



## Minutes

### Municipality of West Grey Special Committee of the Whole (2018 Preliminary Budget) Meeting

Held on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

At the Council Chambers – West Grey Municipal Office

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| <u>Council</u> | Mayor Kevin Eccles, Deputy Mayor John A. Bell, Councillor Bev Cutting, Councillor Rebecca Hergert, Councillor Doug Hutchinson, Councillor Carol Lawrence, Councillor Rob Thompson |
| <u>Staff</u>   | Mark Turner, Clerk; Kerri Mighton, Director of Finance/Treasurer  |

#### **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

Councillor Hergert declared a pecuniary interest relating to the sale of a building sold by the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority that was being considered for purchase by West Grey for potential use as the Elmwood Public Library building, as Councillor Hergert and her husband purchased said building. Councillor Hergert did not participate in any discussions regarding same.

#### **Items of Business:**

##### **1. Director of Finance/Treasurer Report FTR #09/18/17**

###### 1. 2018 Administration Buildings

Council – projected increase of 1.3%, including \$45,000 for Council Election Expenses.

Administration – 11.3% increase or 2.71% without utilizing \$100,000 Stabilization Reserve Transfer. Cost of living increase has been estimated at 1.4% for budgetary purposes, and will be updated when October 2017 cost of living increase is known. The West Grey Economic Development Committee's 2018 budget may include budgeting for an Economic Development/Communications Officer. The Committee of the Whole requested an upgrade to the Council Chambers sound system to facilitate video presentations during Council or Committee of the Whole meetings be included for consideration in the 2018 budget. The Director of Finance/Treasurer also noted that there may a 2018 budget item for a new powerpoint projector.

The Committee of the Whole requested the Director to verify the interest payment allocation for the former RONA property sold by West Grey.

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The Director requested the Committee of the Whole to consider either an elevator/lift or chair lift for the Administration Office. The Government of Canada has an Enabling Accessibility Grant that may be available towards funding this project, if supported. (The Committee of the Whole requested the Director to get quotes on the cost for a chair lift and elevator for accessibility purposes, and bring back for budget consideration.)

The Committee of the Whole requested staff to check if the generator at the Administration Office has bi-weekly testing, or provides automatic print-outs to attest to its working condition. The Committee of the Whole requested staff to verify with the Director of Infrastructure and Public Works if there is a generator at the Durham Well #2 property.

Fire Other – The Committee of the Whole directed the Fire Chief and Councillor Cutting to request from Hanover that weighted assessment be utilized in the proposed new Hanover Fire Agreement.

Lamlash, Glenelg Halls – The Director was requested to contact the Lamlash & Glenelg Hall Committees about possible maintenance or materials looking to be purchased in 2018.

Library – Other – no 2018 budget to date from the West Grey Public Library Board. The building owned by the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority that was to be investigated by West Grey for possible use as a library building for Elmwood was sold privately. The Committee of the Whole discussed options for the Elmwood Public Library, and it was noted that the West Grey Public Library Board is also considering options that will be discussed at their next meeting this Wednesday.

Former Durham Public Library Building – The Committee of the Whole discussed possible options for the former Durham Public Library property, including selling the property, considering leasing the building in the short term, or possible use as a community hub. The Committee of the Whole will conduct a site visit of the former Durham Public Library Board during the September 25, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 9:00 a.m., and then attend the Council Chambers for the remainder of the meeting.

The Committee of the Whole temporarily adjourned for lunch at 12:10 p.m., and reconvened at 1:07 p.m.

Airport & Transit – no 2018 budgets from Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit (SMART) or the Saugeen Municipal Airport (SMA) to date.

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Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) – no SVCA 2018 budget to date. A joint submission by West Grey and the SVCA for National Disaster Mitigation Funding will be considered for 2018, as the funding application was too in-depth to complete by the deadline in 2017.

Building Department – no 2018 budget to date.

Grants to Organizations – The \$25,000 grant amount for the Canada 150 Grant was eliminated as it was solely for 2017. The miscellaneous grant amount was reduced to \$2,250. The St. John's Ambulance and Fringe Film Festival grant amounts were eliminated for 2018. Check status of Grey County Farm Safety Association. – resolution #COW 46-17.

**Bell-Lawrence, Resolved that, the Committee of the Whole hereby recommends Council approves a \$5,000 donation to the Saugeen Children's Safety Village at the Sulphur Springs Conservation Area from the 2017 Budget. ... #COW 46-17 Carried.**

Reserves and Reserves Funds – total estimated general reserves including the Saugeen Municipal Airport share is \$6,405,733.99, as of December, 2017.

Gas Tax Funding (GTF) Program Information – is the only permanent, stable and predictable source of funding for municipal infrastructure. The estimated Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) allocation of the Federal Gas Tax Fund for West Grey in 2018 is approximately \$391,000.00.

2018 Volunteer Appreciation Day - The Committee of the Whole requested \$5,000 be allocated for a 2018 Volunteer Appreciation Night. – resolution #COW 47-17

**Lawrence-Cutting, Resolved that, the Committee of the Whole hereby recommends Council transfer into general reserve the \$2,500 budgeted in 2017 for the Volunteer Appreciation Day. ... #COW 47-17 Carried.**

**Adjournment**

**Cutting, Resolved that, we do now adjourn at 3:42 p.m. Carried.**

**(Signed)**  
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Kevin Eccles, Mayor

**(Signed)**  
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Mark Turner, Clerk