

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING
ON MONDAY, MARCH 3rd, 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. 2021/68 Moved by: Councillor L. Malette
Seconded by: Councillor C. Fisher

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for the BUDGET meeting of Council held on March 3, 2021 be adopted as presented / amended.

CARRIED

C) 2021 BUDGET PRESENTATIONS (continuation) / PRÉSENTATION BUDGÉTAIRES POUR L'ANNÉE 2021 (suite)

C-1(a) Boards and Committees

- The Director of Corporate Services responded to questions which were raised at the March 1st meeting relating to which grants we received in 2020, specific reserve funds, including the Evansville Playground fund, parkland dedication funds;
- Council discussed the monies for emergency measures and asked the unused funds be transferred to a dedicated reserved with the same to take place in 2021.
- A discussion regarding the completion of the plaque
- The Director provided a breakdown of the Library and Cemetery Boards;
- The Mayor stated that in light of the vacant council seat on the Library Board that the Library CAO be asked to make a presentation to council and council supported the request;
- The Director provided an overview of the policing budget – she noted we are still in the preliminary phases and that once the new facility is open that the budget will begin to look more like policing budgets in the past;
- Questions were raised concerning the existing contract and how the transition to the new facility will take place;
- Council discussed the levies – DNSSAB, Health Unit, Animal Control and Au Chateau;
 - Health unit received some transitional funding – reason for their costs remaining low; however, they're warning of a significant increase if the transitional funding is not continued;
 - DNSSAB – increase 2.43% - reasonably stable for the current year, but changes will be coming to programs and services in the future if additional funding is not received;
 - Councillor Roveda shared a number of initiatives and upcoming programming at DNSSAB;
 - Au Chateau – increase 15% from 2020 representing 1% tax levy - Au Chateau did not put loss of funding on the municipalities and found creative means of mitigating impact on the partner

municipalities for the coming year; discussion regarding impact of upcoming legislated upgrades to the facility; CAO provided additional information as to how the municipality could put monies in reserve going forward which would minimize the impact on the tax payer when the time comes;

- Animal Control – the Director stated that we will be exploring options when the current contract expires; staff to follow up on request to have Humane Society provide a presentation;

No. 2021/69 Moved by: Councillor C. Fisher
 Seconded by: Councillor L. Sénécal

At approximately 2:25 PM, a motion was tabled for a brief 15 minute recess; following which the Council meeting will continue.

CARRIED

C-1(b) Public Works - Operating

- Councillor Duhaime made opening remarks;
- The Manager of Public Works stated that due to COVID no increases in service levels are proposed;
- Highlighted some uncontrollable increases such as insurance and materials (dust control);
- Stated that decisions to hire a mechanic and better fleet have created savings (less maintenance costs)
- The Manager, CAO and Director responded to questions regarding winter maintenance budget and insurance;
- The Manager and Director Responded to questions regarding salaries and wages – 2020 lower than anticipated due to late hire of mechanic and savings on overtime;

Councillor L. Sénécal suggested that perhaps the PW Capital be postponed for another day; Council was polled and following comments made by the CAO, the Chair of Public Works suggested that certain items be considered immediately in order to allow the Manager to move forward with preparation of tender, however it was agreed that budget discussions would continue on March 10th, 2021 at 1:00PM

D) ADJOURNMENT / AJOURNEMENT

D-1 Confirm the proceedings of Council.

No. 2021/70 Moved by: Councillor L. Sénécal
 Seconded by: Councillor C. Fisher

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law No. **2021/14** being a By-law of the Municipality of West Nipissing to confirm the proceedings of Council at its BUDGET meeting held on the 3rd day of March 2021, shall come into force and take effect on the date it is passed.

CARRIED

D-2 Adjourn the meeting of Council.

No. 2021/71 Moved by: Councillor L. Sénécal
 Seconded by: Councillor C. Fisher

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BUDGET meeting of Council held on March 3rd, 2021 be adjourned.

CARRIED

« Mayor Joanne Savage »
JOANNE SAVAGE
MAYOR

« Melanie Ducharme »
MELANIE DUCHARME
CLERK