



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 2002
7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

Meeting Number G.C. 2002 - 14

Members present: Mayor Cindy Forster

Councillors:

R. Alakas	D. Fortier
M. Belcastro	J. Irvine
M. Dzugan	J. Mastroianni
T. Eybel	S. O'Dell

Members of the Staff and Others Present:

City Clerk C.A. Stirtzinger
City Manager T. Fitzpatrick
Chief, Fire & Emergency Services P. Olah (until 7:30 p.m.)
General Manager Engineering, Public Works and Transportation Services G. Marcello
General Manager, Parks and Recreation I. Smith (until 7:30 p.m.)
General Manager Financial and Corporate Services / Treasurer B. Silvestri
Manager, Engineering Services L. Ventresca
Manager, Human Resources R. Beaumont (until 7:30 p.m.)
Community Fire Safety Officer / Deputy Fire Chief, K. Roach (until 7:30 p.m.)
Recording Secretary, Vital Statistics Clerk- Steno II, Acting Games Licensing Clerk S. Stirling
Technical Analyst / Infrastructure Programs N. Desilets

Mayor Forster called the General Committee Meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING -- Page 2

Tuesday, November 12, 2002
Meeting Number G.C. 2002 - 14

1. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA: NIL

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:

Councillor Eyebel disclosed an interest in the matter of Item 02-15 – Master Community Fire Safety Plan and did not take part in the consideration and discussion of same, and refrained from voting thereon as her daughter is a volunteer fire fighter.

Councillor Fortier disclosed an interest in the matter of Item 02-3 – Club Richelieu Building fund and did not take part in the consideration and discussion of same, and refrained from voting thereon as he is a member of Club Richelieu.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF October 22, 2002

Moved by Councillor Dzugan that the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting of October 22, 2002 be and the same are hereby approved and adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(A) OPERATIONAL SERVICES

Engineering, Public Works & Transportation Services Department

**96-160 – Municipal Infrastructure Information Technology & Asset Management Strategic Plan
(ENG-2002-36)**

Lino Ventresca gave Council a brief history and summary of the Geographic Information System (GIS) and then Norm Desilets, Technical Analyst / Infrastructure Programs made a detailed powerpoint presentation to Council. He explained what the Geographic Information System was and why the City should consider it now. He detailed the benefits of this system to the City and how several departments could utilize it. Councillor Fortier inquired as to whether our current computer system could sustain this GIS program and Mr. Fitzpatrick replied that it could. Councillor Alakas asked if other municipalities in the Region have this system in place and Mr. Desilets answered that Fort Erie, Grimsby, Lincoln, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines are currently using this system. Mr. Ventresca also added that information could be exchanged between and be a benefit to both the utilities and the City. A brief question and answer period then took place on exactly what



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING -- Page 3

Tuesday, November 12, 2002
Meeting Number G.C. 2002 - 14

and how quickly information could be retrieved from this system. It was explained that this recommendation was only authorizing staff to investigate this GIS Program and that a report would come back to Council regarding the implementing costs of this program.

Moved by Councillor Fortier

That Council approves the expanded scope Municipal Infrastructure Information Technology Strategic Plan contained herein;

That staff develop and implement sustainable asset management plans to guide water, sewer and roadway infrastructure service delivery and decision making;

That staff fully investigate water, sewer and roadway infrastructure related service delivery improvements & report back to Council on same;

That the Manager of Information Services and the Technical Analyst Infrastructure Programs be authorized to formulate a corporate Geographic Information System (GIS) Strategic Implementation Plan and report back to Council on same.

CARRIED

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NIL

6. DELEGATIONS: NIL

7. STAFF REPORTS:

(A) **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Fire & Emergency Services Department

02-15 - Master Community Fire Safety Plan.

Mr. Fitzpatrick explained that new information has been received on this matter and he would ask Council to defer this report to the next General Committee Meeting.

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

That the Master Community Fire Safety Plan be referred to the November 26th, 2002 General Committee Meeting.

CARRIED



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING -- Page 4

Tuesday, November 12, 2002
Meeting Number G.C. 2002 - 14

Parks and Recreation Department

02-123 - Electrical Services Tenders and Recommendation (P&R-02-32)

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

That Report P&R-02-32 regarding Electrical Services Tender and Recommendation be referred to the November 26th, 2002 General Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

(B) CORPORATE SERVICES - Councillor D. Fortier, Chair

Clerk's Division

02-3 – Club Richelieu Building Fund. (CLK-2002-16)

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

That the request by Club Richelieu to apply bingo proceeds for the next three (3) years to complete its building and capital funds projects be approved for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005, provided that the Club's community commitment is maintained at its present level or better (ie. \$60,000 annual donations); and that the Club return financial reports annually on the status of its charitable donations and debt retirement projects.

CARRIED

02-45 - 2003 City Insurance Renewal. (CLK-2002-18)

Councillor Eybel inquired as to when the insurance renewal was due. Mr. Stirtzinger responded that the current insurance policy expires on December 31. Councillor Eybel stressed that she preferred to allow other insurance companies to bid on this and she requested an answer as to why this is just being brought to Council in November leaving very little time to ask other companies to prepare a bid. Mr. Fitzpatrick responded that staff proposed in the 2002 Budget an independent review but Council removed the money for this review from the Budget. The Budget Review Committee requested that the renewal be brought back in mid November. As per the Budget Review Committee's request, this matter is being brought back to General Committee now. Councillor Fortier asked when the study can be completed and the information brought back to Council. Mr. Stirtzinger



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING -- Page 5

Tuesday, November 12, 2002
Meeting Number G.C. 2002 - 14

responded that the review could take place in early 2003 and the Request for Proposals (RFP) can come later in the year. The insurance companies would want to look at the claims history for most of the year first before the City could call for RFP's in September – October and review for November. Council will still have three meetings to discuss and decide on an insurance carrier for 2004. Councillor Eybel then requested that the recommendation be in two parts and voted on separately as she could support the independent review but not the 2003 renewal with Cowan Public Entity.

Moved by Councillor Irvine

That the City Clerk negotiate the 2003 City's Insurance Renewal with the Cowan Public Entity.

CARRIED

(Councillor Eybel requested to be recorded as opposed)

Moved by Councillor Alakas

That an amount be included in the 2003 Budget for an independent review of City Insurance to develop a request for proposals and an independent evaluation of proposals for the 2004 renewal.

CARRIED

02-168 - Fortification of Lands. (CM-2002-35)

Councillor O'Dell voiced his concerns regarding the financial impact of this matter. He stressed that it was time for the Province to step up to the plate and take responsibility for enacting Section 217 of the Municipal Act. If it now wishes to remove it it should put money forward to compensate the added financial impact on the municipalities. Councillor O'Dell then suggested that the City also request the support and endorsement of all municipalities in Ontario. He asked Mr. Stirtzinger what the cost of having AMO forward this request to all municipalities would be. Mr. Stirtzinger responded that the cost would be approximately \$400 to \$500. The recommendation was then amended to include all municipalities in Ontario.

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

1. That the City of Welland petition the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Chris Hodgson, to amend the Municipal Act by removing Section 217 of the existing Act and Section 133 of the Municipal Act 2001;
2. That the City of Welland petition the Minister of Public Safety, the Honourable Robert Runciman, to introduce new legislation to deal with the fortification of lands which



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING -- Page 6

Tuesday, November 12, 2002
Meeting Number G.C. 2002 - 14

would require the enforcement of such legislation by police forces in the Province of Ontario and not municipal officials;

3. That a copy of this recommendation be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for endorsement; and
4. That a copy of this recommendation and Report CM-2002-35 be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police for endorsement.

CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) CORPORATE SERVICES

City Manager

The City Manager announced the hiring of a new City Engineer to replace Mr. Gus Marcello, who is retiring. Mr. David Shantz will begin employment as the General Manager, Public Works and Transportation Services in January, 2003. A By-law appointing Mr. Shantz will be brought to the next Council Meeting.

9. The General Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.