



The Corporation of the County of Bruce

Corporate Services Committee Finance and Property Division

Minutes

January 15, 2015
10:16 a.m.
Council Chambers
Walkerton, Ontario

Present: Warden Mitch Twolan (Chair)
Councillors Robert Buckle, Anne Eadie, Paul Eagleson, David Inglis,
Janice Jackson, Milt McIver and Mike Smith

Staff: Kelley Coulter, Chief Administrative Officer
Darlene Batte, Administrative Assistant
Bettyanne Cobean, Clerk-Treasurer
Donna Van Wyck, Deputy Clerk

1. Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

2. Closed Meeting

Moved by Councillor Mike Smith
Seconded by Councillor Milt McIver

That the Committee move into a closed meeting to receive an update on the 1993 Native Land Claim from County Solicitor, Tammy Grove-McClement pursuant to Section 239 (2) (f) to receive advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

Carried

3. Rise and Report

Moved by Councillor Anne Eadie
Seconded by Councillor Robert Buckle

That the Corporate Services Committee rise and report from the closed meeting.

Carried

4. Information Items

A. Closed Meeting Training

Mrs. Donna Van Wyck provided training to Council members, Department Heads and staff on Closed Meeting Protocol.

The following Department Heads and staff were in attendance for this training session: Chris LaForest, Charles Young, Cathy McGirr, Michelle Southam, Doug Smith, Marianne Nero, Lorraine Noseworthy, Christine MacDonald and Susan Earle.

5. Action Items

A. 2015 Property Tax Policy Review

**Moved by Councillor Mike Smith
Seconded by Councillor Milt McIver**

That the 2015 County-wide tax ratios and class discounts be approved as set out in Table 1 and that staff be directed to prepare the necessary tax ratio by-law; and,

That the following parameters be established for the purposes of calculating the 2015 Capping Clawback rates in accordance with section 329.1 of the Municipal Act:

- (i) Annualized Tax Limit – Cap based on previous year’s annualized tax**

That the cap on annualized taxes be 10%.

- (ii) CVA Tax Limit – Cap based on previous year’s CVA tax**

That the cap on CVA taxes be 5%.

- (iii) CVA Tax Threshold for Protected Properties (Increases) – Threshold is applied to move certain protected properties to full CVA taxes**

That the threshold that applies to capped properties be set at the maximum allowable amount without creating a shortfall for each of the multi-residential, commercial and industrial property classes - \$250

- (iv) CVA Tax Threshold for Claw Back Properties (Decreases) – Threshold is applied to move certain clawed back properties to full CVA taxes**

That the threshold that applies to clawed back properties be set at the maximum allowable amount without creating a shortfall for each of the multi-residential commercial and industrial property classes - \$250

(v) Minimum Tax Level for New to Class / New Construction Properties

That the minimum tax level for new to class / new construction properties be 100%.

(vi) Stay at CVA Tax

- (a) the "Stay at CVA Tax Option" excludes properties that were at CVA tax in 2012 from the capping and claw-back calculation in 2014;**
- (b) The "Cross CVA Tax Option" excludes properties that would move from being capped in 2014 to being clawed back in 2015 or from being clawed back in 2014 to being capped in 2015 as a result of the changes to the CVA tax caused by the 2015 reassessment; and,**

That staff be directed to prepare the necessary by-law; and

That the Tax relief program for low income seniors and persons with disabilities be continued for the 2015 taxation year; and,

That the tax relief program for charities and other similar organizations be continued for the 2015 taxation year; and,

That all eligible Legion properties continue to be exempted from the payment of taxes for upper tier purposes for the taxation years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

That no Optional Property Classes are recommended.

Carried

B. County Accessibility Advisory Committee Compensation

Moved by Councillor David Inglis

Seconded by Councillor Robert Buckle

That County of Bruce Accessibility Advisory Committee Members be compensated ½ day per diem and mileage effective January, 2015.

Carried

C. Lease Renewal Cayley Street – Per Diem License Agreement

**Moved by Councillor Mike Smith
Seconded by Councillor Anne Eadie**

That a by-law be introduced authorizing the execution of the License Extension and Amending Agreement effective May 1, 2015 for a five-year period.

Carried

D. County of Huron / Township of Pelee

**Moved by Councillor Janice Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Robert Buckle**

That the resolutions passed by the County of Huron and the Township of Pelee requesting Canada Post to reconsider their plan to eliminate residential home to home delivery, be supported.

Carried

E. Flag at Half-Mast Policy

**Moved by Councillor Paul Eagleson
Seconded by Councillor Anne Eadie**

That the Flag at Half-Mast Policy for the County of Bruce be approved.

Carried

F. Correspondence Referred – John Mann

**Moved by Councillor Mike Smith
Seconded by Councillor Anne Eadie**

That a letter be sent to Mr. John Mann from Warden Twolan on behalf of Bruce County Council thanking him for his delegations to County Council and his recommendation to webcast and record Council and Committee meetings; and,

To advise Mr. Mann that his recommendation to webcast County Council and Committee meetings will be acted upon in 2015; and,

That we inform Mr. Mann that Bruce County Council will not be conducting 16 open Deep Geologic Repository Community Consultation Advisory meetings as Bruce County Council has no decision making authority in the placement or operations of the Deep Geologic Repository. The jurisdiction rests with the federal government whom he should pursue the request for further meetings; and,

That Bruce County Council acknowledge the breach of the Act related to Closed to Public meetings, and confirm that it was done without intent or with any motive but only in an effort to be informed on the Low and Intermediate Level Waste Deep Geologic Repository Project.

Carried

6. Information Items

The following reports were received for information:

- Year-end Tender Summary
- Health Unit approved 2014 Budget

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Corporate Services Committee – Finance and Property Division will take place on Thursday, February 5, 2015 in the Council Chambers, County Administration Centre, Walkerton, Ontario.

8. Adjournment

**Moved by Councillor Anne Eadie
Seconded by Councillor Milt McIver**

That the meeting of the Corporate Services Committee – Finance and Property Division adjourn at 11:22 a.m.

Carried

**Warden Mitch Twolan, Chair
Corporate Services Committee – Finance and Property Division**