

EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Brant County Council Chambers
7 Broadway Street, Paris
Monday, July 21, 2008
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Eddy, Councillors Powell, Hodge, Schmitt, Haggart and City of Brantford
Councillor Sless

Regrets: Councillor Wheat and Councillor Kinneman, City of Brantford

Staff: Underwood, Collings, Longeway, Papple, Dan Tempriple, Public Health, Safety
and Social Services, City of Brantford and Lehmann

Councillor Schmitt in the Chair.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by – Councillor Powell
Seconded by – Councillor Sless

That the Emergency Services Committee agenda for July 21, 2008 be approved, as
printed.

.Carried

DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS

Mr. Tom Strauch – St. George Dukes Junior “D” Hockey Club

On behalf of the St. George Dukes, Mr. Strauch expressed concern about the current Ice Allocation Policy as it relates to ice time for Junior Teams and Adult Leagues. Mr. Strauch also expressed concern that the allocated ice time for the upcoming season is based on the usage of the previous year.

Mr. Strauch reviewed the history of the request by the St. George Dukes to have their ice time moved from Tuesday evenings at 10:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., to Tuesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., when the St. George Old Timers currently play their games. Mr. Strauch reported that the St. George Dukes are the only Junior “D” team that practice late into the evening and that the majority of the young men on the team are high school, college and university students who could benefit from getting home at an earlier point in the evening.

Mr. Strauch reported that the St. George Dukes have booked 93 hours of ice time thus far in 2008 and of those 93 hours, 63 hours are for scheduled games. Mr. Strauch further reported that the average attendance at the St. George Dukes games is 175 to 200 people and asked that Committee be mindful of the revenue generated by the team when considering the team’s request.

In response to questions, Mr. Strauch reported that the St. George Dukes have practiced on Tuesday evenings from 10:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. for the past five years and that unfortunately, there are no other weeknights that are available to accommodate an 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

practice time. Mr. Strauch further reported that upon approaching the St. George Old Timers to discuss a potential exchange of ice times, an agreement was unable to be reached.

MINUTES

Moved by – Councillor Sless
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the Emergency Services Committee minutes of May 27, 2008, be approved as printed.

.Carried

CONSENT ITEMS

Moved by – Councillor Haggart
Seconded by – Councillor Hodge

That the following items be received as information:

Ambulance Serve Cheque Register dated June 4, 2008;
Ambulance Service Cheque Register dated July 3, 2008;
Ambulance Services Business Status Report;
Ambulance Services Call Statistics April 2008;
Ambulance Services Call Statistics May 2008

.Carried

REPORTS FROM STAFF

OMERS RETIREMENT AGE FOR PARAMEDICS

Mr. Charles Longeway, Ambulance Services Manager reported that the Unions representing paramedics across Ontario and two individual local paramedics had forwarded correspondence to Mayor Eddy asking him to support and seek that the AMO representatives on the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Sponsor Corporation implement the necessary changes that would support a normal retirement age of 60 (NRA 60) for paramedics.

The Ambulance Services Manager advised that although he is sympathetic to the request received by Mayor Eddy, AMO is advising that at this point in time, far too much information is unknown and is thereby recommending that there not be an amendment to the current NRA for paramedics.

The Ambulance Services Manager reported that a motion put forth by the OMERS Sponsor Corporation in November 2007, to extend NRA 60 to paramedics, failed to generate the required two-thirds majority support, with all employer representatives voting against the motion. Further, on June 6, 2008, the OMERS Sponsor Corporation again failed to pass a motion to allow paramedics the right to negotiate NRA 60.

In response to questions, the Ambulance Services Manager advised that he understands these matters to be of a nature that would require them to be tabled at negotiations and achieved through collective bargaining. He further advised that the correspondence received by Mayor Eddy was subsequent to the ratification of the Collective Agreement renewal.

In response to further questions, the Ambulance Services Manager reported that historically, collective bargaining sessions are attended by the C.A.O., the Human Resources Advisor and the Ambulance Services Manager, but that the County, on the direction of Council, had obtained legal representation at the last collective bargaining session.

In response to questions and comments from Committee, Mayor Eddy advised that at the present time, the OMERS Sponsor Corporation does not permit the negotiation of the normal retirement age for paramedics. He further advised that the correspondence received is simply a request that at such time as the OMERS Sponsor Corporation does allow for the negotiation of the normal retirement age for paramedics, that Council advise the OMERS Sponsor Corporation that it supports NRA 60 for paramedics.

Councillor Haggart expressed concern that the recommendation contained in the staff report is too specific and suggested that given AMO's recommendation that Council and / or County staff not pursue support for the proposal for a normal retirement age of 60 for paramedics and that to date, County of Brant Council has not been approached by the Union, that the Committee receive the staff report as information.

Moved by – Councillor Haggart
Seconded by – Councillor Hodge

That Staff Report ES-08-21 "OMERS Retirement Age for Paramedics" be received as information.

.Carried

Councillor Powell referenced a recent fire in Toronto and asked Committee to be cognizant of the challenges and potential dangers that the members of fire, ambulance and police services are faced with on a daily basis. He commended and expressed his appreciation to the members of fire, ambulance and police services on the remarkable job they do each day.

CROSS BORDER BILLING

The Ambulance Services Manager reported that correspondence has been received from Ambulance Services representatives from the City of Hamilton and Haldimand County and that a meeting is scheduled between himself and the representatives next week. He further reported that the purpose of the meeting is to reach an agreement with respect to cross border billing.

The Ambulance Services Manager advised that an update with respect to the meeting will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

City of Brantford Re: Tranquility Ambulance Station

In response to questions, the Ambulance Services Manager reported that the Tender has not been awarded with respect to the Tranquility Ambulance Station project.

Mr. Dan Temprile, Public Health, Safety and Social Services, City of Brantford, reported that the correspondence was forwarded to the County of Brant for information purposes.

Councillor Sless reported that City of Brantford Ward 3 Councillors are desirous of being involved with the site plan control process.

Moved by – Councillor Haggart
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That correspondence received from Charlene Touzel, City of Brantford Deputy Clerk, regarding Tranquility Ambulance Station be received as information.

.Carried

NEXT MEETING

The Ambulance Services portion of the Emergency Services Committee adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on a motion of Councillors Sless and Haggart to meet again on September 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Paris.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

ICE ALLOCATION POLICY

Mayor Eddy expressed concern that if Committee approved the recommendation put forth in Staff Report PR-08-28, that it would preclude the request from Mr. Strauch and in response, the Director advised that approving the recommendation put forth in Staff Report PR-08-28 would not preclude the request from Mr. Strauch.

The Director reported that there were a number of housekeeping issues that needed to be addressed with respect to the Ice Allocation Policy and that those housekeeping issues are detailed in full in Staff Report PR-08-28.

The Director noted that as the Ice Allocation Policy is written, the Facility Managers are unable to provide ice times unless there is “available” ice and that upon such ice becoming available, it is allocated in accordance with policy item 3.3 that lists the priority of issuing ice. The Director asked that Committee be cognizant of the fact that although the St. George Dukes feel that they have been inconvenienced by the ice time allocated to them, there are other user groups requesting ice time and if ice becomes available, it must be allocated in accordance with the Ice Allocation Policy. The Director noted that Parks and Recreation staff attempt to remain flexible and strive to accommodate the needs of the St. George Dukes during play-off time, when the team must play a certain number of games over a shorter period of time and that historically, Parks and Recreation staff does not get involved in ice time negotiations between two user groups.

In response to questions, the Director reported that the Ringette league is seeking additional ice time.

Councillor Powell suggested that it may be beneficial in future to schedule a meeting with the various user groups, in advance of the ice season, to obtain a clearer understanding of their needs, rather than basing the allocation on the previous year’s usage.

In response to questions, the Director reported that in advance of each ice season, the Facilities Manager communicates with each of the user groups to confirm that their respective ice needs have not changed and that in the event that a user group advises that they require less ice time, that ice becomes “available” ice. She noted that historically, there are very few changes received from the user groups.

Councillor Haggart expressed concern that section 3.3 of the current Ice Allocation Policy does not make reference to the word “available” and that currently the policy dictates that Junior

Teams are granted priority over Adult User Groups. Councillor Haggart expressed his belief that the Ice Allocation Policy needs to be amended in accordance with the recommendation in the staff report and that the current Ice Allocation Policy needs to be enforced between the two subject user groups.

Moved by – Councillor Haggart
Seconded by – Councillor Hodge

That the following changes be accepted to update the CMS-2005-01 Ice Allocation Policy:

A. Policy Item 2.3

Ice time is the property of the County of Brant and no organization / group / individual has ice reserved from year to year, however, it is a general understanding that ice time for the forthcoming season shall be based on the previous year's schedule. No ice time shall be scheduled for the new year until all outstanding invoices have been paid in full.

B. Policy Item 3.3

Within County of Brant Arenas, preference for available ice time shall be given as follows:

- a. County of Brant Minor Use Groups;
- b. Regular yearly tournaments and special events;
- c. Junior Team use;
- d. Adult Groups;
- e. Municipal programs;
- f. School Use;
- g. New requests

C. Policy Item 3.4

No group shall be bumped by another user group.

D. Policy Item 5.4

The County of Brant Arenas shall generally be closed to the public, annually, on Labour Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Family Day, Good Friday and Easter Monday, unless otherwise directed.

.Carried

Moved by – Councillor Haggart
Seconded by – Mayor Eddy

That Parks and Recreation staff proceed with the necessary actions required in order to implement the exchange of ice time at the South Dumfries Community Centre between the St. George Dukes and the St. George Old Timers League, such that the St. George Dukes will be granted use of the ice on Tuesday evenings commencing at 8:30 p.m. and ending at 10:00 p.m. and the St. George Old Timers League will be granted use of the ice on Tuesday evenings commencing at 10:00 p.m. and ending at 11:30 p.m.

.Carried

In an effort to maintain the practice of fairness and transparency, Councillor Haggart requested that the Director inform both the St. George Dukes as well as the St. George Old Timers of Committee's recommendation to Council and to advise them that they are welcome to make representation to Council should they wish to do so.

LIONS PARK STAIRS

The Director of Community Services reported that a site meeting was held between Mayor Eddy, Parks and Recreation staff and a member of the Paris Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. The Director further reported that upon reviewing the options available and the cost of each option, staff is recommending that pre-cast concrete steps be installed to replace the Lions Parks stairs.

Moved by – Councillor Powell
Seconded by – Councillor Hodge

Whereas pre-cast concrete steps are less costly to replace the Lions Park stairs than it is to construct a walking trail;

And whereas a pathway would require more maintenance and would have more impact on operations;

Be it hereby resolved that staff proceed in awarding the contract to replace the Lions Park stairs with pre-cast concrete.

.Carried

In response to questions, the Director reported that the pre-cast concrete steps are expected to be installed before the end of the summer season.

FIRE SERVICES

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. County of Brant Fire Administration – Proposed Changes from 2008 – 2010

The Director reviewed the draft organizational chart and noted that the chart was distributed in response to Councillor Haggart's request at the Emergency Services Meeting of May 27, 2008 to provide a one page summation of the proposed fire administration changes for 2008-2010.

In response to questions, the Director reported that the position of Deputy Fire Chief has been posted and that the posting will close on August 5, 2008. She further reported that the Clerical Assistant position was posted and has since closed. She noted that interviews were conducted with respect to the Clerical Assistant position and that further information would be provided at the August Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

In response to questions regarding budgetary issues, the Director reported that the proposed changes from 2008-2010 are all at the discretion of Council and the approval of budget.

In response to questions, the Director reported that a new clerical assistant is not being hired in addition to the clerical assistant currently on staff, but rather, the current clerical assistant position is being amended to full time permanent.

Mayor Eddy suggested that the County obtain a cost estimate from the City of Brantford with respect to what the County's share of a potential, joint, Brant / Brantford Emergency Measures team would be.

Moved by – Mayor Eddy
Seconded by – Councillor Haggart

That staff be directed to contact the City of Brantford and request information with respect to the City of Brantford's interest in, and, what the County of Brant's cost share would be, of a joint Brant / Brantford Emergency Measures team.

.Carried

2. Request from O.P.P. Re: Water Craft

The Fire Chief reported that he has had a discussion with the O.P.P. with respect to their request regarding watercraft and noted that although staff is in the process of swift water / ice water training, the request from the O.P.P. was in relation to summer patrols and body recovery and that currently, staff is not trained in body recovery.

CONSENT ITEMS

Moved by – Councillor Powell
Seconded by – Councillor Eddy

That the following items be received as information:

- i. Fire Services Cheque Register dated June 4, 2008;
- ii. Fire Services Cheque Register dated July 3, 2008;
- iii. Fire Call Report – May, 2008;
- iv. Fire Call Report – June, 2008;
- v. Fire Prevention Activity Report – May 1 to June 30, 2008;
- vi. Fire Services Business Status Report;
- vii. Chiefs' Meeting minutes of May 22, 2008;

In response to questions, the Fire Chief reported that the civic addressing issues discussed in the Chiefs' Meeting minutes of May 22, 2008 are with respect to Governors Road East and Governors Road West. The Fire Chief further reported that a request will be submitted to the Public Works Department for signage to be installed on Governors Road East, in an effort to mitigate the issues being encountered;

- viii. Chiefs' Meeting minutes of July 10, 2008;
- ix. Memo from CFPO Geoff Hayman to Fire Chief David Collings Re: Completion of FPO Certificate Program;

Councillor Powell requested that the Fire Chief, on behalf of Council, cordially invite Fire Prevention Officers Dave Monkhouse and Tom Waldschmidt to the August Brant County Council meeting so that Council may formally recognize the extra time and effort that the Fire Prevention Officers have contributed in obtaining their respective Fire Prevention Officer Certifications.

- x. ES-08-23 – Realignment of Service from Station No. 9 Tranquility

In response to questions, the Director reported that a public meeting took place on May 14, 2008 and the attendants were notified that based on the needs of County of Brant Fire Services, that there would be a realignment of service from Station No. 9 Tranquility. The Fire Chief reported that there were not a lot of people in attendance at the public meeting, but those who were in attendance provided positive feedback and support with respect to the realignment.

STAFF REPORTS

PURCHASE OF A PUMPER / RESCUE TRUCK – STATION NO. 2 AIRPORT

The Fire Chief reported that the lowest proposal submitted is also the best equipped truck to satisfy the needs of the County. The Fire Chief noted that Darch Fire Inc. is a reputable company with a long-standing reputation for quality and that the Pumper / Rescue Truck is of similar design as the truck being utilized in Mt. Pleasant since 2002.

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the proposal for one (1) Pumper / Rescue Truck be awarded to Darch Fire Inc. for the delivery of a Pierce Combination Pumper at a cost of \$198,887 plus GST as this was the lowest proposal submitted and meets the County's requirements.

.Carried

In response to questions, the Fire Chief reported that there are two additional options that the department would like to have included on the Pumper / Rescue Truck, as well as the purchase of new hoses and nozzles for the truck, at a cost of approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000. Committee noted that the inclusion of the two additional options, as well as the new hoses and nozzles for the truck would still result in an approximate surplus of \$100,000.

Councillor Haggart asked that Committee recall the comments received at the Special Emergency Services Committee meeting of May 7, 2008 from the Chief, District Chiefs, Deputy District Chiefs and Captains and suggested that given the surplus, that the County reaffirm its commitment to purchasing new, additional equipment.

Councillor Haggart requested that the Director obtain information from the Treasurer with respect to the \$320,000 that was approved in the 2008 Capital Budget for the purchase of the Pumper / Rescue Truck and whether those monies were made available via taxation, borrowed, debentured, etc. He suggested that if the money was obtained via taxation, that it be utilized for the purchase of new equipment.

OTHER BUSINESS

Princeton Volunteer Fire Fighters and Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Councillor Hodge reported that he has been advised that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim, namely, the Princeton Volunteer Fire Department, now has defibrillators at all of its fire stations and questioned whether or not this would result in a change to the Fire Protection Agreement between the County of Brant and the Township of Blandford-Blenheim, particularly as it relates to Concessions 1, 2 and 3.

The Fire Chief reported that once the Fire Protection Agreement between the County of Brant and the Township of Blandford-Blenheim has been amended and executed accordingly, it will

no longer be necessary for the County of Brant Fire Department to respond to Code 4 medical assistance calls from the North Half of Lots 1 through 24 in Concession 3 and all of Lots 1 through 24, Concessions 1 and 2 and including Provincial Highway No. 403 from the Middle Townline Road (No. 25) westerly to Muir Road North (No. 130).

POLICE SERVICES

COMMITTEE / BOARD MINUTES

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Mayor Eddy

That the following items be received as information:

- i. Police Services Board Minutes of May 20, 2008;
- ii. Police Services Board Minutes of June 18, 2008;
- iii. Police Services Board Minutes of July 16, 2008;
- iv. Police Accommodations Minutes of July 9, 2008

.Carried

With respect to the security issues referenced in the Police Accommodations minutes of July 9, 2008, Mayor Eddy noted that the Public Works Department is currently working on obtaining a cost estimate to have the improvement works completed.

Moved by – Councillor Powell
Seconded by – Councillor Hodge

That the County of Brant staff request the improvement of lighting and tree trimming to enhance security in the municipal parking lot west of Canadian Tire in Paris.

.Carried

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 8:35 p.m. on a motion of Councillors Hodge and Powell, to meet again on September 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Paris.

Secretary