

July 4, 2005

A meeting of the Finance & Administration Committee of Council was held this afternoon with Chair Deputy-Mayor Scott presiding and all members of the Committee in attendance with the exception of Councillors Lafreniere and O'Neill. Staff members present were C.A.O., T. Lapierre, Manager of Works/Utilities/Engineering, D. Unrau, and Sue Ellis, Co-ordinator of Recreation/Culture & Youth.

MINUTES:

On motion of Councillor Levasseur, seconded by Councillor White, the minutes of the Regular meeting of June 7, 2005 were approved, as circulated. CARRIED.

1. REQUEST TO USE KIWANIS WALKWAY

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Henderson,
Seconded by Councillor White,
THAT the Kiwanis Club's request to use Riverside Park and the Kiwanis Walkway for the Terry Fox Run on Sunday, September 18, 2005 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. be approved. CARRIED.

2. PURCHASE OF FIRE HOSES

The C.A.O. advised that as the pricing for new 50-foot fire hoses came in just over the \$10,000., he had pre-approved the purchase and this was placed before the Committee now for confirmation of that approval.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor White,
Seconded by Councillor Levasseur,
THAT the prior approval given by the Chief Administrative Officer to proceed with the purchasing of fire hoses at a cost of \$10,303.20 plus G.S.T. be confirmed. CARRIED.

3. 2006 P.M.C. BOOKING-PEMBROKE KINSMEN CLUB

The C.A.O. advised that the City has received a request from the Pembroke Kinsmen Club to use the Pembroke Memorial Centre again in 2006 for an entertainment event similar to the Blue Rodeo Show held in May this year.

The C.A.O. stated that at this time there are dates available in May 2006 for such an event. He reminded the Committee, however, that staff has been directed to put together a report with its recommendations for rental fees for both the P.M.C. Activity Room and the P.A.C.C. Hall as well as with regard to the proceeds of Bogie's Bar.

Councillor Levasseur saw no difficulty with approving the Kinsmen Club's request, in principle, but wanted it noted that a new policy guideline and charges schedule is under development with new fees planned on being implemented effective September 1, 2005.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Severin,
Seconded by Councillor White,
THAT the Kinsmen Club's request to use the Pembroke Memorial Centre in May of 2006 be approved, in principle, subject to the new policies and fees structure presently being developed for September 1, 2005 implementation. CARRIED.

4. VEHICLE TENDERS - WORKS DEPARTMENT

The C.A.O. advised that the funds for these vehicles would be taken from the Works Equipment Reserve fund.

MOTION: Moved by Mayor Jacyno,
Seconded by Councillor White,
THAT the tender for the provision of two pick-up trucks be awarded to Butler Limited at a price of \$52,118., including G.S.T. and the tender for the provision of two one-ton trucks with dump boxes be awarded to Murphy Ford at a price of \$106,185.25 plus G.S.T. CARRIED.

5. SPECIAL PICK-UP - TREES, LIMBS

Councillor Lowe declared a pecuniary interest in this matter as she had had a tree come down on her property and left the table.

Dave Unrau advised that he had taken a tour of the City today and noted many trees and limbs down. There are several areas where City crews are working today to clear dangerous limbs from overhanging the City's sidewalks and roadways.

He advised he had verbally contacted two local firms for prices to take away the trees and branches that had come down. North Renfrew Tree Service had given a verbal quote of \$2,300. for about 1 to 1 1/2 days work. This would include two men, a truck and perhaps a chipper. Tomlinson had also been contacted and had advised that they could provide one or two trucks with a man at a cost of \$130. for a truck and man for a total cost of approximately \$1,800. Mr. Unrau recommended that Tomlinson be invited to undertake the work. They had advised that they would be able to do the work either Thursday or Friday of this week.

The Committee directed that Mr. Unrau proceed with the clean-up to be undertaken by Tomlinson and that some form of advertising be initiated.

6. EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES

Deputy-Mayor Scott advised that he had been asked to bring the matter of extra-ordinary expenses forward to Council for discussion. Concerns had been raised about what items are actually considered expenses and what are not. As well there was a concern about the mileage allowance rate considering the present price of gasoline and where and when you can charge for mileage.

Councillor White pointed out that 1/3 of Council's honourarium is directed towards expenses incidental to the job. As well, she added that the Chair and Vice Chairs of major Committees receive an additional \$1,500. and \$750. for the additional duties that come along with those positions. It was her opinion that travelling to surrounding municipalities for meetings is part of what is expected as a municipal councillor.

Councillor Severin agreed noting that 15 - 20 kms outside of the municipality should not be considered as out-of-town travel.

Councillor Levasseur pointed out that there are several duties that he has recently taken on that are in addition to his regular duties. As Chair of the Emergency Measures Committee and with his involvement with the Youth Awards and the Fire Liaison Committee, he has had to make several trips to various locations around the City and he felt that these additional trips are over and above what should be expected of him. The cost of gasoline has risen significantly

and it leaves him with the feeling that the more duties you take on the less of your expense allowance you get to keep. He did not feel that it should cost him money to be a councillor.

Councillor Lowe noted she could appreciate Councillor Levasseur's comments as she had made many trips out to Laurentian Valley when dealing with the incorporation of the Ottawa Valley Waste Management Centre.

Deputy-Mayor Scott did not see a difficulty with the issue. It was his opinion that if a Councillor felt he had extra-ordinary expenses then he should submit a request and it should be addressed.

Councillor White reminded the Committee that the council remuneration system, as it stands now, had been set up that way to avoid the abuse that has been seen with the per diem method of payment. She agreed that a councillor should have the right to submit an extra-ordinary expense request if he feels it is just that - an extra-ordinary expense.

Councillor Henderson suggested that an account be set up with a small amount of dollars in it to cover this sort of request.

Councillor White did not feel that was necessary. She noted that she would not want to be asked to judge her peers on such matters nor would she expect staff to judge. It was her feeling that the request should be made to the Mayor's office and the resolution determined by his office. If he has difficulty with the request he can discuss it with the councillor and if it still cannot be resolved then it could be brought back to the Committee for discussion, in caucus.

Councillor Lowe agreed that moving to a per diem system is not the answer. She, too, had seen much abuse of that method of remuneration.

Councillor White noted that she had never seen any abuse of the system and the Committee agreed. It was directed that the method of dealing with extra-ordinary expense requests be left to the office of the Mayor.

7. NAME BADGES

The Committee directed that magnetic name badges be purchased for the Council Members.

8. WATERFRONT PLAQUE

Deputy-Mayor Scott pointed out that the Council of the day had never been recognized for their efforts in making the Waterfront Project a reality. He believed it was important that they be recognized.

The Committee asked staff to look at the matter and come back to Committee with recommendations and pricing.

9. FLAGS

Staff was directed to review the matter of the purchasing of some City flags and report back to the Committee.

The meeting then adjourned on motion of Councillor Severin, seconded by Councillor Levasseur.