

APPROVED JUNE 25, 2007

COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 28, 2007

PRESENT Mayor David Corkum, Deputy Mayor Larry Honey, Councilor Dennis Kehoe, Councilor Bernie Cooper, Councilor Nola Folker-Hill, Councilor Mark Pearl, Councilor Eric Bolland, Acting CAO Debra Crowell, Solicitor Peter Muttart, Recording Secretary Carol Harnes

Acting CAO Crowell reported that all Council members were present and that CAO Boyd was out of town on business.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

**that the Agenda be approved with the addition of:
8 (c) Melissa Spencer – Request for Support**

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS **Torgny Vigerstad - presentation at the “In Camera” meeting.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES It was moved by Councilor Mark Pearl and seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey

that the Minutes of April 30, 2007 be approved with no errors or omissions.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (a) none

FINANCE

(a) 2007-2008 Operating Budget

Director Crowell presented the attached report, outlining various aspects of the operating budget. She added that overall expenditures have increased by 6% (\$523,500); Provincial Mandatory expenditures have increased by 5% over last year and now represent \$1.2m of this budget; and there have been significant increases in uncontrollable expenditures and in other levels of services. In spite of this, the residential tax rate remains stable at the 2006 rate of \$1.3432/\$100, although changes in tax billings may be seen, due to increased assessments. Generally, a 9% increase will be seen on the residential tax bill, due to property assessment increases.

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Further, Director Crowell reported that as a result of the Business Occupancy phase-out, the overall tax rate has increased to \$3.0442/\$100, which includes the municipal mill rate, the Provincial Mandatory rate and also the Fire Area Rate and the Hydrant Area Rate.

Following the review of a report on revenue funding highlights, the distribution of tax dollars and the summary, it was moved by Deputy Mayor Larry Honey and seconded by Councilor Bernie Cooper

Recommendation to Council

that a recommendation be made to Council that the 2007-2008 Operating Budget for the Town of Kentville be approved as follows:

Revenue	\$9,215,200
Expenditure	\$9,215,200
General Tax Rate	\$1.57/\$100

And further

that the following tax rates for the Town's Operating Fund for 2007-2008 be approved to provide the level of taxation required to meet the needs of the above-noted budget:

	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL
Mill rate	\$1.1880/\$100	\$2.8890/\$100
Fire Area Rate	\$0.0452/\$100	\$0.0452/\$100
Hydrant Area Rate	\$0.1100/\$100	\$0.1100/\$100
Total Tax Rate	\$1.34 ^{1/3} / \$100	\$3.04 ^{2/5} / \$100

MOTION CARRIED

(b) 2007-2008 Capital Budget

Director Crowell reported that the 3-year Capital Budget has been proposed to include programs which will maintain and improve current infrastructure and will add to the Town's capital assets. She stated that the Capital Budget for 2007-2008 totals \$1,671,500 and highlighted some expenditures, outlining the costs for various services and the funding sources to offset these. Capital costs for the years 2008-08 and 2009-2010 have also been proposed, as these are required by legislation.

Following the review of Director Crowell's report, it was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Mark Pearl

Recommendation to Council

that a recommendation be made to Town Council that the three-year Capital Budget for the Town of Kentville

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(along with the related funding sources) be approved as follows:

2007-2008	\$1,671,500
2008-2009	\$1,838,900
2009-2010	\$2,706,900

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Valley Waste Resource Management – 2006-2007 Surplus

At a recent meeting of Council, VWRM representative Councilor Mark Pearl, reported that this organization will be posting an operating surplus this year for approximately \$570,000, which is as a result of the receipt of a provincial grant and the sales of scrap metal. He added that Board members discussed this surplus and felt that these funds should be placed in a reserve to ensure future rate stabilization.

As this amount could translate into a potential refund to the Town of approximately \$48,000, it was felt that these funds could be better used by the Town to help balance next year's budget.

Councilor Pearl reported that he presented the Town's concerns to the Board members at Valley Waste, however, they felt that as this was not the official opinion of Kentville Town Council, the funds would be placed in the reserve at this time, however a policy would be developed to deal with future surplus funds or deficits.

It was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

that a recommendation be made to Council that VWRM be advised that this surplus should have been the first line in their Operating Budget.

MOTION DEFEATED

(b) Capital Asphalt Paving

A recommendation from Town Engineer Hal Henderson pointed out that four tenders were received recently for asphalt resurfacing, with the lowest tender being within budget. Subsequently, he made a recommendation to Council.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Dennis Kehoe and seconded by Councilor Eric Bolland

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***Recommendation to
Council***

that a recommendation be made to Council that the Town awards the tender to Lafarge Canada Inc. in the amount of \$109,970, plus HST, for the Capital Asphalt Street Repaving, as approved in the 2007-2008 Capital Budget.

MOTION CARRIED

(c) 2007-2008 Capital Works Projects

Town Engineer Hal Henderson reported that tenders recently closed for the 2007-2008 Capital Works Projects Contract 2007-038 with eight tenders having been received. For clarification, he added that two of these projects are sanitary sewer works; three are storm sewer projects; five include new concrete sidewalks/curbs and/or paving; two are for water (one an extension and the other a renewal). He further noted that the Town's Consulting Engineers reviewed these tenders and submitted a report with their recommendation.

Therefore, it was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Nola Folker-Hill

***Recommendation to
Council***

that a recommendation be made to Council to award the 2007-2008 Capital Works Projects Contract 2007-038 to G K Morse Trucking Limited, in the amount of \$625,302.50, plus HST.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) UNSM HST Offset Program

A letter from President Russell Walker pointed out that this program allows for a rebate of a portion of the Provincial Sales Tax to municipalities, and in the case of the Town of Kentville, an electronic transfer has been made for \$49,266.72.

(b) VCLA – Request for Support

A request was received from Valley Community Learning Association asking for financial assistance for the Literacy Mile, the funds of which will be used for the retraining of individuals in our area.

It was felt by Council, that as social and educational issues are not part of the mandate of the Town, financial support of this project could not be supported at this time.

(c) Melissa Spencer – Request for Support

Miss Spencer requested financial support for travel costs associated

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with a trip to Mexico, as she has been accepted to participate in the One World Global Education Program. Following discussion, Council members felt that they would not be in the position to support this project at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper and seconded by Councilor Mark Pearl.

that the meeting adjourn at 6:47 p.m. to go In Camera for land negotiations.

IN CAMERA

Land Negotiations:

- (a) Great Valley Juices
- (b) DAR Round House
- (c) Welton Property

**MEETING
ADJOURNS**

It was moved by Councilor Bernie Cooper that the In Camera Meeting adjourns at 8:15 p.m.