Regional Municipality of Waterloo
Administration and Finance Committee
Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2015
10:11 a.m.
Regional Council Chamber
150 Frederick Street, Kitchener


Members Absent: W. Wettlaufer

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest Under The “Municipal Conflict of Interest Act”

K. Redman declared a conflict related to report CC-15-01, specifically the proposed grants to the Independent Living Centre, since she is the Chair of the organization’s Board of Directors.

Delegations

a) Bill Davidson, Executive Director, Langs, appeared before the Committee on matters related to report CC-15-01, Grants to Community Organizations – 2015 Allocations. He provided a presentation, which is appended to the original minutes, and gave an overview of the Langs’ facilities and the five (5) regional programs offered at the Concession Road location. He summarized the ongoing communications with the Region regarding accessing Regional grants and expressed his confusion with the capital grants process; noting that other non-for-profit organizations have received grants. He requested that the Committee approve a capital grant rather than a grant for development charges and that a clear granting process be developed by the Region.
S. Strickland advised that an ad hoc committee will be reviewing the processes and criteria for grants to community organizations.

K. Seiling distributed a memo regarding the grant request from Langs; a copy is appended to the original minutes. He stated that the memo includes a recommendation to address the request from Langs and he noted that Regional Council has approved grants in the past to organizations that provide counselling services.

The Committee discussed the consistent treatment of the current Regional policy and the potential opportunity for Langs to seek additional funding in the future. S. Strickland stated that the current policy is under review. K. Seiling added that the current policy has been applied fairly and consistently to all community organizations and he referenced past grants approved.

Moved by K. Seiling
Seconded by L. Armstrong

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve a one-time grant of $25,000, funded from the Capital Levy Reserve Fund, to Langs, consistent with the grants given to the Region’s partner counselling agencies.

Carried

Request to Remove Items from Consent Agenda

There were no requests received.

Motion to Approve Items or Receive for Information

Moved by G. Lorentz
Seconded by K. Redman

That the following item be approved:

- That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enter into an amending agreement with the Corporation of the City of Waterloo to further extend an existing option to purchase a share of a parking structure owned by the City of Waterloo and used by Regional employees, as outlined in report COR-FFM-15-08, dated June 16, 2015.

And the following items be received for information:
• CAO-SPL-15-02, Citizen Input and Engagement in the 2015-2018 Strategic Planning Process
• COR-FSD-15-11, Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program

Carried

Regular Agenda Resumes

Reports – Corporate Services

a) COR-FSD-15-12, 2016 Budget Process & Timetable

Craig Dyer, Commission, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer, introduced the report and highlighted the current review of the capital plan and related funding sources. He stated that the Region is currently on budget for 2015 and that staff will continue to monitor. He advised that the 2016 budget timetable is typical of past budget cycles, noting the exception of meeting planned for November 18, 2015; this meeting will not be held on a Council meeting date.

The Committee inquired about date for the 2016 Final Budget meeting and times for the other budget meeting dates. C. Dyer stated that the Final Budget meeting is typically held on the same day as the first Council meeting in January and that staff will follow-up with times for the other budget meetings. In response to a Committee question about the 2016 Committees and Council meeting dates, Kris Fletcher, Regional Clerk, stated that the review and approval of the 2016 meeting calendar is anticipated in August or September.

Moved by K. Seiling
Seconded by J. Nowak

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following action with respect to the 2016 Budget:

2. Forward a copy of Report COR-FSD-15-12 to the Waterloo Region Police Services Board.

Carried


Moved by G. Lorentz

1896018
Seconded by S. Foxton

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the proposal of Homewood Health Inc. for P2015-16 Employee Assistance Program in the estimated amount of $567,000 including all applicable taxes for a three (3) year term (estimated annual cost of $189,000) beginning October 1, 2015 with an option to renew for three (3) additional one (1) year terms, as outlined in report COR-TRY-15-62/HRC-EOE-15-02, dated June 16, 2015.

Carried

c) CC-15-01, Grants to Community Organizations – 2015 Allocations

Due to the declared conflict by K. Redman, the motion to approve grants to the Independent Living Centre was taken separately.

Moved by K. Seiling

Seconded by J. Mitchell

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the 2015 grants to Community Organizations as recommended by the ad-hoc working group and outlined in Report CC-15-01 and the attached Appendix 1, excluding those grants for the Independent Living Centre, dated June 16, 2015.

Carried

Moved by K. Seiling

Seconded by B. Vrbanovic

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the 2015 grants to the Independent Living Centre as recommended by the ad-hoc working group and outlined in Report CC-15-01 and the attached Appendix 1, dated June 16, 2015.

Carried

Information/Correspondence

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

Next Meeting – August 11, 2015

Adjourn

Moved by K. Kiefer

Seconded by H. Jowett

1896018
That the meeting adjourn at 10:41 a.m.

Carried

Committee Chair, S. Strickland

Committee Clerk, S. Natolochny
Background about Langs Buildings

- June 2010 - $4.9 million from the Federal Government and $3 million from the City of Cambridge
- Co-location with William E. Pautler Seniors Centre - the frail elderly program and wellness programs for seniors and more than 20 agencies
- 58,000 sq. ft facility - living wall, a green roof, walking track and gymnasium and many meeting spaces.
- October 2010 - Ground Breaking
- September 2011 – Doors Open
- January 2015 – Grow Community Centre opened

Changed lives, healthy communities
20+ Community Partners Onsite

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Response to 1145 Concession Road

Response to the services available at 1145 Concession Road has been huge and continues to increase.

Many regional services onsite that previously did not have suitable space in Cambridge to provide services.

81,104 community contacts for Langs services only.

Does not include visits to the various organizations co-located with Langs.

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Regional Partnership Programs Onsite at Langs

Unique to this request for support, Langs hosts 5 regional programs at 1145 Concession Road including:

- Community Nutrition Worker
- Peer Health Worker
- Healthy Smiles Program
- Community Outreach Worker Program
- Prenatal Nutrition Program with Public Health and Carizon

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Rationale for the Request

- Region has awarded grants for other capital projects
- Langs has financed $3 million for the building
- Consistent with other capital grants awarded, it would recognize the innovative nature of this facility
  - The building has become a model for other communities in Ontario and beyond
  - Special Premier’s Council on Community Hubs recently established, Langs is being looked to as a provincial model
The Request

1145 CONCESSION ROAD:

- AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUESTED: $137,842
- Total Regional Development Charges paid in 2013 for 1145 Concession Road by Langs - $551,371.69

GROW COMMUNITY CENTRE:

- AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUESTED: $9,050.50
- Total Regional Development Charges paid in 2014 for Grow Community Centre $36,202.25

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Chronology of Process with the Region

June 2011 - Meeting with Chairman Seiling and Mike Murray, Region of Waterloo, and Mark Godin, Bill Davidson, Langs
   - Requested to come back when the building was built

Spring 2013 - Presentation to Regional Council
   - No direction received about capital grant

June 17, 2014 - Presentation to Finance and Administration Committee to consider reduction in development charges for not for profits
   - Request not recommended to Regional Council
Chronology cont’d

June 27, 2014 – Re-visited request with Regional Council with 17 letters of support from local agencies
  – Motion to support 40% subsidy for development charges for not for profits narrowly defeated (7/6)
  – Langs directed to pursue a regional grant

June 23, 2014 - Request for grant application made to the Region of Waterloo

December 2014 – grant application received from the Region

January 9, 2015 – Langs grant submitted
Grants to Groups Decision - June 2015

To take no action on the request to provide Regional development charge exemptions for non-profit organizations and community groups.

This is consistent with Regional Council’s actions over the years on such requests.

Approving a grant for Langs to cover development charges would require a funding source, would set a precedent that would result in grant requests from other non-profit organizations to cover development charges and would be contrary to Council’s stated position.
Region’s Policy On Capital Grants

Capital grants are defined as one time grants to an organization for the purpose acquiring a physical asset for use by the organization to carry out its programs within the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. The Regional Municipality of Waterloo may consider a capital grant if:

a) The purchase of the asset will benefit the social and cultural life or the delivery of service to the organization's clients or members;
Region’s Policy On Capital Grants...cont’d

b) The application is made prior to the organization acquiring or committing to the acquisition of the asset; ✓

c) The organization has conducted a fund-raising campaign and has approached all other sources of potential funding. ✓

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For Capital Grant requests in excess of $5,000:

a) The application must be accompanied by a complete capital budget showing the sources and uses of funds and an estimation of ongoing operating costs for the project (if any);

b) The sources of funds should indicate significant level of funding from other sources. Funding information should distinguish between funds-in-hand, funds pledged but not received, and projected additional funding and any conditions which could in any way affect the actual funds available.

c) The maximum contribution of the Region of Waterloo will be 25% of the cost of the project; and

d) Any anticipated ongoing funding request to the Region of Waterloo must accompany the capital grant request.
Confusion About the Granting Process

- Region’s policy on capital grants is clear
- Decision making process and basis for awarding capital funds is not clear
- Organizations have received varied capital grants amounts
- Region’s application form was more suitable to grants for programs and services vs. capital request
- We applied the Region’s guideline to 25% of the project to 25% of the development charges for Langs and the Grow site
- 25% of the building costs would be substantially more $$$

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Region’s History of Funding Capital Projects

- McMaster Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine and Pharmacy School
- $50,000 Catholic Family Counselling
- $45,000 Fashion History Museum
- $50,000 Women’s Crisis Services
- $200,000 Innisfree House

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Recommendations

1. The Region approve the Langs requests as a capital grant request vs. a grant for development charges in accordance with the Regional guidelines

2. The Region should develop a clear application process and funding model for capital requests with criteria that examines:
   - Size of the building
   - Types and range of services provided
   - Greater consistency in funding awarded to various organizations
Recommendations cont’d

3. The Region should revisit its commitment to development charges for the not for profit sector by:
   – Researching how many not for profits have built in the past 10 years
   – Identify which of those organizations work in partnership with the Region
   – Establishing clear eligibility criteria (only capital projects that work in partnership with the Region of Waterloo, have charitable status, provide health and social services, etc)

Note: approximately 7 capital projects by not for profits in the last 10 years
Questions?

Chairman Seiling Speaking at Langs Ground Turning Oct 2011

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Date: June 16, 2015

To: Chair Sean Strickland and Members of the Administration and Finance Committee

Subject: Grant - Langs

In today’s agenda, there is a grant request from Langs for a grant to help pay for the Regional Development Charges. This issue of RDCs for non-profit, religious and educational applications was reviewed when the Development Charges Bylaw was considered in 2014 and it was a decision of Regional Council that there would be no exemptions and that the charges would be applied equally to all groups. The Ad Hoc Grants Review group considered the Langs application and are recommending that no grant be given in line with the decisions of Regional Council.

Regional Council has made one-time capital grants to the counselling agencies with which it partners. These grants have been in the amount of $25,000 and include an agreement on use of the facility for Regional purposes from time to time. Grants have been given to Carizon, K-W Counselling, and the Woolwich Counselling Centre. Regional Council will be considering a request from Shalom Counselling at a coming meeting. Langs has been a long standing partner in a number of program areas. In 2015 it is estimated that the Region through Public Health, Social Services, and the Waterloo Regional Police will support approximately $250,000 in programs at Langs. It would be consistent with the approach to the counselling centres to approve such a grant outside of the community grants program. These one-time grants have been funded from the Capital Levy Reserve Fund (CLRF).

It would be my recommendation to Regional Council that a one-time grant of $25,000, funded from the CLRF, be given to Langs consistent with the grants given to our partner counselling agencies.