

Social Services Committee

March 12, 2014 – 10:00 AM

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

Present: Chair Dwight Burley; Councillors Terry McKay, Paul McQueen, Kathi Maskell, Francis Richardson, Deborah Haswell, Ellen Anderson and John Bell; and Warden Brian Milne;

Staff

Present: Rod Wyatt, Director of Housing; Lynne Johnson, Director of Long-Term Care; Barb Fedy, Director of Social Services; Mary Lou Spicer, Deputy Director of Finance; Lisa Campbell, Community Relations Worker; Jennifer Cornell, Long-Term Care Administrator; Karen Kraus, Long-Term Care Administrator and Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chair Burley called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Social Services Committee minutes dated February 12, 2014

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by Grey County Council as presented on March 4, 2014.

Reports – Finance

*FR-SS-14-14 Additional 2013 Capital Projects to be Completed in 2014
and Funded from the Housing Reserve*

Mary Lou Spicer addressed the above report, requesting authorization to fund two projects from reserves as they were not completed in 2013. The projects included a roof at 248 Queen Street South in Durham and video surveillance installation at 250 12th Avenue in Hanover. The funds were transferred to reserve at the end of 2013 and require a resolution to be funded from the Housing Reserve.

SSC23-14 Moved by: Councillor Richardson Seconded by: Councillor McQueen

WHEREAS the 2013 Housing capital budget included funds for the replacement of the roof at 248 Queen Street South, Durham and installation of video surveillance at 250 12th Avenue, Hanover;

AND WHEREAS due to unexpected delays these projects were awarded but not completed in 2013 and FR-SS-02-14 recommended that surplus funds at year-end be transferred to the Housing Reserve;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report FR-SS-14-14 be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the two projects carried forward require funding from the Housing Reserve for roof replacement totaling \$45,500 and video surveillance totaling \$5,400.

Carried

Reports - Housing

HDR-SS-06-14 Community Relations Report – Bruce Power Grant

Lisa Campbell addressed the Committee on the above report regarding the use of grant money received from Bruce Power. The purpose of the grant was to encourage healthy lifestyles, and the County used the money primarily to facilitate a series of cooking sessions for residents attending the Alpha Family Resource Centre. Other recent events and projects included the development of a community garden and pedometer challenge.

Staff anticipate the County will reapply for the Bruce Power grant in the spring.

Councillor Haswell then entered the meeting.

Staff spoke to the need for additional space for programming and are looking at different options, including leasing, building and renovating current space.

SSC24-14 Moved by: Warden Milne Seconded by: Councillor Maskell

THAT Report HDR-SS-06-14 regarding the funding received from the Bruce Power Community Investment & Sponsorship Program be received for information.

Carried

Reports – Long-Term Care

LTCR-SS-05-14 Long-Term Care Task Force

Lynne Johnson presented the above report regarding an update on the future of long-term care in Grey County.

County Council endorsed a recommendation of the Long-Term Care Task Force that staff meet with the South West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to express a need to increase the bed capacity at Rockwood Terrace. Staff have met with the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) and LHIN, however any decision to increase capacity requires the approval of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Requests for meetings have been sent to the Ministry and staff are awaiting a response.

Staff are recommending that direction be given to apply for funding as it becomes available to reduce the risk of missing out on an opportunity due to short time frames for application submission. If funding is approved, the matter would come forward to Committee for discussion prior to committing to acceptance of any funding for redevelopment.

SSC25-14 Moved by: Councillor Bell Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

WHEREAS a Task Force was established to review the advantages and disadvantages of long-term care service delivery options available to the County in fulfilling its obligation and determine its desired level of ongoing investment to provide the service;

AND WHEREAS several options have been reviewed;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report LTCR-SS-05-14 be received;

AND THAT staff be directed to apply for Capital Renewal Funding for the redevelopment of Rockwood Terrace if funding is released;

AND THAT staff continue to pursue a meeting with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to discuss potential strategies to best meet the needs of seniors within the County.

Carried

LTCR-SS-06-14 Funding – Case Mix Index, Resident Satisfaction Survey

Lynne Johnson presented the above report. Mrs. Johnson described the process used to determine the allocation of funding for long-term care homes and identified the unbudgeted funding the homes will be receiving related to the change in the case mix index.

Mrs. Johnson further informed the Committee of the results of the resident quality of life survey. It was noted that 171 residents participated in the survey. Staff ensured the surveys were completed in a fair and unbiased manner. Mrs. Johnson noted the results of the survey.

SSC26-14 Moved by: Councillor Anderson Seconded by: Councillor McKay

THAT Report LTCR-SS-06-14 regarding Funding-Case Mix Index and the Resident Satisfaction Survey be received for information.

Carried

LTCR-SS-07-14 Quality Improvement Plans

Lynne Johnson addressed the above report. Quality Improvement is a requirement of the Ministry and the purpose of the report is to share the information with the Committee.

Lynne Johnson reviewed the home specific quality improvement plans and recommended they be submitted in 2014 as a voluntary submission.

SSC27-14 Moved by: Councillor Haswell Seconded by: Councillor Maskell

WHEREAS Long Term Care homes are required to develop, post and submit Quality Improvement plans to Health Quality Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report LTCR-SS-07-14 be received;

AND THAT the Quality Improvement Plans outlined in the report be submitted on or before March 31, 2014.

Carried

Reports – Social Services

SSR-SS-04-14 Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Special Project Funding

Barb Fedy addressed the above report, noting that the Grey County Housing and Homelessness Plan was launched, effective January 1, 2014 and has a number of recommendations to improve affordable housing for Grey County residents.

Staff petitioned community partners to see what additional supports are needed to address issues of housing and homelessness in the region. Seven providers will be supported across the County with remaining funding received through one-time funding in 2013.

Staff anticipate that an oversight committee will be struck which will require councillor membership. The matter will be coming forth in the future for consideration.

SSC28-14 Moved by: Councillor Bell Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report SSR-SS-04-14 regarding the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Special Project Funding allocation be received for information.

Carried

The Committee recessed briefly then reconvened.

Deputations

Melissa Wood, Altus Group & Asif Ihsan, Hayat Engineering – Building Condition Audit, Energy Audit and Reserve Fund Study

Melissa Wood of Altus Group and Asif Ihsan of Hayat Engineering attended the meeting to address the Committee on the Building Condition Assessment, Reserve Fund Study and Emissions Study for Grey County Housing buildings. Ms. Wood provided the purpose of the project, which is to update information from the most recent audit in 2007 and further include an energy audit. The findings will aid in determining the life expectancy of the buildings and the financial resources needed over the next 30 years.

Ms. Wood noted that Grey County housing buildings are in fair to good condition and can perform for the next thirty years assuming preventative maintenance is performed. Further, no significant issues are present, however it is recommended that grandfathered building code items be addressed such as electrical, accessibility items and improved handrails.

Additional actions recommended include updates to the fire safety plan, annual inspections of electrical equipment and bi-annual infrared thermography scanning, elevator assessments, and the completion of an asbestos survey which is currently underway.

Ms. Wood then detailed the total expenditures for all properties and highlighted the trends over the next 30 years in terms of funding required for the various components such as interiors, services, equipment and furniture, among others.

A brief comparison outlining the results of Altus Group's study and the previous consultant was noted.

Ms. Wood then outlined various options for the design of the reserve fund and recommended an increase to contribution levels to achieve sufficient funds for future expenditures.

Mr. Ishan provided an overview of the energy analysis and recommendations to achieve energy efficiency. It was noted that the properties do not meet current energy efficiency industry standards.

Correspondence

Town of Arnprior Resolution – Support Electricity Rates

The Committee discussed hydro rates and the recent billing issues being experienced by Ontario residents.

SSC29-14 Moved by: Councillor Bell Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

THAT the correspondence from the Town of Arnprior requesting support for Resolution 059-14 regarding electricity rates be received for information.

Carried

Niagara Region Resolution – Long Term Energy Plan

SSC30-14 Moved by: Councillor Haswell Seconded by: Warden Milne

THAT the correspondence from Niagara Region regarding increasing hydro costs be received for information.

Carried

Homeless Shelter For Sale – Article in the Sun Times

SSC31-14 Moved by: Councillor McKay Seconded by: Councillor Maskell

THAT the correspondence received regarding the article in the Owen Sound Sun Times on the Victorious Living Centre be received for information.

Carried

Other Business

There was none.

Next Meeting Dates

Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Richardson, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 AM.

Dwight Burley, Chair