

Local Services Board of Gogama
Public Budget Estimates Meeting – December 7th, 2015
Gogama Community Centre – 7:00 p.m.

1. Call meeting to order at 7:04 and roll call

Attendance:

Andre Jodouin - Chairperson & presiding
Claude Secord – Vice Chairperson
Gilles Veronneau– Board Member
Roxanne Veronneau – Board Member

Regrets:

Michel Veronneau – Board Member
Gerry Talbot – Secretary
Natalie Gaudette – Treasurer

General Public in attendance: 35 including 4 board members and 2 contracted staff

2. Presentation of 2015-2016 Revised User Fees and Budget Estimates:

-The chairperson welcomed everyone thanking them for attending the meeting. The Chairperson stated to the people attending that tonight's meeting was strictly to present the revised User Fees, have a question/answer arising from the presentation of the User Fees. Any other question could be brought forward at the monthly board meeting December 10th, 2015. Mr. Jodouin then proceeded to ask the treasurer to present the 2015-2016 Revised budget estimates and proposed User Fees.

1. Administration budget:

- No changes from the November 26th budget meeting

2. Fire Protection Services: As explained by the Treasurer of the board

- No changes from the November 26th budget meeting

3. Garbage Collection Budget:

- No changes from the November 26th budget meeting

4. Library Budget:

- No changes from the November 26th budget meeting

5. Recreation Budget:

- No changes from the November 26th meeting

6. Ontario Communities Infrastructure Fund Formula Base Funding (OCIF):

-No changes from the November 26th budget meeting

7. MIII Asset Management Plan #1:

- No changes from the November 26th budget meeting

8. Water Services Budget: Bullet points as presented by the Treasurer

- Revised Budget estimates and User Fees presented by Ms. Gaudette stating that the previous proposed increase had been decreased by 50% from 10% to 5%.

Sue Constantin asked why User Fees cut in half. Ms. Gaudette replied that this decrease was made possible by cancelling a valve repair project proposed for the Spring of 2016 in the amount of \$10,000.00.

-Mark Smith stated that the money received from CN should be used to pay for the valve project. Ms. Gaudette replied that the money received from CN was for hall rentals and the monies are assigned to the Recreation budget and if we used the money for other projects, it may mean that the Recreation User Fee would have to be increased. She went on to state that there is no fat in the budget, it is a keep the doors open budget.

-Mark Smith stated that the office hours should be cut back to possibly 2 days per week and this would allow the board to save money on Secretary salaries.

-Suzette Derkacz asked if she could make a motion to keep the original proposed User Fees of 10% water and 20% sewage. Ms. Gaudette stated that a vote had already been taken not approving those rates.

9. Sewer Services Budget:

- See notes stated in the the Water Budget # 8.

10. Voting Process: Having no more questions from the people attending Natalie Gaudette moved to acceptance of the Revised Proposed User Fees of 5% for Water and 10% for Sewage. Suzette Derkacz seconded the motion.

The Chairperson then proceeded to announce the secret ballot voting process. Prior to the people voting, Mr. Jodouin stated to the people to think hard about the decision to be taken because of the possibility of higher increases for the next fiscal year. There may be consequences to the results of a non-acceptance vote. Mr Jodouin proceeded to appoint two scrutineers to count the votes and the two persons appointed were Christine Cloutier and Cheryl Secord. Mr. Jodouin then asked the people to pick up a ballot and proceed to vote on the proposed User Fees. The ballots were placed in the ballot box and handed over to the scrutineers for counting and they were accompanied by Ms. Natalie Gaudette to the board office to count the ballots.

-The scrutineers returned with the results of the secret ballot vote and the Chairperson announced the results of the vote.

The results were 21 against and 14 in favour resulting in the motion to approve the User Fees to be defeated.

-The chairperson asked for a motion to destroy the ballots.

Moved by Gisele Constantin seconded by Cheryl Secord

Motion Carried

10. Adjournment:

Having no more business to discuss, the Chairperson thanked the people for attending and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Moved by Therese Talbot to adjourn the meeting.

Gerry Talbot
Secretary

Andre Jodouin
Chairperson