



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, June 21, 2011
1:51 p.m.
Regional Council Chamber
150 Frederick Street, Kitchener, Ontario

Present were: Chair T. Galloway, L. Armstrong, D. Craig, J. Haalboom, B. Halloran, R. Kelterborn, G. Lorentz, C. Millar, J. Mitchell, K. Seiling, S. Strickland, J. Wideman and C. Zehr

Members absent: J. Brewer, T. Cowan, R. Deutschmann

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

None declared.

REPORTS – Corporate Resources

- a) CR-CLK-11-009, Service First Call Centre - Context and Background

Received for information.

Gary Sosnoski, Commissioner, Corporate Resources, provided an overview of the report, indicating it is the first of two reports related to the call centre which provides context and background on the project while the second report will be brought forward in August with a business case and proposed implementation.

A member of the Committee noted that the City of Kitchener has been undertaking a similar initiative, and G. Sosnoski acknowledged that the Region has been working extensively with the City of Kitchener, also noting synergies with 311/211 services.

Some members of the Committee expressed support for moving the Region to 311 services for all government services.

The Committee ascertained from G. Sosnoski that elements of the call centre would be congruent with 311 services, and that the second report could address the issue more fully.

- b) CR-FM-11-015, Update on Solar Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Initiative

Received for information.

G. Sosnoski indicated that the project is progressing very well, with a protracted approval process through Ontario Power Authority (OPA). He provided an overview of the report, highlighting that 50% of OPA applications have contracts, that there is currently a 14% shortfall of projects compared to the overall target, and that the Region has all the buildings to meet the shortfall being reviewed by a structural engineer with a response to be forthcoming. He highlighted the facility at Maple Grove as a success story.

In Fall 2011, staff anticipates releasing a request for proposals for eight more facilities with total installed panels of approximately 3000. Staff also foresees providing a final status report on the project in Fall 2012, with revenue projections and recommendations for the use of revenues generated.

The Committee learned from G. Sosnoski that staff hopes to have reliable figures for electricity generation by Fall 2012, to allow for a straight line prediction of long term revenues. The model used to forecast electricity generation is cyclical to climate and based on 20 year meteorological averages.

G. Sosnoski confirmed for the Committee that if the Region were to fall short of the targeted number of installed projects/panels, that any shortfall would only be proportionate to the number of installed panels vs. projected installations, and that there would be no effect on the overall business plan of the initiative.

c) CR-FM-11-016, Provincial Green Energy Act

Received for information.

G. Sosnoski introduced the report, indicating that the draft regulation has a comment period ending July 1st. Staff had anticipated the content of the draft regulation, such that it is congruent with the Region's activities over the past several years and leaving the Region well-positioned to meeting the requirements of the regulation.

OTHER BUSINESS

a) Council Enquiries and Requests for Information Tracking List was received for information.

NEXT MEETING – August 16, 2011

ADJOURN

MOVED by G. Lorentz
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:02 p.m.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE CHAIR, *T. Galloway*

COMMITTEE CLERK, *M. Grivicic*