

Municipality of the County of Cumberland

Committee of the Whole (COW) Budget Meeting

Monday, May 13th, 2019

Councillors Present: Rennie Bugley, CAO; Warden Gillis, Deputy Warden vanVulpen, Councillor Porter, Councillor Fletcher, Councillor Palmer, Councillor Rector, Councillor Gilbert, Councillor McLellan, Councillor Jackson

Staff Present: Andrew MacDonald, Director of Finance; Steven Ferguson, Director of Community Development; Deana Pyke, Financial Controller; Justin Waugh-Cress, Director of Engineering and Operations; Cory DeWitt, Receptionist/Cashier, recording secretary

Regrets: Councillor Chase (Maternity Leave), Councillor Welton, Councillor Williams, Councillor Rafuse

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:10p.m. by Warden Gillis.

1.1 – O’Canada

1.2 – Roll Call

2. Administrative and Procedural Issues:

2.1 Approval of Agenda Dated Wednesday, May 08th, 2019: The agenda was approved as circulated with one addition; 3.7 – Heritage Report by Councillor Gilbert under Section 3 Business Issues.

2.2 Approval of Minutes Dated Wednesday, May 08th 2019: These minutes will be reviewed by Council and put forth for approval at the next regular Council Meeting Wednesday, May 15th, 2019.

3. Major Organizational Issues:

3.1 Expenditure Reduction Plan:

At the May 8, 2019 COW Budget Meeting, there was discussions regarding a preliminary 2019/2020 budget shortfall. Staff have reviewed the expenditure budgets and will recommended a number of reductions that will achieve a balanced 2019/2020 operations budget. This information was distributed and at the meeting and explained by Andrew MacDonald, Director of Finance.

3.2 Reserve Fund Tax Increase:

Staff recommended that Council have a discussion regarding the merits of establishing a dedicated tax rate that would be used to establish an annual reserve allocation year over year.

3.3 CPI Tax Rate Increase

Staff recommended that Council have a discussion regarding the merits of approving policy to establish an annual tax rate increase that would provide funding equal to the actual increase in our mandatory expenses, CIP increases plus/minus the change in property taxes.

4. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:27p.m. by Warden Allison Gillis.