

Council Chambers  
Pembroke, Ontario  
December 1, 2004

A meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee was held this afternoon with Chair Deputy-Mayor Scott presiding with all Council members in attendance with the exception of Councillor Lafreniere, Councillor Lowe and Councillor White. Staff members in attendance were Terry Lapierre, C.A.O., Michael Street, Animal Control Officer, Dave Unrau, Manager, Works, Engineering and Utilities and Fire Chief Frank Boucher.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor O'Neill  
Seconded by Councillor Levasseur  
THAT the minutes of November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004 be approved as distributed.

CARRIED.

**ITEM #1: Satellite Dialysis Unit – Pembroke Regional Hospital**

It was noted that Bill Higginson was not present. Committee proceeded to item #2 on the agenda.

**ITEM #2: Animal Control By-Law #98-23**

Councillor Levasseur noted that the City should wait to see what legislation the Province of Ontario imposes regarding the banning of specific breeds of dogs before the City makes any changes in that regard to the Animal Control By-Law. He agrees that the by-law needs to be brought up to date but he is concerned about banning specific breeds of dogs; he feels the onus should be on the owner of the animal and felt that penalties to the owners should be upgraded and made more harsh.

Chair Deputy-Mayor Scott read a report produced by Michael Street regarding the number of pets allowed in other municipalities. The City of Ottawa allows a total of 5 animals with a maximum of 3 dogs in all areas of the City, 5 cats in areas not zoned agricultural. In London there is no limit of dogs but a maximum of 2 cats. In Hamilton a maximum of 2 pets. In Stoneycreek a maximum of 3 pets. In Toronto a maximum combination of 6 dogs and cats. In Sudbury a maximum of 4 pets. In Cornwall there is no limit.

Councillor O'Neill stated that he is concerned about banning a specific breed of dog and agrees that the owners should be dealt with. He would like to see the by-law enforced more; but that is difficult when there is only one animal control officer. He is concerned with owners not cleaning up after their pets especially at the waterfront; he would like to see the penalty increased for this offense.

Councillor Severin noted that he worked for the Health Unit for 37 years and had seen many dog bites. He stated that it's not just pit bulls that bite; other breeds of dogs bite as well. Councillor Severin is concerned with the number of animals people are allowed to have. He feels the City should be more restrictive as to the number of dogs and cats that people are allowed to keep.

Mr. Street agreed that the City should wait to see what legislation the Province of Ontario imposes regarding the banning of specific breeds of dogs before the City makes any changes in that regard to the Animal Control By-Law. He further stated that all breeds of dogs are currently covered under the by-law when they become a danger to the community. He agrees with increasing the fines and noted that the City's fines are low when compared to other communities. He noted a proposed change to the by-law regarding police working dogs and M.N.R. working dogs. Mr. Street stated that these dogs should be exempt from licensing and animal identification system.

Mayor Jacyno noted that some municipalities do not charge a licensing fee for Seeing Eye dogs. He would like to see Pembroke do the same.

Mr. Street agreed that the City can waive the fee for service dogs but that the dogs should still be registered and wear a valid tag.

Chair Deputy-Mayor Scott brought up the subject of microchipping. Mr. Street noted that the City of Ottawa offers a rebate on the licensing fee to owners who have their pets microchipped. Councillor O'Neill noted that microchipping should be voluntary but agreed that if the animal is microchipped a reduction in the licensing fee is a good idea. Mr. Street also noted that the City should have zero tolerance for those who do not register/tag their dogs.

Mr. Street then noted some proposed changes to the by-law under definitions: 1. Public utility emergency vehicle means the vehicle used by the Animal Control Officer or its designate while on duty. 2. Service dog means a dog trained at a recognized school for service as a guide dog for the blind or visually impaired, a guide dog for the deaf or hearing impaired. Mr. Street then noted that he would add service dogs to Section 4 of the by-law.

Mr. Street also noted a change to Section 6 regarding Immunization. "No person who resides within the City of Pembroke shall own or harbor any dog or cat over the age of six months without immunization for rabies that is current as defined by Agriculture Canada. Section 6 shall be enforced by the Medical Officer of Health pursuant to the provisions of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7, as amended and the Animal Control Officer for the City of Pembroke pursuant to the provisions of this by-law."

Mr. Street then noted a proposed new section to the by-law regarding “Special Circumstances for Circuses, Exhibitions and other Like Shows”. It will now be the responsibility of the C.A.O. rather than Council, whether to allow this type of show in the City of Pembroke, specific guidelines regarding issuing of permits and revoking permits was submitted by Mr. Street as well. Section 10 c) will be changed to reflect that the C.A.O. is the person ordering the subject animal out of the City of Pembroke. Mr. Street also added a section titled “Prohibition Order” as well as adding Insects (namely cockroaches and ants) to Appendix A.

Chair Deputy-Mayor Scott asked direction from committee members if the number of animals allowed to be kept should be included in the by-law. Councillor O’Neill agreed that it should be considered. Councillor Levasseur stated that the proposed changes should go ahead but that the number of animals allowed to be kept should be put on hold for now until more research regarding the subject has been made and input from the public has been received. Councillor Severin also suggested that the fine schedule be changed. Mr. Street agreed with the increase in fines and will present figures to the C.A.O. at a future date.

**ITEM #3: Fire Department**

Councillor Levasseur noted that the October monthly report was very detailed. He also noted that during the smoke alarm Exchange Program, 26 smoke detectors were given to non-residents. Councillor Levasseur suggested that next year the Pembroke Fire Department could invite neighbouring municipalities to participate in the exchange and to share the cost of the smoke detectors. Councillor Levasseur was pleased to see that the use of the exercise equipment at the Fire Hall has increased.

**ITEM #4: Roof Replacement – Public Works Garage #1**

Dave Unrau, Manager – Works, Engineering and Utilities, noted that the current structure known as Garage #1, which houses the Mechanics and is where all the mechanical work is completed (Heart of Operations), was originally constructed in 1974 by Crane Supply. The property and building were purchased in 1982 to house the City’s transit fleet. The current structure has the following problems: (a) heat loss due to improper insulation, (b) leaking roof – several areas, (c) ice damage and accumulation – danger of falling ice, (d) water accumulation and freeze/thaw action at overhead door causing structural problems. The above-noted concerns were brought forward to Jp2g Consultants Inc. and with additional consultation with staff, a drawing and specifications to correct the above-noted concerns were created. The project was tendered with the following results: BBS Construction (Ontario) Ltd. \$90,790.00 and Irvcon Limited \$93,100.00.

Mr. Unrau noted that the project could be funded through the following accounts: 51-763 Roof Replacement Garage #1 \$62,250.00 and 51-758 Works Industrial Road Site \$29,054.00 for a total of \$91,304.00. The Works, Engineering and Utilities Department recommends that BBS Construction Ltd. be awarded the contract to replace the roof on Garage #1 for a price of \$90,790.00 + GST. The contract would be awarded in 2004 with the work to be completed in 2005.

Councillor O'Neill stated that he would like to see a local company get the contract if the difference in the bid is less than \$2,000. He then asked how long it would take for the construction to begin. Mr. Unrau noted that BBS will be sub-contracting some of the work to a local contractor. He then stated that it would take approximately 4 weeks to get the project started and another 5 weeks to complete.

Mayor Jacyno asked how this project was tendered and if the City always accepts the lowest bid. Mr. Unrau noted that it was advertised in the local paper. Mr. Lapierre stated that the City does not have to accept the lowest tender or any tender for that matter.

MOTION: Moved by Mayor Jacyno  
Seconded by Councillor Severin  
THAT the Finance and Administration Committee recommend that  
Council accept the lowest bid of \$90,790.00 and award the contract to  
BBS Construction (Ontario) Ltd.

RECORDED VOTE:	Mayor Jacyno	Yea
	Councillor Levasseur	Yea
	Councillor O'Neill	Nea
	Councillor Severin	Yea
	Deputy-Mayor Scott	Yea

MOTION CARRIED 4 TO 1.

**ITEM #5: Ontario Good Roads Convention**

Deputy-Mayor Scott noted that the host hotel is already booked up for this conference. Mr. Lapierre stated that within two days the hotel was already booked.

Councillor O'Neill stated that he would like to see a policy made regarding conventions. He stated that maybe each councillor should attend 2 conventions a year. Deputy-Mayor Scott agreed with 2 a year. Mayor Jacyno suggested maybe having a rotation system and to remember that there are cost implications involved with attending conventions.

**ITEM #6: Public Budget Meetings**

Deputy-Mayor Scott noted that the City has had open forums in the past. He asked the committee if the City should have a public budget meeting at another location. Mr. Lapierre noted that budget meetings are already public.

Councillor O'Neill stated that a public meeting wouldn't be productive. He felt that regular budget meetings should be advertised to the public and that they are welcome to attend at the Council Chambers rather than spending the money to rent another location.

Councillor Levasseur agreed with Councillor O'Neill. He stated the Council meetings are always open to the public and that the public is welcome to speak to council during motion to hear. He feels that the current process is adequate.

Councillor Henderson stated that he is in favour of public consultations. He stated that the public may feel intimidated to speak at a council meeting but would feel more comfortable if it is a specific public meeting.

Mayor Jacyno noted that he is not against having a public consultation meeting but he feels that it would not generate enough people to warrant having one. He reiterated that council meetings are already public meetings.

Councillor Severin also stated that people have the opportunity already to speak at council meetings. If the number of people attending council meetings increases then the issue should be looked into.

Councillor O'Neill stated that he did not agree with Councillor Henderson. He feels that public meetings would be more successful at the regular meeting of council.

Deputy-Mayor Scott noted that public meetings have been held in the past and that the number of people attending wasn't high enough. He suggested advertising in Council Corner in the local paper regarding any budget talks that would be taking place during council meetings. Deputy-Mayor Scott then stated that the budget process should continue as is; if the number of people attending increases then having a public meeting at another location will be looked into.

**ITEM #7: Parking Authority Minutes**

Councillor Levasseur asked Councillor Henderson to clarify a motion in the Parking Authority minutes. Councillor Henderson noted that the motion referred to leaving the parking meters at handicap parking spaces.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor O'Neill  
Seconded by Councillor Severin  
THAT this meeting become a closed meeting to discuss litigation, potential litigation, the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, labour relations, or the security of the property of the municipality.

CARRIED.

On motion of Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Severin the meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee adjourned.