

Social Services Committee September 29, 2016 – 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 Scott Mackey, Stewart Halliday, Selwyn Hicks, Barb Clumpus, Ian Boddy, Anna-Marie Fosbrooke, Gail Ardiel and John Bell; and Warden Alan Barfoot

Staff

Present: Anne Marie Shaw, Director of Housing; Lynne Johnson, Director of Long-Term Care; Barb Fedy, Director of Social Services; Kevin Wepler, Director of Finance; Mary Lou Spicer, Deputy Director of Finance; Sandra Manser, Accounting Supervisor, and Kathie Nunno, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

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

Adoption of the Agenda

SSC68-16 Moved by: Councillor Hicks Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

THAT the Social Services Committee agenda dated September 29, 2016 be adopted as amended by adding an update regarding Long-Term Care redevelopment.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Minutes of Meetings

Social Services Committee minutes dated September 14, 2016

The minutes were reviewed.

SSC69-16 Moved by: Councillor Ardiel

Seconded by: Councillor Bell

THAT the minutes of the Social Services Committee meeting dated September 14, 2016 be approved as presented.

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Provincial legislation and Hydro One's strategy regarding hydro costs was discussed.

SSC70-16 Moved by: Councillor Ardiel

Seconded by: Councillor Boddy

WHEREAS there is inequity between the cost of hydro for rural residents as compared to urban residents due to higher distribution charges;

AND WHEREAS this practice targets and negatively affects rural residents, especially those who are already unable to pay for the high cost of hydro;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Grey request the Province to re-evaluate the structure of hydro in terms of access and delivery and implement structural changes to address the unfair practice of charging more for delivery for rural residents;

AND THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in the Province of Ontario as well as Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Carried

Reports – Social Services

SSR-SS-08-16 Draft 2017 Social Services Budget Overview

Barb Fedy addressed the Committee on the above report, outlining the proposed budget for the Social Services Department.

The Social Services Department budget as proposed reflects a .49% decrease to the corporate tax levy from the 2016 budget.

The possibility of collaborating and tendering for funeral costs was mentioned. Previously, staff explored this topic with Bruce County. Staff determined that the Consumer Price Index increases have assisted with keeping Grey County's funeral costs slightly above the average for Ontario municipalities.

An opportunity for Grey County to collaborate with SMART to share transportation scheduling software was noted.

Another opportunity for collaboration may result from early discussions with the Bluewater District School Board to include capacity for Ontario Early Years programming in the plans for the new school slated to be built in Hanover. As mandated by the Province, school boards are not required to collaborate with municipal government.

SSC71-16 Moved by: Councillor Ardiel Seconded by: Councillor Bell

THAT Report SSR-SS-08-16 regarding the Draft 2017 Social Services Budget be received;

AND THAT consideration of the 2017 Social Services Budget be deferred pending the consideration of the Draft Corporate Budget Overview.

Carried

Committee briefly recessed and then reconvened.

Reports - Housing

HDR-SS-16-16 Draft 2017 Housing Budget Overview

Warden Barfoot then left the meeting.

Anne Marie Shaw presented the draft housing budget for 2017. Staff addressed questions and comments from the Committee surrounding utilities, life expectancy of the various housing buildings, and future plans for housing in Grey County.

The proposed Housing budget requires a 0.55% increase over the 2016 corporate net levy requirement.

Councillor Ardiel then left the meeting.

SSC72-16 Moved by: Councillor Clumpus Seconded by: Councillor Boddy

THAT report HDR-SS-16-16 regarding the Draft 2017 Housing Budget be received:

AND THAT consideration of the 2017 Housing Budget be deferred pending consideration of the Draft Corporate Budget Overview.

Carried

Correspondence

Municipality of Grey Highlands – Long Term Care Strategy

SSC73-16 Moved by: Councillor Bell

Seconded by: Councillor Boddy

THAT the correspondence from the Municipality of Grey Highlands regarding a Long-Term Care strategy be received;

AND THAT the resolution provided by the Municipality of Grey Highlands be deferred until the staff report regarding long-term care in Grey County is presented for consideration as many questions concerning the redevelopment will be addressed within the report.

Carried

Other Business

Fall Symposium – Collaborative Leadership for Collective Impact

Barb Fedy noted that registration is now open for the Grey Bruce Healthy Communities 2016 Fall Symposium, called “Collaborative Leadership for Collective Impact”. The event will take place on Friday, October 21, 2016 at the Harmony Centre in Owen Sound.

Long-Term Care Redevelopment Update

Lynne Johnson provided the Committee with a verbal update on the redevelopment. There will be an update to the Southwest Local Health Integration Network’s presentation on the County website as numbers have changed slightly based on geographic boundaries.

Next Meeting Dates

Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Clumpus, the meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM.

Dwight Burley, Chair