



Executive Committee Closed Minutes

September 6, 2018

10:03 a.m.

Council Chambers, Bruce County Administration Centre
Walkerton, Ontario

Present: Warden Paul Eagleson, (Chair)
Councillors Robert Buckle, Anne Eadie, Janice Jackson, Milt McIver,
Mike Smith and Mitch Twolan
Alternate Councillor Dan Gieruszak

Staff: Christine MacDonald, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Darlene Batte, Deputy Clerk
Tania Dickson, Acting Director of Human Services
Donna Van Wyck, Clerk

Regrets: Councillor David Inglis, Kelley Coulter, Chief Administrative Officer

1. Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

2. Minutes

Moved by Councillor Mike Smith
Seconded by Councillor Robert Buckle

That the minutes of the August 2, 2018 closed meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. Development of County Hubs in Port Elgin and Kincardine

The Acting CAO, Ms. Christine MacDonald presented a report on the development of County Hubs in Port Elgin and Kincardine.

She explained that the County of Bruce owns the Library Headquarters in Port Elgin and this building has a surplus of unimproved space. There is a desire from the Human Services department, which currently rents office space, to improve efficiencies by sharing space in the library headquarters building.

The current space occupied by Human Services does not meet staffing and client needs as it is cramped and does not meet accessibility requirements. Additionally, there is a desire by the Corporation to complete the “hub” service model at the regional level, creating a “one-county-one voice” mantra. The concept of locating county services in a “one stop” service environment fits with all the key recommendations of the strategic plan and operational review.

In the fall of 2017, a Cross Functional Team was established with representation from Library, Human Services and Planning and Development as currently both Library and Planning and Development Departments have staff working in the Library Headquarters building, to review the expansion of the lakeshore hub office. The business case under consideration when the project initiated was that Human Services staff could relocate into the Lakeshore Hub office (Library Headquarters), utilizing the surplus space and thus creating a “hub” of service in the Saugeen Shores area.

Ms. McDonald noted that concurrently, the Human Services Department has been working on advancing the Kincardine Housing Regeneration Project and seeking land for the build. Additionally, the pressures for rental housing accommodations have been increasing in Saugeen and Kincardine with the activity associated with advancement of the focus on building the greater nuclear area. Discussions have ensued between County staff and staff at the Municipality of Kincardine and the Town of Saugeen Shores to work collaboratively to expand affordable rental housing options to reduce the growing housing pressures. With initial conversations there may be a possibility to secure donated land in both Port Elgin and Kincardine. This would serve the purpose of both a service hub (accommodation for Human Services, Library, Planning and Development, Paramedic Services) and mixed housing. If similar parcels of land can be acquired, in both locations, staff are suggesting consideration be given for creating one conceptual design, which could be built in two locations simultaneously. This would reduce design costs and create efficiencies in the builds for ongoing Housing operations. This would conclude the enhancement of the “hub” service model (i.e. hubs currently established in Walkerton and Wiarton). This would also further the goals and objectives of the Housing Regeneration (Capital Asset Management) efforts and the Long Term Housing Strategy.

The Kincardine housing build is currently the only proponent for the IAH & SIF new rental funds for 2018. The evaluator provided feedback that without the identified land and budget they could only suggest that the County consider negotiations with the BCHC project until that was confirmed. The deadline to confirm land and a build project is the end of September, otherwise the evaluator recommended putting forth a request to the community for new proposals. The funds are to be committed by December 2018 or risk returning to the province.

Moved by Councillor Anne Eadie
Seconded by Councillor Robert Buckle

That staff be directed to pursue land acquirement for the development of a housing project to utilize the IAH and SIF funding new rental funds for 2018 in Kincardine; and,

That consideration be given to incorporate a Human Services office with the Kincardine housing project subject to committee approval of the budget.

Carried.

4. **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Milt McIver
Seconded by Councillor Janice Jackson

That the closed meeting of the Executive Committee adjourn at 10:43 a.m.

Carried

Warden Paul Eagleson, Chair
Executive Committee