



Committee Minutes

Committee of Management June 29, 2021 – 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; Barb Clumpus, John Woodbury and Warden Selwyn Hicks

Staff

Present: Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer; Jennifer Cornell, Director of Long-Term Care; Karen Kraus, Stacey Goldie and Shannon Cox; Executive Directors; Denna Leach, Clinical Specialist; Renate Cowan, Accreditation and Quality Specialist; Mary Lou Spicer, Director of Finance; Joanna Alpajaro, Deputy Treasurer; Heather Morrison, Clerk and Heather Aljoe, Communications Specialist

Call to Order

Chair Mackey called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Reports

LTCR-CM-13-21 Long-Term Care Operational Report –April 15- June 14, 2021

Jennifer Cornell provided an overview of the Operational Report. They noted that the quality indicators have not been updated since December 2020 and therefore no changes are noted in this area. The new data will be provided in the next operational report.

Ms. Cornell provided an update on Ministry of Labour Compliance Orders for each home. She noted that corrective action has been taken in all areas of non-compliance.

Ms. Cornell highlighted several good news and celebrations that have occurred recently in the homes.

The Committee extended sincere appreciation to the Clarksburg Rotary Club for the recent installation of sunshades in the outdoor areas at all three homes.

CM21-21 Moved by: Councillor Burley Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

That LTCR-CM-13-21 Long-Term Care Operational Report to the Committee of Management for the period of April 15-June 14, 2021 be received for information.

Carried

LTCR-CM-14-21 Long-Term Care COVID-19 Update

Jennifer Cornell provide the Committee with an update on COVID-19 within the long-term care homes. She noted that several new directives were received over the past several weeks related to immunization, changes to social protocols and outdoor visits. She noted that surveillance testing continues with over 1400 tests completed weekly.

Ms. Cornell provided an update on vaccinations and noted that as of June 14 over 93% of residents across the three homes are now fully vaccinated, between 65-69% of staff have received their second dose and between 67-95% of designated Care Partners are fully vaccinated. All long-term care homes must have an immunization policy in place by July 1, 2021. The policy must note that all staff, students and volunteers provide proof of vaccine, a written medical exemption or complete a vaccine education program.

Ms. Cornell highlighted the Designated Care Partner initiative noting that staff have recently been guests on the Healthcare Change Makers Inspiring Impact podcast to provide an overview of the highly successful program. She also noted that the reintroduction of pets to the homes was very well received by the residents.

COVID funding continues to be provided by the Province to long-term care home for a variety of areas including infection and prevention controls and PSW temporary wage enhancement.

CM22-21 Moved by: Councillor Woodbury Seconded by: Councillor Clumpus

That report LTCR-CM-14-21 regarding a Long-Term Care COVID-19 Status Update be received for information.

Carried

LTCR-CM-15-21 2021 Long-Term Care 2022-2031 10-Year Capital

Joanna Alpajaro provided an overview of the 10-year capital for long-term care. Ms. Alpajaro noted that the long-term care capital funding for 2022 is \$2,200,500, an increase of \$16,500 or 0.75% from the approved 2021 approved capital budget.

The three Executive Directors spoke to the 2022-2031 ten-year capital forecast report. Each reported on the various capital projects for the three respective long-term care homes. The capital forecast related to the redevelopment projects was also reviewed. The long-term care capital forecast will be included in the corporate ten-year capital report being presented to Committee of the Whole on July 8, 2021.

Challenges with securing contractors was noted by the members. CAO Wingrove noted that the County is working towards an Expression of Interest program to pre-qualify contractors with various skills to complete similar projects across all County operations. Ms. Cornell also indicated that COVID requirements has added an extra level of challenge in having contractors on site.

CM23-21 Moved by: Councillor Woodbury Seconded by: Councillor O'Leary

That Report LTCR-CM-15-21 regarding the Long-Term Care 2022-2031 Draft Ten Year Capital Forecast be received; and

That it be forwarded for inclusion in the Corporate Ten-Year Capital Forecast 2022-2031 for consideration by County Council; and

That the projects proposed in the First Year of the 2022- 2031 Ten Year Capital be used for planning purposes for the 2022 Budget.

Carried

LTCR-CM-16-21 Rockwood Terrace Sprinkler System

Karen Kraus spoke to the report related to the Rockwood Terrace Sprinkler system. She noted that sprinklers must be installed in all home areas by January 1, 2025 to remain in compliance with current legislation. Sprinklers are already installed on the second and third floor of the home. The date for completion of the Rockwood Terrace redevelopment will occur in 2025 but the exact date is not yet known. Staff are recommending that to follow the regulations, sprinklers be installed on the first floor in Rockwood Terrace as soon as practicable.

CM24-21 Moved by: Councillor Burley Seconded by: Councillor Robinson

That Report LTCR-CM-16-21 regarding Rockwood Terrace Sprinkler System be received; and

That a sprinkler system be installed in the first floor of Rockwood Terrace as soon as possible; and

That this project be funded by Minor Capital Funding provided to Rockwood Terrace and any project deficits be funded from the Rockwood Terrace Capital Budget.

Carried

Assessment of Long-Term Care Recommendations

Jennifer Cornell provided an assessment of the Long-Term Care Commission recommendations recently released. An overview of the Commission's mandate was provided to Committee members. She noted the generally, the report indicated that Ontario was not prepared for the pandemic, with many long-term care home outbreaks, lack of personal protective equipment (PPE), outdated infrastructure and lower than required staffing levels.

In Grey County homes, there has been only one COVID outbreak which was contained to one person in one home area. No residents were affected, and Grey County has managed the pandemic well. She noted that all decisions and actions are based on the Colour It principles. There is a community focus for the overall well-being of the residents, their families, staff, and community members.

Several key items were put in place to assist the homes during this time including the redeployment of county staff to the homes, hiring of emergency support workers and introduction of the highly successful Designated Care Partner program.

Two Overarching Themes were highlighted in the Commission report including pandemic preparedness and response and resident centred quality care. Specifically, Ms. Cornell highlighted the resident focused care and quality of life. She noted that the recommendations align well with the Colour It practices of person-centred philosophy that are well established in the Grey County homes.

Ms. Cornell then highlighted the human resource challenges that were occurring in the long-term care sector prior to the pandemic. These challenges were only heightened during the onset of the pandemic. Ms. Cornell noted that the Ministry of Long-Term Care released its long-term care staffing plan in early 2021 which, the commission report suggests, needs to be accelerated and support a staffing mix of four hours of care per resident per day.

Accountability, transparency and compliance were then reviewed. Ms. Cornell noted that she is hopeful changes to the system will assist in providing reports that are transparent, accessible, easy to understand by members of the public and include a higher level of accountability.

She noted that the final recommendation contained in the Commission report requests the Ministry of Long-Term Care release a report on the first and third anniversary of the Commission report release, table a report to the legislature describing which recommendations have been implemented to date. She outlined next steps including from both a provincial level and stakeholder and association level.

Four main points were then highlighted that will continue to support Grey County Long-Term Care's vision of person-centred care into the future. Person centred care through the Designated Care Partner program and essential caregivers; the importance of education and expertise to support palliative care and end of life needs; addressing human resource challenges; and leadership support through mentorship, education, and succession planning. All of these will continue to assist in meeting the complex needs of the residents.

Questions and comments then followed related to continued responses, mentorship and human resources challenges and recruitment. Ms. Cornell provided an overview of ongoing education programs; recruitment opportunities and strategies and the work being completed with community stakeholders in this initiative.

Report LTCR-CM-18-21 Case Mix Index Funding Reductions

Jennifer Cornell provided an overview of the current case mix index (CMI) funding for the County's three long-term care homes. She noted the Ministry recently announced decreases to CMIs for all three homes, noting the funding would equate to a loss of 4.53 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff for all three homes as well as a reduction in care per resident per day of 1.36 minutes at Grey Gables, 6.08 minutes for Lee Manor and 5.48 minutes for Rockwood Terrace. She noted that this is contrary to an earlier announcement by the Ministry of Long-Term Care who noted its intention to increase care hours to four hours per resident per day.

Ms. Cornell noted that the funding announcement will result in a loss of \$8,606 for Grey Gables for the remainder of 2021 and \$20,350 annually, Lee Manor loss of \$80,074 for the remainder for 2021 and \$191,025 annually and Rockwood Terrace will lose \$49,934 for the remainder of 2021 and \$116,738 annually. She noted that the data being used for the CMI funding allocation is out of date and therefore the funding is not reflective of the current needs.

CAO Wingrove noted that the previous messaging from the Ministry regarding the provision of additional supports and funding to long-term care homes is contrary to the funding being allocated.

CM25-21 Moved by: Councillor Clumpus Seconded by: Warden Hicks

That report LTCR-CM-18-21 regarding Case Mix Index Funding Reductions be received; and

That the Chair and Members of the Committee of Management, Long Term Care write a letter to the Minister of Long Term Care, the Honourable Rod Phillips, outlining concerns with the Case Mix Index funding calculations to the Nursing and Personal Care envelope, and calling on him to reverse his Ministry's decision to cut annual operating funding to Grey Gables in Markdale, Lee Manor in Owen Sound, and Rockwood Terrace in Durham.

Carried

Other Business

There was no other business.

Next Meeting Dates

July 27, 2021

On motion by Councillors Burley and Clumpus the meeting adjourned at 10:48 AM.