



Regional Municipality of Waterloo
Administration and Finance Committee
Minutes

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

2:56 p.m.

Regional Council Chamber

150 Frederick Street, Kitchener

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

Members absent: J. Brewer, T. Cowan, and G. Lorentz

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

None declared.

Request to Remove Items from Consent Agenda

R. Deutschmann requested that item 4 b) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

b) F-14-003, Collection Process For Delinquent Accounts-Water Shut Off

Received for Information.

Some Committee members expressed concerns with shutting off an essential service, stating that more attempts should be made to personally contact the homeowner to arrange payment plans.

Craig Dyer, Chief Financial Officer, stated that on page 6 of the agenda outlines the collection process. He highlighted that if Committee members would like to include additional steps to contact the homeowner that can be added to the process.

Angela Hinchberger, Director, Financial Services, Treasury/Tax Policy provided clarification on the steps already being taken to make personal contact with the homeowners.

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Some Committee members made comments that water is not an essential service and homeowners have an obligation to pay their bills.

Some Committee members stated that a clear description of the collection process needs to be outlined and asked to see the policy and process.

R. Deutschmann brought forward a recommendation.

Moved by R. Deutschmann

Seconded by R. Kelterborn

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo halt any further action with respect to water accounts collections until further clarification of the process.

Motion was withdrawn

Committee members were satisfied withdrawing the motion to allow staff to bring forward a report to the next Council meeting on January 15th, 2014 that provides a more detailed description of the collection process.

J. Haalboom requested that item 4 a) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

a) CR-CLK-14-001, Consent Agendas – One Year Review

J. Haalboom expressed her concerns that staff's time and effort to write a report isn't being recognized when a report is placed in the Consent Agenda highlighting that if a report has a recommendation it should be important enough to be part of the regular agenda for discussion.

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by L. Armstrong

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the permanent implementation of consent agendas for Regional Administration and Finance, Community Services and Planning and Works Standing Committee meetings.

Carried

*B. Halloran left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Motion to Approve Items or Receive for Information

Moved by C. Zehr

Seconded by J. Mitchell

That the following items be approved:

- That Report F-14-004 be forwarded to the Province of Ontario as Waterloo Regional Council's response to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's consultation on the Development Charges System in Ontario;

And That the Province be requested to make changes to the "Development Charges Act, 1997", to support the Region's transition to higher order light rail transit system by:

- Allowing the use of a 10-year forward looking level of service as the baseline for calculating development charges for transit; and
- Eliminating the 10% mandatory discount on development charges to pay for transit infrastructure;

And That the Province be requested to make changes to the "Development Charges Act, 1997", consistent with the principle that "growth pays for growth," including the following:

- Include all services funded by a municipality;
- Remove the 10% discount for all services; and
- Replace the 10 year average historic service level limits with a service level that is forward looking;

And Further That Report F-14-004 be circulated to the Area Municipalities within Waterloo Region for information.

Carried

Information/Correspondence

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

Next Meeting – January 28, 2014

Adjourn

Moved by L. Armstrong

Seconded by J. Mitchell

That the meeting adjourn at 3:20 p.m.

Carried

Committee Chair, T. Galloway

Committee Clerk, E. Flewwelling