

Social Services Committee

May 13, 2015 – 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 and John Bell; and Warden Kevin Eccles

Regrets: Councillor Gail Ardiel

Staff

Present: Sharon Vokes, Acting Chief Administrative Officer; Anne-Marie Shaw, Director of Housing; Barb Fedy, Director of Social Services; Kevin Wepler, Director of Finance; Kathryn MacMurdo, Children's Services Manager and Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

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

Adoption of the Agenda

SSC52-15 Moved by: Warden Eccles Seconded by: Councillor Bell

THAT the Social Services Committee agenda dated May 13, 2015 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were none.

Minutes of Meetings

Social Services Committee Closed Meeting minutes dated April 15, 2015

SSC53-15 Moved by: Councillor Hicks Seconded by: Councillor Bell

THAT the Social Services Committee closed meeting minutes dated April 15, 2015 be adopted as provided to the Committee.

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Social Services Committee minutes dated April 15, 2015

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by Grey County Council on May 5, 2015.

Reports – Housing

HDR-SS-08-15 Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative

Investment Plan Year 2015-2016

Anne Marie Shaw presented the above report, noting that in order to receive this year's allocation, a Council approved investment plan is required.

Ms. Shaw provided information on the initiative. Staff are looking for endorsement of the Plan which shows how the funding will be used.

Staff addressed questions from the Committee regarding emergency shelter stays, proposed changes to the funding model, involvement at the lower tiers, the number of domiciliary hostels and beds, and the need for the hostels throughout the County.

SSC54-15 Moved by: Councillor Boddy Seconded by: Warden Eccles

WHEREAS the County of Grey has entered into an agreement with The Province to administer the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI);

AND WHEREAS the County of Grey received an allocation of funding in the amount of \$1,673,100 for April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report HDR-SS-07-15 be received;

AND THAT Council approves the Investment Plan (IP) for the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative as outlined in Report HDR-SS-08-15 and required in the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Agreement;

AND THAT the allocation for 2015-2016 CHPI funding in the amount of \$1,673,100 be approved to be expensed by March 31, 2016.

Carried

HDR-SS-09-15 Mandatory Tenant Insurance

Anne Marie Shaw presented the above noted report, recommending the implementation of mandatory tenant insurance for the County's housing tenants. Tenant insurance assists with temporary accommodations if tenants are displaced and recouping personal belongings. Tenants are currently advised that the County prefers if insurance is in place, however they are not required to have it.

It was noted that the costs of this insurance are reasonable. There are also plans to provide education to tenants on the matter. Eviction or refusal would not occur if tenants did not have insurance, however the County would not pay for damages or replacement of belongings.

Tenants who are on the Ontario Disability Support Program or Ontario Works would have insurance coverage. Many seniors have it already.

Staff spoke to other ways that personal belongings can be recouped if lost in a fire.

Concern was expressed regarding ability to pay.

Staff noted that approximately 66% of tenants have insurance at present time. The need to educate tenants was stated. Discussion occurred on the County self-insuring for housing tenants.

SSC55-15 Moved by: Councillor Bell

Seconded by: Councillor Clumpus

WHEREAS Grey County Housing is committed to the safety of its tenants and staff and the protection of its assets and property;

AND WHEREAS mandatory tenant insurance will provide tenants with a tool to help recover financially from an insurable event;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT report HDR-SS-09-15 be received;

AND THAT policy MS-HOU-006 Mandatory Tenant Insurance be approved;

AND THAT all new leases signed as of July 1, 2015 include a clause stating that mandatory tenant insurance is a requirement of tenancy and must be maintained during tenancy.

Carried

Reports – Social Services

SSR-SS-08-15 New General Operating Grant Funding Formula for Child Care

Kathryn MacMurdo addressed the Committee on the above report. It was noted that in 2013, a directive was received from the Province to have the wage subsidy and wage implementation programs combined into a general operating funding program.

Ms. MacMurdo explained the program, as well as the mitigation funding previously received due to changes in the funding formula.

Barb Fedy noted that the changing demographics within Grey County coupled with the implementation of all-day kindergarten has led to a decrease in the need for child care.

Kevin Weppeler noted that the new funding allocations are open and transparent.

Staff addressed questions from the Committee regarding the proposed model.

SSC56-15 Moved by: Councillor Fosbrooke Seconded by: Councillor Clumpus

WHEREAS Grey County is the Consolidated Municipal Services Manager for child care services and is responsible for managing the child care system in Grey County;

AND WHEREAS the December 2013 Ontario Child Care Service Management and Funding Guidelines outlined the process that Consolidated Municipal Services Managers must follow in developing their General Operating Grant funding formula;

AND WHEREAS Grey County Social Services staff has recommended a funding formula to address the unique rural needs of Grey County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT SSR-SS-08-15 recommending a New General Operating Grant Funding Formula for Child Care Operators be received;

AND THAT Option 2 contained in the report for the recommended General Operating Funding Formula be approved effective January 1, 2016;

AND FURTHER THAT the Provincial Mitigation Funding Reserve be utilized for 2016, 2017, and 2018 to ensure child care operators do not receive less than the 2014 funding allocation.

Carried

Correspondence

Receive for Information

SSC57-15 Moved by: Councillor Fosbrooke Seconded by: Councillor Mackey

THAT the following correspondence be received for information:

- **Ministry of Community and Social Services – Final Report on Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) from Price Waterhouse Coopers**

Carried

SSC58-15 Moved by: Councillor Bell Seconded by: Councillor Hicks

THAT the correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy be received;

AND THAT staff be directed to prepare a report to Committee regarding updates to the Long – Term Affordable Housing Strategy.

Carried

Other Business

Barb Fedy introduced the County's new Ontario Works Manager, Andrea Brendel.

Next Meeting Dates

Social Services Committee
May 13, 2015

Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Warden Eccles, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Dwight Burley, Chair