



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST NIPISSING /
LA CORPORATION DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ DE NIPISSING OUEST

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING
ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26th, 2021 AT 1:00 PM

PRESENT: MAYOR JOANNE SAVAGE
COUNCILLOR YVON DUHAIME
COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER FISHER
COUNCILLOR ROLAND LARABIE
COUNCILLOR LÉO MALETTE
COUNCILLOR DAN ROVEDA
COUNCILLOR DENIS SÉNÉCAL
COUNCILLOR LISE SÉNÉCAL
WARD 7 (vacant)

ABSENT:

BUDGET MEETING

A) DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / DÉCLARATION D'INTÉRÊTS PÉCUNIAIRES

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

B) AGENDA / ORDRE DU JOUR

B-1 A resolution was passed to adopt the Agenda.

No. 2021/162 Moved by: Councillor L. Malette
Seconded by: Councillor Y. Duhaime

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for the BUDGET meeting of Council held on April 26, 2021 be adopted as presented / amended.

CARRIED

C) 2021 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS (continuation) / DÉLIBÉRATION BUDGÉTAIRES POUR L'ANNÉE 2021 (suite)

C-1 WATER AND WASTEWATER BUDGET

- The Chair, Councillor Roveda, provided Council with an overview of the services provided by the Water and Wastewater Department for residents across the Municipality
- The Chair went through the 2021 Budget Workbook as prepared for Water and Wastewater Department.
- Supply of drinking water to Verner :
 - Residents will have an opportunity to provide comments/input regarding the Environmental Assessment for the supply of drinking water to Verner; which will be made available online / paper copies; with a submission deadline of May 14, 2021.
 - The Municipality will seek the required approvals and agreements with the necessary partners (i.e. MOE, CP rail) as may be required to move forward with the project
 - Questions arose as to when will Council be informed that the comments forms are available and it was suggested that the Municipality should try to accommodate residents as best possible by making hardcopies available at local organizations. Discussion ensued during which it was indicated that such undertakings are not advisable given COVID restrictions.
- The Manager of Water & Wastewater, Peter Ming, highlighted increased costs associated with training and computer and software upgrades that are required at multiple sites. Also noted upcoming projects including the ongoing matter of the supply of water to Verner, planned

infrastructure upgrades on Bélanger Street, as well as the designs for upgrades on Nipissing, Ethel, King, Main and Salter Streets, in order to have shovel ready projects should funding become available.

- Clarification was sought regarding the \$70,000 transfer from Power Generation to water and wastewater reserve. It was requested that the transfer be removed from the Water and Wastewater reserve. Various Councillor supported the request, discussions ensued following which there was a round-table at which time Council agreed that the \$70,000 remain status quo for 2021 budget; but that it be removed from reserve in next year's water and wastewater budget.
- Questions were raised regarding outstanding loans to which the Director of Corporate Services indicated that 2 loans were to fund storm sewer separation and the loans were ending in 2025, 2027 and 2029.
- It was mentioned that since Power Generation is profitable what happens with any generated profits. The CAO indicated that Power Generation is owned by the Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing which benefits all communities with ½ of the profits being re-invested back into the community; while the remaining ½ of the profits are re-invested back into the company in order to maintain, repair and upgrade the facility and/or equipment, as may be necessary.
- Questions were raised regarding the financing of the supply of water to Verner project. CAO advised that the Municipality will be seeking out available funding and/or grants; but further indicated that the Municipality will also have a share of the debt for this large scale project.
- It was requested that overflow of storm water in Field and Sturgeon Falls should be brought back to Council for a future discussion
- CAO confirmed that the proposed 1.98% increase is reflective of a lean operating budget for the Water and Wastewater organization. Noting, that if there are no major issues or concerns raised by Council that a resolution could be brought to the May 4th meeting for approval.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

No. 2021/163 Moved by: Councillor Y. Duhaime
 Seconded by: Councillor L Malette

At approximately **2:15 PM**, a motion was tabled for a 15 minute recess; following which the Council meeting will continue.

CARRIED

C-2 SOLID WASTE BUDGET

- The Chair, Councillor Larabie, provided of an overview of the services of provided by the Solid Waste Dept.
- The Chair went through the 2021 Budget Workbook as prepared for the Solid Waster Department
- The CAO indicated that the expenditures are very lean and the fluctuation is the prediction of potential revenues; which can vary from year-to-year. He further highlighted that human resources will remain constant, there have additional costs incurred as it relates to COVID and there continues to be different rates for the different types of services that are received by residents.
- The Manager of Solid Waste, Jason Sullivan, reviewed the various 2021 projects required at the Verner and Sturgeon Falls sites, as itemized on Page of 7 of the workbook.
- CAO confirmed that the Sturgeon Falls landfill is approaching its lifecycle expectancy and that we are nearing maximum capacity and that the site will need to be closed in the future. Planning and some work are already underway on another site which will be located behind the existing site. The Municipality is working with the required partners (i.e. MOE) to ensure proper regulations are followed as the Municipality has a responsibility to ensure proper closure and ongoing maintenance post closure of its landfill.
- Additional information was requested pertaining to the Stewardship Program (Blue box) program which will transition to producer-based by January 1, 2025. How will Landfills generate revenues - the Director of Corporate Services indicated that the sale of scrap metal, tires and such are captured under the "Miscellaneous Income" category.
- Question was raised about the feasibility of using the PW mechanic to assist with vehicle maintenance; whereby the services fees could be charged back to Environmental Services?
- Inquiry to determine if there is an opportunity to develop a local program/site for the collection of hazardous household waste; which can then be shipped to North Bay for disposal.

- Rationale was asked as to why residents of Sturgeon Falls & Cache Bay pay when they bring garbage to the landfill while others communities have access to their local dump at no cost. The Solid Waste Manager indicated that the Sturgeon Falls landfill can be accessed free of charge on the 1st Saturday of each month. The Sturgeon landfill is also available free of charge to residents of Sturgeon Falls and Cache Bay during Spring Clean-up weeks. Typically occurs end of May - dates will be advertised.
- Discussions pertaining to island owners and more specifically where could they dispose of/drop off their garbage. The Municipality has blue bins at Minnehaha Bay. The Director of Corporate Services indicated that owners on Sandy Island and various surrounding islands are not paying landfill fees.
- The CAO provided the requested information as it pertains to startup costs for recycling bins in Lavigne and Cache Bay; which would be approx. \$143,624. Since Cache Bay already has bi-monthly curbside recycling pick-up, Councillor Malette would not support the startup costs for Cache Bay. Councillor D. Sénécal indicated that the # of bins and costs are above the needs required for the Lavigne project. Discussions ensued regarding the possibility of scaling back the proposed recycling project and the possibility of using the solid waste surplus of \$70,000 towards the initial startup costs. There was a Point of Order requested regarding a reconsideration of Council's previous decision to provide recycling services to Cache Bay and Lavigne. Followed by another Point of Order regarding the legality of the Chair's decision to hold or not hold a vote regarding the request for reconsideration on this matter. At the end of discussions, it was agreed that minutes pertaining to Council's previous decision surrounding the recycling projects be shared with all of Council. The CAO was directed to provide procedural advice following which Council may further discuss this matter, as may be required.

CAO re-confirmed that:

- If there are no major issues or requests for additional information surrounding the Water and Wastewater budget, a resolution will be brought forward at the May 4th meeting for approval.
- Clarification and historical information have been requested by Council as it pertains to the recycling pilot projects in Cache Bay and Lavigne. The requested information will be shared with all of Council, following which a decision will have to be made regarding the recycling projects. Council's decision will have to be factored into the Solid Waste budget and it is hopeful that a resolution can be brought forward at the May 18th meeting for approval.

D) ADJOURNMENT / AJOURNEMENT

D-1 Confirm the proceedings of Council.

No. 2021/164 Moved by: Councillor L. Sénécal
 Seconded by: Councillor Y. Duhaime

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law No. **2021/36** being a By-law of the Municipality of West Nipissing to confirm the proceedings of Council at its BUDGET meeting held on the 26th day of April 2021, shall come into force and take effect on the date it is passed.

CARRIED

D-2 Adjourn the meeting of Council.

No. 2021/165 Moved by: Councillor L. Sénécal
 Seconded by: Councillor Y. Duhaime

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BUDGET meeting of Council held on April 26, 2021 be adjourned.

CARRIED

« Mayor Joanne Savage »
JOANNE SAVAGE
MAYOR

« Melanie Ducharme »
MELANIE DUCHARME
CLERK