Minutes

A meeting of Budget Committee of the Whole of the Town of Richmond Hill was held on Wednesday, January 23, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with the following Members of the Committee present:

Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora (Chair)
Mayor Barrow
Regional and Local Councillor Hogg
Councillor Beros
Councillor Muench
Councillor Liu
Councillor West
Councillor Cilevitz
Councillor Chan

The following members of Staff were present:

N. Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Baker, Commissioner of Community Services
I. Brutto, Commissioner of Environment and Infrastructure Services
M. Dempster, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services
K. Kwan, Commissioner of Planning and Regulatory Services
A. Dimilta, Town Solicitor
P. Caron, Director, Asset Management
J. DeVries, Director, Regulatory Services/Chief Building Official
D. Dexter, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer
S. Fick, Director, Design and Construction Services
G. Galanis, Director, Development Planning
M. Gandhi, Director, Communication Services
S. Huycke, Director, Legislative Services/Town Clerk
A. Iannucci, Chief Information Officer
Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the agenda be adopted as distributed by the Clerk.

Carried

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora declared a pecuniary interest on the Richmond Hill Public Library Board 2018 draft Operating Budget as a member of his family was an executive member of the Richmond Hill Public Library Board.
Scheduled Business

4.1 2018 Operating Budgets – (Staff Report SRCFS.18.002)

Neil Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer, highlighted the success of Council and staff as one team, the Town’s commitment to fiscal sustainability, and the service improvement framework which included Service Improvement Projects, Key Performance Indicators, Internal Audit and the Lean Pilot Program. N. Garbe provided additional information regarding the Lean initiative which improves overall performance by identifying and reducing waste and making processes better and more efficient, and the Lean Pilot Program Road Map.

David Dexter, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer, presented the 2018 draft operating budget including the operating budget process and direction. He reviewed the economic climate and growth pressures that included the new library opening in Oak Ridges, second arena pad and fitness facility at the Ed Sackfield Arena, and growth of Fire Safety requirements as specified in the Fire Master Plan.

D. Dexter provided an overview of the Town services component of the 2018 operating budget including the total expenditures and operating revenues, base expenditure and revenue pressures, 2018 annualizations, growth and legislated pressures, and unsustainable funding sources. He reviewed the operating budget for the Richmond Hill Public Library Board including tax levy impacts. D. Dexter highlighted the capital asset sustainability strategy, net budget expenditures by service, breakdown of the disbursement of property taxes and the tax impact for the average single detached residential property. He concluded the presentation by reviewing the financial outlook and staffing plan, 2019 to 2021 financial outlook, and use of tax stabilization reserve for 2018.

Moved by: Mayor Barrow

Recommendation 1

a) That the 2018 Town Operating Budget:

   a. Summarized in Appendix ‘D’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002 with a recommended budget increase of $2,182,600 and a total tax levy of $100,661,900 (excluding supplementary taxes), be adopted;

   b. That the 2018 Seniors Tax Assistance Grant be increased to $387;

To be considered by Council on February 6, 2018
Recommendation 2

b) That the 2018 Richmond Hill Public Library Board Operating Budget:

a. Summarized in Appendix ‘E’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002 with a recommended budget increase of $718,400 and a total tax levy of $9,047,500, be adopted;

b. That draft By-law 8-18, attached as Appendix ‘J’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002, be enacted to adopt the 2018 Richmond Hill Public Library Board Operating Budget.

A recorded vote was taken:

In favour: Regional and Local Councillor Hogg, Councillor West, Councillor Muench, Councillor Liu, Councillor Cilevitz, Mayor Barrow, Councillor Chan

Opposed: Councillor Beros

Motion Carried 7 to 1

Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora resumed the Chair.
Moved by: Mayor Barrow

c) That a Capital Asset Sustainability Fee charged to each tax account be increased to $47 for the 2018 taxation year;

d) That the Financial Outlook and Three-Year Staffing Plan, attached as Appendix ‘F’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002, be received;

e) That, as required by Ontario Regulation 284/09, Municipal Act, 2001, the compliance report attached as Appendix ‘L’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002 be approved for expenses that have been excluded from the 2018 Draft Budget.

An amendment was:

Moved by: Councillor Muench

That recommendation c) be referred back to staff for a report to be presented at the February 6, 2018 Special Council meeting regarding calculation of the Capital Asset Sustainability Fee by a progressive method relative to the value of the home for 2018 and future taxation years.

Motion to Amend Carried Unanimously

A recorded vote was taken:

In favour: Councillor Muench, Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora, Mayor Barrow, Councillor West, Councillor Chan, Councillor Cilevitz, Regional and Local Councillor Hogg, Councillor Liu

Opposed: Councillor Beros

Motion Carried 8 to 1

Moved by: Mayor Barrow

d) That the Financial Outlook and Three-Year Staffing Plan, attached as Appendix ‘F’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002, be received;

Carried

To be considered by Council on February 6, 2018
Moved by: Mayor Barrow

e) That, as required by Ontario Regulation 284/09, Municipal Act, 2001, the compliance report attached as Appendix ‘L’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002 be approved for expenses that have been excluded from the 2018 Draft Budget.

Carried Unanimously

The motion regarding Item 4.1, clauses c), d) and e) to read as follows:

Moved by: Mayor Barrow

Recommendation 3

c) That the Capital Asset Sustainability Fee be referred back to staff for a report to be presented at the February 6, 2018 Special Council meeting regarding calculation of the Capital Asset Sustainability Fee by a progressive method relative to the value of the home for 2018 and future taxation years;

d) That the Financial Outlook and Three-Year Staffing Plan, attached as Appendix ‘F’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002, be received;

e) That, as required by Ontario Regulation 284/09, Municipal Act, 2001, the compliance report attached as Appendix ‘L’ to staff report SRCFS.18.002 be approved for expenses that have been excluded from the 2018 Draft Budget.

Carried

Budget Committee of the Whole recessed and reconvened (3:05 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.).

4.2 2018 Draft Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget – (Staff Report SRCFS.18.003)

David Dexter, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer, presented the 2018 draft water, wastewater and stormwater management operating budget highlighting the service provision, Town responsibilities, financial plan/rate study, and proposed retail rate increase. D. Dexter concluded the presentation by reviewing the recommendations contained in staff report SRCFS.18.003.

To be considered by Council on February 6, 2018
Recommendation 4

a) That the 2018 Draft Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budgets, attached as Appendix ‘A’ to staff report SRCFS.18.003 be adopted;

b) That draft By-law 9-18, attached as Appendix ‘B’ to staff report SRCFS.18.003 be enacted to authorize the following:

i. That retail charges for properties receiving water and wastewater services be rendered on a combined basis, at the rate of $4.4115 (7.5% increase from 2017) per cubic metre (1,000 litres) effective April 1, 2018;

ii. That retail charges for properties receiving water service only, be charged a rate of $1.8295 per cubic metre (1,000 litres) effective April 1, 2018;

iii. That retail charges for properties receiving wastewater services only, be charged a flat rate of $235.61 per quarter effective April 1, 2018;

iv. That flat rate charges for residential properties which do not have a water meter installed, be based on 1 cubic meter per day;

v. That stormwater management charges for residential and farm properties equal $67.84 per annum;

vi. That stormwater management charges for non-residential and multi-residential properties equal $197.10 per annum;

vii. That stormwater management charges for a condominium building or complex equal $197.10 per annum per water meter installed.

c) That Section 26.11 of By-law 94-11 providing for early payment discount be repealed effective July 1, 2018;

To be considered by Council on February 6, 2018
d) That a copy of the resolution approving the Town of Richmond Hill 10 Year Water (and Wastewater) Financial Plan be translated and submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change as required under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, O. Reg. 453/07.

Carried

Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Chan

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.