

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Committee Room 1
March 1, 2012
5:00 p.m.

The meeting of the Finance and Administration meeting was held March 1, 2012 with the following people present:

	J. Agar,	Chairperson, Finance & Administration
	S. Arnold,	Mayor
	P. Gilliland	Deputy Mayor
	S. Miller,	Councillor
	J. DeGurse,	“
	D. Randell,	“
	P. Carswell-Alexander,	“
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

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

AGENDA:

1. Opening Remarks – John Rodey CAO 5:00-5:15
- Charlie Quenneville
2. Operating Budget
 - a) Fire Department presentation 5:15 – 5:30
 - b) Community Services presentation 5:31 – 6:15
 - c) Public Works, Water & Sanitary 6:16 – 7:00
 - d) Administration 7:01 – 7:10
 - e) Capital 7:11 – 7:45
3. Operating Budget wrap up

Chairperson Agar called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and asked members to declare any conflict of interest at the appropriate time.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

In their pre-budget presentation statement, CAO John Rodey and Treasurer Charlie Quenneville stated that the major impacts to the draft 2012 budget are decrease in OMPF fund funding, increased energy costs, increased wages and increased OPP contract costs. Also it was pointed out that the draft 2012 capital budget is approximately \$782,000 higher than it was for 2011. The overall budget impacts as the budget in draft form as presented is an increase in operating of 1.38% or an overall increase of 10.4% when the increase in capital was factored in. The Committee reviewed with the 5 Directors, their individual department budgets. In discussion of the Community Services budget, it was

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #1: That it be recommended to Council that the Moore Museum's position of school program assistant be reduced in hours.

CARRIED

Mr. Hackett also pointed out to the Committee that the Township's passive parks that were former St. Clair Parkway assets are currently being funded by the General Fund as opposed to the St. Clair Parks Reserve that is in a negative position.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #2: That it be recommended to Council that the St. Clair Parkway parks budget primarily landscaping be reduced by \$30,000.

CARRIED

Mayor Arnold asked the Treasurer to provide a report on the status of the long term LAWSS debt.

At the conclusion of the budget session, the Committee reviewed the draft donations for 2012 as prepared by the Treasurer.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #3: That it be recommended to Council that a pledge in the amount of \$5000 per year for a 5 year period be provided to the Pathways Center to be financed from the Township's Education and Environment Fund.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #4: That a grant in the amount of \$8,750 be provided to the Sarnia-Lambton Task Force on physician recruitment and further that a grant in the amount of \$1250 be presented to the Central Lambton Health Center for physician recruitment.

CARRIED

The consensus of the Committee was that the 2012 donation to the Sombra Day Care for operational and audit costs be reduced from \$10,800 to \$4,800 for 2012.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #5: That it be recommended to Council that the 2012 donations be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

Councillor DeGurse advised Council of a discussion with the Drainage Superintendent and the need to advance the pick up truck currently provided for in the draft 2012 budget. Mr. Burnham advised that the current truck is in disrepair and needs replacing.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by J. DeGurse

Motion #6: That it be recommended to Council that the purchase of a Public Works vehicle for the Drainage Superintendent be advanced in the 2012 capital budget to be financed from the Public Works equipment reserve.

CARRIED

The Committee discussed at length in general terms, the possibility of engaging in long term financing to advance certain capital projects in 2012. After considerable discussion, it was

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #7: That the draft 2012 operating and capital budgets be tabled for discussion at the March 5th meeting of Council.

CARRIED

Hearing no further business, it was

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #8: That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

J. Agar,
Chairperson

J. DeMars
Secretary