



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL
Tuesday, December 8, 2015
Council Chambers
30 Honour House Court, Riverview, NB
6:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Ann Seamans	Mayor
Ian Macdonald	Deputy Mayor
Wayne Bennett	Councillor
Cecile Cassista	Councillor
Lana Hansen	Councillor
Russell Hayward	Councillor
Andrew LeBlanc	Councillor
Tom Toner	Councillor

Staff Present:

Colin Smith	CAO
Annette Crummey	Town Clerk
Robert Higson	Director of Finance
Gerry Cole	Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services
Chief Denis Pleau	Riverview Fire & Rescue
Denyse Richard	Deputy Town Clerk

Regrets:

Tina Smith	Director of Human Resources
Michel Ouellet	Director of Engineering & Public Works

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seamans called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Bennett

Seconded by: Councillor Hayward

That the agenda be approved.

Motion Carried

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

NIL

4. CONTINUATION OF 2016 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Colin Smith remarked that at the conclusion of the last budget session held on November 21st the General Operating Budget was projected to have a \$115,000 deficit and the status of the Equalization Grant from the Province of New Brunswick was still unknown. Since that time, the Province announced the Community Equalization Grant budget and the final assessment growth numbers for each municipality. The final assessment growth figure for Riverview is 0.7%, which is slightly higher than was in the projected budget. The most significant change was the final Equalization Grant figure which ended up being \$259,000 more than the Town received in 2015. It should be noted that in the proposed 2016 budget, staff had projected that the Equalization Grant would be reduced by \$169,000; therefore, this resulted in a \$428,000 positive swing in the proposed 2016 General Operating Budget. It was noted that the Province also announced the elimination of the Municipal Fine Revenue Sharing Program which resulted in a reduction of \$66,000 to the Town's Revenue Budget. With the additional funds for 2016 the following recommendations are being put forward for Council's consideration:

- Additional budget dollars (\$82,000) for the Street Patching Program in the Engineering and Public Works Department which would bring the street patching budget to \$350,000. It was pointed out that this program budget was originally cut to maintain a zero based increase for that department, and Council indicated during budget deliberations that if additional dollars could be found that this budget should be increased; and
- The balance of the additional budget dollars (\$232,649) be allocated to the "Capital from Operating budget". The additional dollars to the "pay as you go" portion of our capital budget plan provides the Town more financial flexibility in the future and limits the growth in our operating budget.

The members of Council discussed whether the \$350,000 figure was sufficient for the street patching budget. It was pointed out that the 2015 budget for street patching was \$450,000 and that only \$380,000 had been spent to date. Keeping in mind that this figure also included \$40,000 for patching on Coverdale Road which was a unique situation. Mr. Smith indicated that he had consulted with the Director of Engineering and Works in order to arrive at the \$350,000 figure.

Moved by: Councillor LeBlanc
Seconded by: Councillor Bennett

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that the Riverview Town Council accept the recommendation by the CAO add \$82,000 to the street patching budget and also to add \$232,649 to the Capital from Operating Budget, such funds becoming available upon receiving final figures (assessment growth figure and Community Equalization Fund figure) from the Province of New Brunswick.

Motion Carried

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Councillor LeBlanc
Seconded by: Councillor Hayward

That the meeting be adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Motion Carried