



Committee Minutes

Committee of Management November 10, 2020 – 9:30 AM

The Committee met on the above date through electronic means with the following members participating:

Present: Councillors Dwight Burley, Scott Mackey, Christine Robinson and Brian O’Leary;

Regrets: Councillors Barb Clumpus, John Woodbury and Warden Paul McQueen

Staff

Present: Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer; Jennifer Cornell, Director of Long-Term Care; Karen Kraus, Shannon Cox; Executive Directors; Renate Cowan, Quality and Accreditation Specialist; Kevin Wepler, Director of Corporate Services; Joanna Alpajaro, Deputy Treasurer; Heather Morrison, Clerk, Rob Hatten, Communications Manager and Tara Warder, Deputy Clerk/Legislative Coordinator

Call to Order

Chair Burley called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Ontario Health Team

Jennifer Cornell addressed the Committee on Ontario Health Team (OHT) engagement. Ontario Health Teams are being introduced to provide a new way of organizing and delivering health care services in local communities as a replacement to the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs).

The Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team Planning Committee was created in an effort to continue the health system collaboration that has existed in Grey Bruce for over 25 years. She reviewed the membership of the Grey Bruce OHT Planning Committee.

Next steps were reviewed, which will include a survey and engagement sessions with the community, sector partners, municipalities, patients, clients and residents. The planning committee co-chairs will also be attending the November 12th Grey County Council meeting for an engagement session. A full application to support the creation of the Grey Bruce OHT will be submitted to the Ministry of Health by December 11, 2020.

Designated Care Partners

Jennifer Cornell addressed the Committee on the Designated Care Partners (DCP) work that has been occurring in long-term care. Grey County long-term care have been leaders in how to support care givers and ensuring they are able to safely support and visit their loved ones during the pandemic. Essential visitors are called designated care partners.

It is recognized in the sector that while heavy social restrictions were imposed to keep people safe, such measures had a negative impact on the social isolation seniors experienced during the pandemic.

It was noted that Hotel Dieu Grace started a project to support their patients in the hospital. Grey County staff have been able to view their program and create a long-term care version of the plan.

Ms. Cornell outlined the process of the pilot project, which received approval from the Grey Bruce Public Health Unit to proceed. Subsequently, the guidelines from the Province changed significantly and the pilot turned into a program.

The roles of a DCP were highlighted.

There are strict requirements for DCPs, which include attesting to negative COVID-19 tests every 14 days, and the completion of an education program. DCPs are required to wear personal protective equipment during their visit and wear photo ID. The program has been very successful and positive support from residents and families has been received.

Reports

LTCR-CM-28-20 Long-Term Care Operational Report – August 15, 2020 – October 14, 2020

Renate Cowan spoke to the first quarter indicators.

Questions were addressed regarding uptake of the flu shot, quality indicators, and how the Committee can assist in improving the results of the indicators.

CM32-20 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That LTCR-CM-28-20 Long-Term Care Operational Report to the Committee of Management for the period of August 15, 2020 – October 14, 2020 be received for information.

Carried

LTCR-CM-29-20 Long-Term Care COVID-19 Update

Jennifer Cornell addressed the Committee on the COVID update. She noted that the care communities continue to be vigilant. There was a rhinovirus outbreak at one of the homes, which has since been resolved. Refresher education has been provided, and designated care partners have been offered COVID-19 testing on site. Paramedic Services is assisting with this as well. Short stay absences and day trips continue to be suspended during this time. The homes receive requests for special circumstances and these are assessed on a case by case basis.

Ms. Cornell noted that Grey County Long-Term Care is working on a joint evaluation research project. The objective of the program is to address the impacts of COVID-19 and share the information across the Country.

The Province recently announced that Personal Support Workers would receive an additional \$3 per hour pandemic pay until March 2021. Further details will be forthcoming. Long-Term Care's recruitment strategies are ongoing and staff continue to appreciate the Emergency Support Workers (ESWs) who support staff who are working tirelessly to assist residents.

The Personal Protective Equipment supply is at 8 weeks, which is the recommended supply level.

Ms. Cornell then overviewed the significant actions taken by staff in terms of accommodating testing, visits and supporting residents who were in isolation.

The upcoming shift towards colder weather was noted. Outdoor and windows visits are currently the only way a person can visit without a COVID-19 test. Long-term care needs to find a way to continue to support visits that do not involve a test. Staff are currently looking at how window visits can be enhanced.

Further discussion occurred on the work of ESWs. ESWs are being encouraged to subsequently enroll in PSW education if they enjoy the work in order to become a PSW.

CM33-20 Moved by: Councillor Mackey Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That report LTCR-CM-29-20 regarding a Long-Term Care COVID-19 Status Update be received for information.

LTCR-CM-31-20 Long-Term Care Year End Projection

Joanna Alpajaro addressed the Committee on the above report.

It was noted that a review of financial results to the end of September 2020 project an overall year end balanced budget. It was noted that COVID-19 related expenses are basically covered for 2020.

She then highlighted the projections and status of certain budgets in detail.

CM34-20 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That report LTCR-CM-31-20 regarding a Third Quarter Financial Update and Year-End Projections as of September 30, 2020 be received for information.

Carried

LTCR-CM-32-20 Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Minor Capital Funding

Joanna Alpajaro addressed the Committee on the above report. She noted that the Ministry of Long-Term Care announced \$540 million for the sector targeting critical areas of need. A portion of this was earmarked for Infection Prevention and Containment (IPAC) and upgrades directly linked to improved IPAC practices. The County of Grey's allocation is \$266,826 for the three homes. Staff are identifying projects that will meet the funding requirements. The funds must be spent by March 2021.

It was noted that there is strict criteria about what projects are eligible for funding. In an effort to identify what the money should be spent on, front line staff were brought in to discuss gaps that may exist. Staff reviewed potential projects.

Ms. Cornell noted that they regularly look for opportunities to acknowledge staff. At this time, it is unclear if these sorts of activities would be eligible under this funding stream. Minor adjustments to support distancing are permitted, as well as other expenditures to help prevent spread of infection.

CM35-20 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

That Report LTCR-CM-32-20 regarding Infection Prevention And Containment (IPAC) Minor Capital Funding and unbudgeted projects be received; and

**That Long-Term Care Committee of Management endorse the recommended projects contained in Report LTCR-CM-32-20; and
That these recommended projects be funded by IPAC Minor Capital Funding.**

Carried

LTCR-CM-30-20 Long-Term Care Budget

Joanna Alpajaro addressed the Committee on the proposed long-term care budget. It includes a net levy requirement of \$7,628,500, reflecting an increase of \$545,800 or 7.71% over the 2020 budget.

Ms. Alpajaro spoke to the budget impacts on both the revenue and expenditure sides.

The Committee noted that it may be beneficial to request a delegation at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference with regard to funding and the challenges that the County faces.

Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That Report LTCR-CM-30-20 regarding the proposed 2021 Long-Term Care budgets be received; and

That the 2021 Long-Term Care budget, as presented, be forwarded to County Council as part of the overall corporate budget package for consideration.

CM36-20 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

That the motion be amended to add a clause which states:

That Staff continue to review the 2021 proposed Long-Term Care budgets with the intent to make further adjustments to reduce the overall 2021 Long-Term Care funding requirements.

Carried

CM37-20 Moved by: Councillor Robinson Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That report LTCR-CM-30-20 regarding the proposed 2021 Long-Term Care budgets be received; and

That the 2021 Long-Term Care budget, as presented, be forwarded to County Council as part of the overall corporate budget package for consideration; and

That Staff continue to review the 2021 proposed Long-Term Care budgets with the intent to make further adjustments to reduce the overall 2021 Long-Term Care funding requirements.

Carried

Correspondence

CM38-20 Moved by: Councillor O'Leary Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

That the correspondence from the Township of North Glengarry regarding funding to increase full-time positions in place of casual and part-time labour in long term care homes, and advocating for more regular inspections and sound infection control measures, be received for information.

Carried

Other Business

There was no other business.

Next Meeting Dates

January 12, 2020

On motion by Councillors O'Leary and Robinson, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.