take place regarding the Marina operation.

Moved by R. White, seconded by P. Renaud that Grants to Others (Pg. 25) revert to pre reduction levels subject to each organization coming before Council and justifying their request.

A recorded vote was requested.	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Councillor R. Bailey		X
Councillor G. Freeman	X	
Councillor C. Gibb	X	
Deputy Mayor A. Leardi		X
Councillor P. Renaud	X	
Councillor R. White	X	
Mayor Hurst	X	

Motion Carried

It was later noted that organizations could be heard all on one occasion after the budget is passed.

Discussion took place regarding the justification for consulting studies and the CAO noted that in future such justification would be provided when such studies are being recommended.

Councillor Gibb noted that park areas should be checked immediately after groups who have paid a cleanup deposit leave so that they will not be held responsible for the actions of others.

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. White that \$5000 be provided for the implementation of the Accessibility Committee Five Year Plan.

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. Bailey that \$2500 be provided for handicapped awareness sensitivity training.

Motion Carried

Councillor White suggested providing \$5000 for by-law revision but it was noted that this would be covered by the increased allotment approved for legal fees.

The Treasurer noted that the impact on the tax rate had been reduced by \$17,241 by the afore noted changes.

Tax Rate Calculation Sheet

It was noted that Item #8 also included ventilation improvements for Building and Planning.

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. White that Conceptual drawings (Item #16) be deleted.

Motion Carried

Moved by R. White, seconded by A. Leardi that Murray Street sidewalk (Item #19) be deleted.

Motion Carried

The Mayor noted that many other road improvements were needed such as Texas Road and St. Arnaud Street.

Council Budget Session  
March 25, 2004

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. White that Bauer Park Maintenance (Item ##32) be restored.

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Leardi noted that the following were areas of concern.

GIS  
Arena  
Marina Tourism/Economic Development

The Mayor noted that debt cannot be paid off instantaneously and also that residents deserve an adequate level of service.

It was requested by A. Leardi and G. Freeman that the budget be consolidated into one book.

Councillor Gibb proposed that a 3% tax rate increase be considered.

The Treasurer noted that the weighted assessment figures would not be available from the County until the end of May.

The Mayor requested that a Pie Chart showing amounts and percentages for each type of expenditure be prepared.

It was agreed that the next budget session would be at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The following non budget items were processed.

Moved by R. White, seconded by R. Bailey that the coffee machine in the Council Chambers be donated to the Cultural Centre.

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by P. Renaud that the plants in the foyer be donated to the Malden Community Centre.

Motion Carried

Moved by C. Gibb, seconded by G. Freeman that Council meet with Senator Whelan and P. Kasurak regarding their letter of March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004 on OPA #4.

Motion Carried

Councillor Renaud declared a conflict of interest on the above matter and left the Council Chambers prior to the motion being made.

Meeting adjourned.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER