



Regional Municipality of Waterloo

Economic Development and Promotion Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

10:05 a.m.

Regional Council Chambers

150 Frederick Street, Kitchener

Present were: Chair T. Galloway, L. Armstrong, D. Craig, K. Seiling, S. Strickland* and J. Wideman

Also Present: C. Millar

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest Under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

None declared.

Delegations

- a) Richard Kuypers, Tournament Director appeared before Committee regarding the Manulife Financial LPGA Classic Funding Request, noting they presented to Regional Council on February 5, 2014 and gave an overview of their request for in-kind services for the event. He requested additional information about the next steps and the process.

Committee members had questions about the cost and benefit to the community. R. Kuypers responded the costs were \$20,000 - \$25,000 for EMS staff to attend to the approximately 60,000 people in attendance in the extreme heat. He advised that Police Services provided traffic management and patrol. Chair Galloway stated he has spoken to Police Chief Torigian and he will review the charges to determine if there are more economical ways of providing the services.

Reports – Finance

a) F-14-028, Manulife Financial LPGA Classic – Request for Services/Sponsorship

Angela Hinchberger, Director Financial Services, Treasury/Tax Policy provided an overview of the report, noting there is no dispute the event is of a benefit to the community but that the staff concern is with the private, for profit corporation. The policy is specific to not for profit organizations and the request could potentially also be in conflict with Section 106 of the “Municipal Act”. She referenced the request from the Air Show for which no action was taken.

There was discussion about the bonusing aspect in the “Municipal Act” and that no municipality has ever been convicted to date. The question of where funding would come from was raised and A. Hinchberger advised there is a provision in the 2014 operating budget for the annual EDP grants but there is no other provision in the operating budget and the contingency was removed.

Members expressed their concern with funding a private sector event and the lack of financial statements being provided. A suggestion was made to hold a discussion with the local Chambers of Commerce and other business groups to look at funding in a different way and investigate further how these issues can be addressed.

Moved by J. Wideman

Seconded by L. Armstrong

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take no action on the request from Sports Properties International for in-kind services or sponsorship in the amount of \$60,000 for the 2014 Manulife Financial LPGA Classic tournament;

And that the Waterloo Regional Police Service and Region of Waterloo Emergency Medical Services be requested to work with the tournament organizers to reduce costs where possible for this event.

Carried

Other Business

a) Waterloo Region Economic Development Strategy – Update

Mike Murray, Chief Administrative Officer provided an update on the Waterloo Region Economic Development Strategy (WREDS), noting a presentation was made to the All Council meeting in December 2013. He highlighted the Steering Committee which is made up of all of the Chief Administrative Officers across the Region and CTT and the Community Advisory Committee made up of business and community leaders. He gave an overview of the first phase or information gathering and the stakeholder sessions that were held.

*S. Strickland entered the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

M. Murray stated they are entering the strategic directions phase and an update will be provided at the next All Council meeting on April 16, 2014. A public forum will be held in mid May with recommendations back by the end of June. A suggestion was made from a member that perhaps there are not enough representatives from the manufacturing sector.

b) Introduction of Ron Gaudet, Manager, Economic Development

M. Murray introduced Ron Gaudet, Manager of Economic Development and provided his background information. Committee members welcomed R. Gaudet and he thanked them for the opportunity.

Adjourn

Moved by L. Armstrong

Seconded by J. Wideman

That the meeting adjourn at 10:35 a.m.

Carried

Committee Chair, T. Galloway

Committee Clerk, L. Wetzel