Present were: Chair T. Galloway, L. Armstrong, K. Seiling, and J. Wideman

Members absent: D. Craig and S. Strickland

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

None declared.

REPORTS – Chief Administrative Officer

a) P-13-060/CA-13-003, Implementation of Waterloo Region Economic Development Study

Chair Galloway advised this was part of the presentation at the All Council meeting and has also been done at the area municipal councils.

J. Wideman was pleased that municipal consensus has been drawn around this issue. He inquired if staff knows what will be contained in the budget issue paper. Mike Murray, Chief Administrative Officer advised staff do not have a full response yet but it is expected there will initially be two staff members but they will look at internal vacancies and possibly the use of contracts.

This resolution will be brought to Council on June 5th as it is also being dealt with by the area municipal Councils in the same time period.

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following actions regarding Economic Development in Waterloo Region:

Receive for information the Waterloo Region Economic Development Study: Assessment of Economic Development Services and the Provision of Employments Lands, prepared by Malone Given Parsons Ltd., and dated April 2013;

Establish an Office of Economic Development at the Region of Waterloo, pursuant to the parameters outlined in the memo from the Chief Administrative Officers, dated April 25, 2013, and as further described in this report;
Approve in principle the creation of a Waterloo Region Economic Development Corporation (WREDC) subject to the development and approval of a detailed implementation plan;

Approve in principle the pursuit of changes to the Municipal Act, which would allow the Region to participate in strategic employment land development, subject to the development and appropriate consideration of a more detailed report about how this could be accomplished;

Further investigate the creation of a Special Purpose Corporation to develop strategic employment lands in Waterloo Region;

Continue to work with the City of Cambridge and East Side property owners to finalize the Master Environmental Servicing Plan (MESP) and associated approvals to expedite the short-term development of the East Side Lands;

AND THAT staff be directed to include a Budget Issue Paper as part of the 2014 Regional budget process to consider the creation of permanent staff positions to support the Region of Waterloo’s Office of Economic Development.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

It was agreed not to hear from the delegations due to time constraints and losing quorum for the Committee. There is enough money in the budget to cover the annual requests.

REPORTS - Finance

a) F-13-051, 2013 Economic Development and Promotion Grant Requests

MOVED by K. Seiling
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

1. THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the following 2013 Economic Development and Promotion grants totaling $154,600 to be funded from the 2013 budget for Economic Development and Promotion:

- Junior Achievement of the Waterloo Region $21,600
- Waterloo Region Small Business Centre $50,000
- Business Education Partnership of Waterloo Region $8,000
- Cambridge Highland Games $10,000
- K-W Oktoberfest $65,000

CARRIED

With respect to the grant request from Cambridge Celebrates Canada Day, no action was taken. Committee members advised there are other Canada Day celebrations in the Region and they should all be treated the same and approving this grant request would set a precedent. This should remain a municipal activity until such time as the policy is amended.
ADJOURN

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

THAT the meeting adjourn at 4:40 p.m.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE CHAIR, T. Galloway

COMMITTEE CLERK, L. Wetzel