Committee Minutes

Corporate Services Committee

September 10, 2013 – 10:00 AM

The Corporate Services Committee met on the above date at the County Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Chair Bob Pringle; Councillors Dwight Burley, Paul McQueen, Bob White, Harley Greenfield, Arlene Wright and Norman Jack; and Warden Duncan McKinlay

Regrets: Councillor Kevin Eccles

Staff Present: Lance Thurston, Chief Administrative Officer; Sharon Vokes, County Clerk / Director of Council Services; Kevin Weppler, Director of Finance; Grant McLevy, Director of Human Resources; Rod Wyatt, Director of Housing; Mike Alguire, Purchasing Manager; Sharon Melville, Buyer and Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chair Pringle called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Minutes of Meetings

Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes dated August 29, 2013

The Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes were reviewed.

CS76-13 Moved by: Councillor Jack Seconded by: Councillor White

THAT the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee dated August 20, 2013 be adopted as presented;
AND THAT the following recommendations contained therein be endorsed:

THAT the Terms of Reference for the Accessibility Advisory Committee be adopted as presented.

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Corporate Services Committee minutes dated August 13, 2013

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by Grey County Council as presented on September 3, 2013.

The Committee discussed the plans for the new signs at the administration building and long-term care homes.

Deputations

Aly Boltman, Theatre Manager of the Owen Sound Little Theatre

Aly Boltman attended the meeting to present information on the Roxy Theatre and the Owen Sound Little Theatre Last Stage Standing Centennial Renewal Project Funding Request.

Ms. Boltman provided an overview of the theatre’s history, volunteer involvement, funding received from other organizations, and detailed the proposed changes and upgrades to the theatre. Ms. Boltman further noted the benefits of art in the community including those related to economic development, civic engagement and well-being.

Ms. Boltman addressed questions and comments from the Committee and noted the importance of local workers being hired for these projects.

The Committee requested that a staff report be prepared on the funding request.

Garry Harron and Phyllis Lovell, Bruce Grey Child and Family Services

Garry Harron and Phyllis Lovell addressed the Committee on the Bruce Grey Child and Family Services (BGCFS) organization. Mr. Harron provided a history of the organization and the proposal for its new building. BGCFS is requesting funding for improvements to the new building, estimated to cost $5,200,000. The fundraising goal is $200,000.
Ms. Lovell gave an overview of the building plans and noted that opportunity exists for partners to be acknowledged in the project. Ms. Lovell further noted that approximately 260 children are in the care of the organization and the need to serve youth is high at this time.

It was noted that lobbying is taking place to extend support to youth under the care of the organization to the age of 25, as many are not prepared to leave the community to attend post secondary before the age of 21 when assistance is discontinued. The Committee inquired as to whether there is a need for the County to advocate this issue to the Province. Ms. Lovell noted that she will provide information to the County for consideration at a Social Services Committee meeting.

The Committee requested that a staff report on the request be prepared for presentation to the Committee.

The Committee briefly recessed then reconvened.

Reports – Finance

*FR-CS-30-13 Support of Private Member’s Bill on Fair and Open Tendering Act*

Mike Alguire presented the above noted report in response to a request for support for a private member’s bill called the Fair and Opening Tendering Act. The enactment of the bill would amend the Labour Relations Act to end the practice of closed tendering of construction projects in municipalities and school boards.

Staff are requesting that support be given to the private member’s bill and sent to the Ministry of Labour, Premier and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

*CS77-13* Moved by: Warden McKinlay Seconded by: Councillor Wright

WHEREAS municipalities are not businesses and have a different purpose and mandate from commercial enterprises;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Labour Relations Board treats municipalities as businesses for the purpose of the *Labour Relations Act, 1995*;

AND WHEREAS municipalities require an amendment to the *Labour Relations Act, 1995* to ensure municipalities are able to tender
construction work in a free and open competitive environment to maximize fairness and value for construction expenditures;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Grey petitions the Province of Ontario to amend the Labour Relations Act, 1995 to clarify that municipalities and other public sector employers are not construction employers;

AND THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Carried

FR-CS-32-13 Corporate Financial Update and Year-end Projection as of May 31, 2013

Kevin Weppler presented the above report regarding the corporate financial update and year end projection as of May 31, 2013, noting that staff anticipate a surplus of $524,400 at year end. Mr. Weppler provided some of the highlights of the anticipated surplus. Updates will be provided to each of the Standing Committees towards the end of the year.

CS78-13 Moved by: Councillor Greenfield Seconded by: Councillor Jack

THAT Report FR-CS-32-13 regarding the Corporate Financial Update and Year-End Projection as of May 31, 2013 be received for information. Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

There were none.

Other Business

Sharon Vokes requested input and direction from the Committee on whether to amend the Procedural By-law to remove the requirement to stand when speaking during Council meetings.

The Committee noted the advantages and disadvantages of each option, and suggestion was made to keep the amendments flexible to allow for the Chair to have discretion about whether to stand or remain seated.
Next Meeting Dates

October 8, 2013 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Burley, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM.

Bob Pringle, Chair