

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH-WEST OXFORD
SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES
April 13, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor: James Hayes
Councillors: David Mayberry, Ron Sackrider, D. Anne Vanhoucke, Gerry Mitchell, George Klosler
Jay Heaman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Ellen Greb, Clerk-Treasurer C.A.O.
Diane Larder, Deputy Treasurer

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Mayor James Hayes.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to conduct a second review of the proposed 2010 Township budget. The preliminary meeting held on March 30, 2010 did not provide adequate time for a comprehensive review of the document.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 1 Moved by Gerald Mitchell
Seconded by David Mayberry

RESOLVED that the agenda for the April 13, 2010 Meeting of Council be approved.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None were declared.

2010 SECONDARY BUDGET REVIEW

Staff reviewed the revised 2010 draft budget with Council. The budget included a 4% increase in Township taxation.

A summary of each department's expenditures and revenues were reviewed. The 2010 proposed budget totals \$9,310,962.00.

Capital Expenditure Highlights

Health Services

1. Proposed purchase of Sweaburg Public School \$170,000.00
2. Construction of the Brownsville Community Complex \$1,710,120.00

3. Replacement of playground equipment in Brownsville and Mount Elgin
\$65,000.00
4. Replacement of ground cover under all Township owned playground equipment
\$40,000.00

Public Works

Construction Projects

1. Reconstruction and Paving of Dodge Line North \$1,138,340.00
2. Reconstruction of Dereham Line \$130,000.00
3. Paving of Beaconsfield Road (joint with Norwich Twp.) \$83,500.00
4. Paving of Ebenezer Road \$141,500.00
5. Paving of Cranberry Line \$136,500.00
6. Paving of Five-Points (Thames Centre) \$9,400.00
7. Paving of Keswick \$182,000.00
8. Municipal Drain – public works share - \$50,000.00

Transfer to Reserve

1. Vehicle Reserve \$218,000.00

Building Department

1. Purchase of a new vehicle \$20,500.00

Fire and Emergency Services

Transfer to Reserve

1. Vehicle Reserve \$100,000.00
2. Radio Reserve \$25,000.00

Capital Revenue Highlights

Health Services and Protection to Persons and Property

1. Sale of the Brownsville Fire Hall and Brownsville Community Hall \$250,000.00
2. Community Adjustment Fund (CAF) grant for complex \$1,042,209.00

Public Works

1. Gas Tax Revenue (paving projects) \$233,437.00
2. Build Canada Fund (Dodge Line North) \$800,000.00

Transfer from Reserves

A review of the proposed utilization of Township reserves and reserve funds was conducted. It was noted that the draft budget pulls \$1,369,192.00 from Township reserves and \$83,933.00 from Township Parks reserve fund as follows:

1. Working capital reserve contributes \$241,861.00 to offset the purchase of the Sweaburg Public School, water hookup for the Sweaburg United Church and to help reduce taxation increase for 2010.
2. Building Vehicles reserve contributes \$18,000.00 for the purchase of a new vehicle.

3. Investing in Ontario reserve contributes \$329,108.00 to the Brownsville Community Complex (Community Hall/Library component)
4. Fire Hall Replacement reserve contributes \$313,803.00 to the fire hall component of the Brownsville Complex.
5. Dodge Line reserve contributes \$228,420.00 to the Dodge Line North reconstruction project
6. Municipal Roads/Bridges reserve contributes \$30,000.00 for safety barriers on Karn Road.
7. Transportation Vehicle reserve contributes \$208,420.00 to offset the purchase of a new tandem truck.

Transfer from Reserve Fund

Health Services

1. Parks fund reserve contributes \$83,933.00 to new playground equipment at Brownsville and Mount Elgin as well as the new ground cover and water connection at Sweaburg Lions Park.

2010 DRAFT BUDGET REVISIONS

Following a complete review of the draft document adjustments were made with some highlighted as follows:

Revenues

Health Services

1. Fundraising revenue from the Brownsville Funding Committee is \$10,000.00 with the actual amount being transferred to reserve.
2. Reduction in property sold revenue to \$55,000.00 from \$110,000.00
3. Council would like to see the taxation increase reduced to below 4% if possible.

Expenditures

Public Works

1. Examine the paving projects to see if anything can be deferred until 2011. Particular discussion took place in regard to the Ebenezer Road, Cranberry Line or the second lift of asphalt on Dodge Line (north).

Health Services

C.A.O. Greb recommended that Council consider deferring the redevelopment of the Brownsville Ball Park until 2011. She noted that money had been included in the budget to clear the existing ball park however it may be prudent to wait until 2011 to give everyone more time to plan the configuration of the park. She will be contacting the members of both the Brownsville Park and Community Centre Board to discuss the two boards merging into one. In addition the local community will be urged to participate both on the Board as well as planning the new ball diamond. It is also hoped that Provincial grant dollars could be solicited for the project. Plans to upgrade the playground equipment and ground cover will take place this year.

