



# REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012  
11:01 a.m.  
Regional Council Chamber  
150 Frederick Street, Kitchener, Ontario

---

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

## **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT**

None declared.

### **REPORTS – Chief Administrative Officer**

a) CA-12-004, Developing an Inclusion and Diversity Strategy for the Region of Waterloo

Received for information.

Mike Murray, Chief Administrative Officer, provided a short overview of the report which updates the progress made in developing an inclusion and diversity strategy. Staff anticipates that the strategy will be brought back to the Committee in a finalized form in June 2012.

M. Murray made reference to the Dialogue on Diversity sessions which have taken place which some Councillors had attended, as well as displaying and describing the 'Diversity! in the Workplace' calendar. He noted the upcoming dialogue session on changing civic participation in organizations and institutions, taking place on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **REPORTS – Finance**

c) F-12-021, 2012 Tax Ratios

The Committee observed that the recommended tax ratios are unchanged from 2011.

The Committee obtained clarification from Angela Hinchberger, Acting Chief Financial Officer, explaining that the purpose of tax ratios is to promote tax equity between property classes. A. Hinchberger provided the rationale for the equality of certain tax ratios and clarified how certain forms of property are classified.

The Committee considered the merits of continuing with the optional class for new multi-residential properties, noting that the initial objective of the optional class was to act as a temporary measure to encourage new multi-residential development. A. Hinchberger observed that the establishment of that class benefits the Region by securing certain forms of funding for the Region's affordable housing from senior levels of government. The Committee noted that a review of this class may be timely in light of the anticipated development along the rapid transit corridor.

The Committee debated the impacts of eliminating the optional property tax class for new multi-residential development, including potential changes to the Regional levy from assessment growth and the potential for condominium development to crowd out multi-residential development along the rapid transit corridor.

A. Hinchberger suggested that staff could provide a report to the Committee on maintaining the optional class for new multi-residential development including revenue forecasts, well in advance of the establishment of the 2013 tax ratios.

MOVED by C. Zehr

SECONDED by S. Strickland

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo establish the following tax ratios for the 2012 property tax year:

Residential	1.0000
New Multi-residential	1.0000
Multi-residential	1.9500
Commercial	1.9500
Industrial	1.9500
Pipelines	1.1613
Farm	0.2500
Managed Forests	0.2500

AND THAT the necessary tax ratio and tax rate by-laws for 2012 be introduced at the March 28, 2012 Regional Council meeting;

AND FURTHER THAT the Area Municipalities be notified accordingly.

CARRIED

\*R. Deutschmann left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

b) F-12-022, 2012 Average Residential Property Value

Received for information.

A. Hinchberger provided an overview of the report, noting its objectives and highlighting comparisons made for average residential property values in the Region.

#### **REPORTS – Corporate Resources**

b) CR-FM-12-007, Consultant Selection - Facilities Management & Fleet Services Asset Management Implementation Project

MOVED by K. Seiling

SECONDED by G. Lorentz

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enter into a Consulting Services Agreement with GHD Inc., of Markham, Ontario to provide consulting services for the Asset Management Implementation Project for the Facilities Management & Fleet Services Division at an upset fee

limit of \$234,800.00 plus applicable taxes, as described in report CR-FM-12-007, dated March 20, 2012;

AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo transfer \$240,000 from the Voice Radio System Upgrade project (90095) to the Facilities Asset Management Program (90146).

CARRIED

## INTERDEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

c) CR-FM-12-006/P-12-034, 2012 Community Environmental Fund Allocation – Sustainability Grant Stream

Gary Sosnoski, Commissioner, Corporate Resources, observed that the Region is leveraging every dollar it contributes to the recommended projects with \$2.59 from other sources.

MOVED by G. Lorentz  
SECONDED by S. Strickland

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve funding allocations of \$99,651 from the Sustainability Grant stream of the Community Environmental Fund to the ten projects listed below and as further described in Appendix A of Report CR-FM-12-006/P-12-034, dated March 20, 2012:

2012-01	rare Charitable Research Reserve - solar modular home: \$15,000
2012-17/20	University of Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy – Analysis and promotion of sustainable vehicle technology: \$15,000
2012-21	Woolwich Healthy Communities - Green Living and Technology Fair: \$5,000
2012-22	Sustainable Waterloo Region – Energy/GHG reduction competition: \$15,000
2012-24	REEP Green Solutions - Solar Thermal Demonstration Project: \$15,000
2012-25	CREW - Kids and Community Power Saving Project: \$5,000
2012-30	Foodlink Waterloo Region – Buy Local Buy Fresh mapping application for mobile devices: \$5,000
2012-32	St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School – waste diversion: \$7,676
2012-36	Canadian Organic Growers Perth-Waterloo-Wellington – organic gardening workshops: \$1,975
2012-44	Grand River Carshare – Purchase of an electric vehicle: \$15,000

CARRIED

**REPORT FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- a) Minutes of the Audit Committee – February 28, 2012

MOVED by K. Seiling  
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT the Administration and Finance Committee approve the minutes of the Audit Committee dated February 28, 2012.

CARRIED

**OTHER BUSINESS**

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

**NEXT MEETING – April 17, 2012****ADJOURN**

MOVED by K. Seiling  
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

THAT the meeting adjourn at 11:17 a.m.

CARRIED

**COMMITTEE CHAIR, *T. Galloway***

**COMMITTEE CLERK, *M. Grivicic***