

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC WORKS & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Committee Room 1
February 24, 2011
9:00 a.m.

The meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee was held Thursday February 24, 2011 was called to consider the current draft of the 2011 Operating budget as well as the Water/Wastewater budget. Members present were:

	J. Agar,	Chairperson, Finance & Administration
	S. Arnold,	Mayor
	P. Gilliland	Deputy Mayor
	S. Miller,	Councillor
	J. DeGurse,	“
	P. Carswell-Alexander,	“
	D. Randell,	“
Staff	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk
	C. Quenneville,	Director of Finance/Treasurer
	L. Burnham	Director of Public Works, Operations & Engineering
	G. Hackett	Director of Community Services
	J. Baranek	Deputy Clerk, Coordinator of Planning
	R. Dewhirst	Director of Emergency Services

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

AGENDA:

- 1..Opening Remarks – John Rodey, CAO 9:00 –9:15 am
- Charles Quenneville, Treasurer
2. Operating Budget
 - 1) Fire Department presentation 9:15 – 9:30
 - 2) Community Service presentation 9:31 – 10:00
 - 3) Public Works, Water & Sanitary 10:01 – 10:40
 - 4) Administration 10:41 – 10:50
3. Operating Budget wrap up

Chairperson Agar called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked members to declare any conflict of interest at the appropriate time.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

CAO John Rodey and Treasurer Charlie Quenneville provided a budget overview to Council and Mr. Quenneville explained major budget impacts for 2011 such as the reduction in the OMPF funding, increase in the OPP contract costs, increase in wages and salaries and the Lambton Generating Station assessment issues. At the conclusion of Mr. Quenneville’s presentation the Committee requested a report on the OPG assessment refund reserve and possible financial obligations regarding the outstanding assessment appeal. Also the Committee asked for a schedule of the outstanding LAWSS debt.

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The Committee reviewed with Chief Dewhirst the Fire and Emergency Services draft budget for 2011. Chief Dewhirst stated that the 2011 draft budget is very similar to last year but there is a proposed change in the wage compensation protocol.

Director of Community Services Gary Hackett presented the draft budget for Community Services. Mr. Hackett explained that his department's fixed costs are relatively predictable that what is not predictable is revenues that are generally driven by weather conditions. Mr. Hackett explained to the Committee in his opinion as for the need of a Community Services and Recreation business plan to give Council some guidance on where Community Services and Recreational Services should be directed.

Director of Public Works, Operations and Engineering Larry Burnham presented his budget on the operations and engineering component and lead the Committee in a discussion of the proposed water and waste water budgets. The discussion centered on a possible increase in either the base rate for water or an increase in the overall metered rate. The Committee tabled further discussion on the water/wastewater budget for further consideration.

The Director of Administration John DeMars presented to Council the draft budget for the functions such as by-law enforcement, building and planning. The Committee discussed possible protocol that could be developed to provide for a cost recovery on property standards investigations and orders. Council requested a report on possible cost recovery of these cost items.

The Committee briefly reviewed the list of typical donations to various organization and groups provided by the Municipality. The Committee pointed out that several of the grants and donations provided for in 2010 were intended to be a one time only contribution. Consideration for possible 2011 grants and donations was tabled.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #1: That it be recommended to Council that the draft 2011 Operating budget and the Water and Wastewater budget be tabled for further consideration at the March 14th meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #2: That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

J. Agar,
Chairperson

J. DeMars
Secretary