



Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting Minutes March 27, 2018 – 2:00 pm

Present: Dave Foley, Commission Chair; Tom Mulrooney, COW Chair; Nancy Hatch, Commissioner; Michael Heisler, Commissioner; Maxine Veinot, Recording Secretary.

Regrets: Bill Nauss, Commission Vice-Chair

Absent: nil

There were three members of the public in attendance.

1.0 Call to Order

Commission Chair Foley called the March 27, 2018, Special Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting to order at 2:00 pm and turned the meeting over to COW Chair Mulrooney.

2.0 Public Forum

- William Zinck, 230 Queen Street Extension

Mr. Zinck asked when a copy of the budget would be available.

Chair Foley stated when the budget is approved, it will be posted on the website.

- Danielle Barkhouse, 250 Shore Road

Ms. Barkhouse wished to voice her concern over things she is hearing in the community and she is disappointed that there will be no fireworks in the budget.

Ms. Barkhouse heard through the 'rumor mill' that the Commission is budgeting so there can be salaries for the Commissioners.

Ms. Barkhouse stated that she feels the community spirit is lost between the community and commission.

Commissioner Hatch asked Ms. Barkhouse for clarification on the 'salary' issue.

Ms. Barkhouse stated that she heard that the Commissioners are storing/cutting back, on per diems, so that eventually there will be salaries for the position of being commissioners.

Chair Foley stated that in response to the 'salary' issue, honorariums are paid to Commissioners but not salaries.

3.0 Agenda Additions

There were no additions to the agenda and all Commissioners were in favour of the agenda as distributed.

4.0 Agenda

a) 2018/19 Budget

Chair Foley and Vice-Chair Nauss met with the Chester Fire department representatives to review the budget requests of CVFD in which the Commission had questions.

Discussion was held on budget requests.

The 'side-by-side' request was not discussed during the meeting and will not be included in the budget requests.

> Various items/values were added in the fire department budget and had not been agreed upon as the five-year capital, and therefore the Five-Year Capital plan will not be changed.

> \$1,250,000. truck was not on the five-year plan by the Commission and is not being considered at this time

> There were other values added/changed in the truck apparatus, that will not be changed, which leaves the five-year capital remaining the same.

> Wildland Fire Coveralls – The Commission had agreed to purchase these over four years, but the fire department were changing to purchase over two years, as there may be better discounts. The purchase will remain over four years

> Hazmat suits – CVFD wants to move the purchase of four suits to sooner than was allocated. Commissioners agreed to move up to 2018/19- \$5000 instead of \$0.00; 2019/20 - \$5000; 2020/21 - \$5000; and 2021/22 - \$0.00.

> \$8000.00 light upgrade – it was questioned when does the upgrades stop? Fire department assured Chair Foley that this is the last light upgrade they would need. Chair Foley asked for an 'indication' from the Commission to add an upgrade or keep it as the previous budget request, which had no upgrades included. Three Commissioners indicated not to include, one Commissioner indicated to include.

> Medical Coveralls – these were on the 2019/20 and 2020/21 with each \$2500.00 The fire department requested to move up to 2018/19 and 2019/20

Discussion was held.

Chair Foley asked for an indication to move from 2019/20 to 2018/19.

One Commissioner 'leave as it is for 2019/20; one Commissioner would like to re-visit it after more clarification; and one Commissioner stated if they are trained, then get the gear needed.

Chair Foley recommended to put forward the budget items with the same timetable as was on medical coveralls for last year's fire department capital budget, leaving the first purchase being 2019/20 and then 2020/21.

> Fireboat (Rescue boat) Pump -- \$8000.00 – If a new pump is purchased then a procedure needs to be implemented to flush the new pump with fresh water, after salt water has been pumped through it. Discussion was held. Chair Foley asked for an indication on this item. It was agreed to include the new pump in the budget.

4.0 Agenda

a) 2018/19 Budget

IPhones and iPads – Chair Foley stated the phones were to be upgraded from iPhone 5 to two iPhone 7s. This item will be included in the budget.

It is requested to have iPads in the trucks. Discussion was held on the data coverage and costs involved and security of iPads.

Chair Foley asked for an indication to include or not include the iPads in the budget.

Two Commissioners said YES; two Commissioners said NO.

Chair Foley will work on the budget without the iPads.

> The \$60,000.00 requested will not be put in the capital plan.

Commissioner Heisler asked for clarification on honorarium and in lieu of fundraising.

Chair Foley stated the in lieu of fundraising line item is being removed from the budget however the honorarium is being increased.

Commissioner Heisler asked of the Fire Chief line item. Chair Foley stated that line item has been removed, but funds added to the honorarium.

Discussion was held on the above, as well as food/drinks when at fires, and Chester Fire Department policies of the same.

Commissioner Hatch read a written statement (statement attached).

> Commissioner Hatch questioned if the 'Allowance for Fire Prevention Education' that was requested to be raised by \$500.00. Chair Foley stated this line item was not questioned of the Fire Department. The items that were discussed with the CFD was only the items that the Commissioners questioned at a previous meeting when the fire department budget was reviewed.

Chair Foley will re-work the budget for submission and will have a proposed budget and tax rate and will email to commissioners for consideration and approval at the next meeting April 11, 2018.

Discussion was held on 'honorarium' and 'in lieu of fundraising'.

Chair Foley stated that these items have been discussed several times. The budget will be brought to the April meeting for approval.

5.0 Any Other Business

There was no other business

6.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Commissioner Heisler adjourned the meeting at 3:14 pm.

Dave Foley
Commission Chair

Maxine Veinot
Recording Secretary