

**THE THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Council Chamber  
Tom Davies Square**

**Wednesday, September 30, 2009  
Commencement: 5:32 p.m.**

Chair

**COUNCILLOR TED CALLAGHAN, IN THE CHAIR**

Present

Councillors Cimino; Barbeau; Berthiaume; Dupuis; Rivest; Thompson; Craig (A5:44pm); Caldarelli; Landry-Altmann; Mayor Rodriguez

City Officials

D. Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer; R. Falcioni, Acting General Manager of Infrastructure Services; C. Matheson, General Manager of Community Development; G. Mazza, Acting General Manager of Growth & Development/Planning Director; J. Nicholls, Acting Chief of Emergency Services; M. Leduc, Fire Chief; C. Hallsworth, Executive Director, Administrative Services; L. Hayes, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer; D. Dumontelle, Manager of Financial Support and Budgeting; L. Larose, Senior Budget Analyst; E. Bennett, Manager of Communications & French Language Services; B. Bigger, Auditor General; B. McDougall, Community Development Co-ordinator; A. Haché, City Clerk; L. Bottrell, Audio-Visual Operator; F. Bortolussi, Council Secretary

News Media

CBC Radio; CBC Radio-Canada; CBC TV; EastLink News; MCTV; Northern Life; Sudbury Star

Declarations of  
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

Welcome and Opening  
Remarks

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and advised that the purpose of the session was to receive input from the public regarding the 2010 budget.

**PRESENTATION/DELEGATION**

2010 City of Greater  
Sudbury Budget

Councillor Ted Callaghan, Chair of the Finance Committee, and Lorella Hayes, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, made an electronic presentation entitled *Community Consultation Session*.

The Chair advised that the purpose of the session was to provide an overview of the 2009 Budget and the challenges facing the 2010 budget and to obtain public input regarding the 2010 Budget. He stated that Council provided staff with the following direction for the 2010 Budget: no capital levy for 2010, limit budget enhancement option with focus on health and safety issues and develop budget reduction options/strategies.

## **PRESENTATION/DELEGATION (continued)**

The Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer stated that, in 2009, the total expenditures of the City were \$502 M, revenues from sources other than taxes were \$317 M and the tax levy was \$185 M. She listed the sources of revenue including grants, user fees, tax levy and miscellaneous recoveries; and expenditures funded by the levy. She explained the 2010 budgetary pressures including salaries and benefits, increase in grant to the Northern Ontario School of Architecture, aging infrastructure and legislated and regulated expenditures. She also explained the opportunities with assessment growth, federal and provincial gas taxes and decreased fuel and natural gas commodity prices. She presented the tentative budget session beginning with community consultation to final approval by Council.

The Chair concluded by stating that the public's comments would be noted. He stated that those on the speakers' list would speak first. He advised that ideas or comments could be submitted through the 2010 Budget Comment sheets. He also encouraged residents to complete the survey conducted by Oracle Poll.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

A speakers' list was available and submissions were heard in the order that they appeared.

### **Clean Air Sudbury**

Graeme Spiers, Co-chair, Clean Air Sudbury, made an electronic presentation regarding Clean Air Sudbury. He listed the members of the Committee. He advised of the Air Quality Trends Reports which include trends in local air quality and how Sudbury compares to other Ontario cities being one of the best in Ontario. He also advised of the benefits to the community stating that accurate reporting and communication is transforming the image of Sudbury. He stated that the education program Schoolyard Air Monitoring Project was nominated for the 2009 Trillium Foundation Great Grant Award for Best Environment Report. He advised of the Air Quality Resource Guide and the Fuel Efficient Driving Program and the benefit of the program. He advised that the partnership with EarthCare Sudbury helped develop the Local Action Plan for Air Quality towards achieving community air quality goals and objectives. He stated that the City has contributed \$35,000 from 2004 to 2007 to help leverage \$420,000 since 2004. He advised their funding request is \$10,000 per year for 2010 to 2012 which would have a leverage potential of \$40,000 to \$60,000 per year.

### **Flour Mill Community Action Network**

Letter dated September 9, 2009 from Philippe Lapalme, representative for the Flour Mill Community Action Network, was distributed to Committee Members at the meeting.

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Flour Mill Community Action Network**

Pictures of Junction Creek were circulated among Committee Members during the presentation.

Philippe Lapalme addressed the Committee as the City moves forward with planning for flooding prevention in Junction Creek and its pond ecosystem area. He stated that the most problematic issue continues to be the erosion of the creek at Perreault, St-George and Wilma Streets. He stated that a possible solution includes the dredging of Junction Creek to re-establish drainage from local storm drains. He further stated that, if preventative measures to reduce the uncontrolled runoff are not constructed in advance of urban development, the resultant increased flooding causes greater erosion to the stream channels. He outlined their five requests:

1. Dredging the creek to its proper level;
2. A study group to analyze the factors influencing the rapid rise of water on Junction Creek;
3. An education program;
4. Restoration of the watershed ponds in the Ponderosa between New Sudbury and the Flour Mill in order to mitigate flooding in the Flour Mill area;
5. Implementation and enforcement of a no dumping by-law.

### **Junction Creek Stewardship Committee**

Mercedes Quinlan, a volunteer with the Junction Creek Stewardship Committee, made an electronic presentation. She stated that from 2006 to 2008 the City of Greater Sudbury and Vale Inco each supported the Committee with an average of \$20,000 per year which allowed the hiring of a full-time coordinator for those three years. During those three years, the coordinator was able to secure a further \$322,000 for the purchase of trees, supplies and equipment. She listed the organizations that provided project specific funding stating it is difficult to obtain funding for salaries. She advised the core programs are restoration, education and awareness, and public involvement. She presented some highlights from the past including the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in the spring, production of the film *the Junction Creek Clearwater Revival*, and two fish community projects. She stated that their work has been recognized, locally, nationally and internationally. She indicated their future projects include maintaining their core programs and research program, broadening awareness programs and planning for the future with a public input at their fall forum. She stated they are requesting \$25,000 for the next four years.

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Rainbow ROUTES Association**

2010 City Budget Request dated September 30, 2009 from Rainbow ROUTES Association was distributed to Committee Members at the meeting.

Debbie McIntosh, Executive Director, Rainbow Routes Association, stated that, in July of this year, a report called "The Next Cities: Top Canadian Hotspots for Young, Talented Workers" was released measuring the attraction of cities to young professionals. Greater Sudbury ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 27 Canadian cities. The City's lowest score came in the "around town" index which includes public transit coverage, percentage of people who walk or bike to work, the price of gas, commute times and the existence of bike paths etc. She advised that residents want to see the City's communities connected via safe non-motorized routes. She stated that this year Rainbow Routes Association connected Copper Cliff to the Old City and hopes to see the connection between Laurentian University and downtown Sudbury by the end of the year. She listed the connections which are needed including Capreol and Hanmer, Coniston and Minnow Lake, Azilda and Chelmsford, and Garson and New Sudbury which they would like completed within the next five years. She stated that one-third of the City's population do not drive motorized vehicles. She indicated that the Heart and Stroke Foundation recommends that 7% of all new infrastructure spending be dedicated to non-motorized transport. She advised of their requests for 2010:

1. Setting a percentage allocation of all new infrastructure spending toward making Greater Sudbury the most pedestrian friendly city in Ontario.
2. Grant project funding of \$65,000 to leverage other funds toward 2010 projects to be undertaken including \$20,000 in seed money to work with community groups to build their neighbourhood connectors.

She stated Rainbow ROUTES consistently and strongly works on all 4 pillars of the city's healthy community strategy: economic health, social health, environmental health and active living/healthy lifestyle.

### **Sudbury Action Centre for Youth**

Mardi Taylor, Executive Director, Sudbury Action Centre for Youth (SACY), made an electronic presentation entitled *Let Our Umbrella Shelter You*. She stated their mission is to offer a safe, nonjudgmental place to access support and services for those in need. She listed their Youth Programs including Housing Support, Youth Drop In, Peer Mentor and SACY Awareness Group. She stated the City has provided funding for the Youth

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Sudbury Action Centre for Youth (continued)**

Program Co-ordinator, the Housing Support Worker and the Evening Youth Drop In Program. She advised Housing Support Services helps find emergency shelter and affordable housing with 859 youth accessing this service from January to August 2009. She also advised that there have been 2,754 visits to the Youth Drop In Centre. She stated they are working to partner and listed their 2009 projects and community partnerships including the Ste. Anne Community Garden, St. Albert's Learning Centre and Beech Street Community Kitchen. She indicated the Evening Drop In Program currently receives \$20,000 from the City and costs over \$70,000 per year to operate. She stated their request is an additional \$15,000 for 2010 to be used towards the operating costs of the Youth Drop In Centre.

### **Sudbury Food Connections Network**

Alice Haasdyk and Tamara Gagnon, Members of the Sudbury Food Connections Network, made an electronic presentation entitled *A Community Garden Stimulus Package*.

Alice Haasdyk advised of community gardening in Sudbury. She stated that the Sudbury Food Connections Network has a vision of Sudbury communities with zero hunger, healthy food choices, local food resources and sustainable. She advised that the City's contribution of soil, compost and technical assistance, over the last fifteen years, has been pivotal for community gardening in the north. They are asking for support for the numerous community groups who are involved in or would like to start a community garden by establishing a capital grant in the amount of \$5,000 to be renewed on a yearly basis. She advised that community gardens encapsulate all of the pillars of a Healthy Community: natural environment; civic engagement/social capital; economic growth; and active living/healthy lifestyle. She indicated that the most recent community garden project was Sudbury's first public access community garden (this past June) – the Ste. Anne Community Garden in downtown Sudbury. A video interview with Madeline Clement, a community gardener, was shown. Ms. Haasdyk listed the sponsors of the Ste. Anne Community Garden and advised of other community gardens in Greater Sudbury. She stated that the first step is to ensure access to capital for building and maintaining gardens for which they request the establishment of a community garden fund. They are planning to develop a community gardening network both locally and across the north that would improve communication and idea sharing between community gardens. She stated they recognize there is great potential for economic development and job creation and are exploring community greenhouses as a way to extend the benefits of community gardening throughout the year.

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Sudbury Food Connections Network (continued)**

Tamara Gagnon showed before and after pictures of the 1920 Paris Street Community Garden which was started over thirty years ago and of the Spirit Garden at Better Beginnings Better Futures in the Flour Mill. She also showed before and after pictures of the Balmoral Community which was established in 2002. She advised their request for the establishment of a fund in the amount of \$5,000 to be renewed on a yearly basis for capital expenditures will go a long way to enhance the health and quality of life of Sudburians, contribute to the development of a sustainable food system and move toward community and economic development.

### **Sudbury Regional Soccer Association**

Mike Fragomele, Vice-President, Sudbury Regional Soccer Association (SRSA), and President, Sudbury Indoor Soccer Centre. He advised the SRSA has received \$25,000 from the City and is asking for an additional \$15,000. He stated the SRSA has been responsible for property management and day-to-day operations of the indoor soccer facility at 967 Falconbridge Road. The SRSA is the only association running its own facility for team sports. He advised that, over the past several years, their rent has increased by approximately 25%. In order to meet the challenges of increased costs, they have increased their hourly rental rates and are marketing to non-soccer organizations. He advised that, despite their efforts, they face a yearly operating deficit of approximately \$15,000. He stated that their soccer turf will have to be replaced in five years at a cost of over \$160,000. They also require upgrading to some of the safety equipment at the facility. He indicated that, although they created a reserve fund for the eventual replacement of the turf, they had to use the fund to off-set their yearly deficits. He asked the Committee to consider their request for an increase in the operational funding.

### **Coalition for Liveable Sudbury**

Lilly Noble, Coalition for a Liveable Sudbury (CLS), stated they are a grassroots network of citizen groups and individuals who share a vision of Greater Sudbury as a green, healthy and engaged community working towards environmental, social and economic sustainability in the City. She advised of their three low cost recommendations:

1. Accessible Planning Notices – Their members find it difficult to become aware of developments and therefore miss the opportunity to comment. They would like to see signage at a proposed development site in clear language and, for development which will have a larger impact i.e. new subdivisions or hilltop or shoreline developments, they suggest the newspaper notice be in clear language and include a clear address and map. On the City's website, they

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Coalition for Liveable Sudbury (continued)**

would like the complete application in clear language including maps.

2. Bike infrastructure as a priority – She indicated they recommend that bike infrastructure become a priority. The City should make a commitment to include bike paths on all major arteries during roadwork. She suggested the Bicycle Advisory Panel or the Sustainable Mobility Group from the Healthy Community Cabinet be given sufficient resources to complete a master plan for bike paths to be included in the Official Plan's Transportation Network Schedule.
3. Public transit information at all major bus stops – She stated they also recommend bus schedules and maps be posted at all major bus stops to make bussing more usable.

She advised that the CLS has been working on building partnerships and continue to do research, advocacy and education on sustainability in Greater Sudbury. She stated they partnered with Myths and Mirrors at Victory Park in the Donovan. They are requesting \$3,000 for a laptop computer, software and printing costs to manage their website.

Councillor Caldarelli advised she would provide the funding from the Ward C.I.P. fund.

### **The Salvation Army**

Major David Carey, Executive Director of Sheltering Services, The Salvation Army, advised that through consultation with numerous partners they began to develop a plan three years ago to address the City's overwhelming need for emergency and transitional housing. However, due to factors including the present economic reality, the plans for the facility have been postponed for two to three years. He stated that, for this reason, they are refocusing their attention on creating sustainability and ensuring the adequacy and functionality of the present location. Their building on Larch Street is in need of serious repair including the replacement of the roof, installation of an adequate electric heating system as well as numerous cosmetic repairs. He indicated they are committed to bringing the building up to standard, are willing to make a significant investment and are requesting the City partner with them in this venture. He advised the estimated cost for the repairs to the roof is \$100,000 and they anticipate an additional \$200,000 will be required to bring the building up to a comfortable and safe standard. He indicated they are requesting a one-time contribution of \$125,000 for repairs.

Major Carey advised that this request is above and beyond their annual request for operational top ups which will be submitted in writing.

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Rick Decosse**

Rick Decosse, representing Homeless People, stated he is an activist in the City in housing. He advised he noticed a form last week called *Confirmation of Urgency Status*. He stated that Sudbury Housing advised one has to be in a shelter to receive the form and feels this is not true as the by-law states there are a few different levels of homelessness; one being absolute homelessness. He indicated that the confirmation form is not included in the application form for urgent status and that no organization in the City knows of its existence. He stated that shelters would not be needed if this form was made available as he has been advised there are presently 72 housing units available. He further stated that homeless people do not want to stay in shelters. He indicated he has been homeless for six months and found the confirmation document because he was refused urgent status.

### **Aime Dimatteo**

Aime Dimatteo indicated he is representing the residents of Lincoln Road which is the oldest street in New Sudbury and would speak on two issues – storm sewers and flooding. He indicated 20 to 25 years ago the City installed storm sewers but has yet to finish the project by filling in the ditches notwithstanding their annual requests. He stated Lincoln Road is the only street in the City that has ditches as well as storm sewers and asked that it be considered a priority as the storm sewers are already there. He advised that the forty residents of Lincoln Road are prepared to provide financial consideration to fill the ditches – a small levy on their annual taxes for a number of years.

With respect to flooding, some pictures of the flooding problems in the area were shown, and Mr. Dimatteo indicated they are subject to annual flooding. He stated there are two reasons for the flooding. One is the Lincoln Road is parallel to Barrydowne Road and the houses on Barrydowne Road are built higher than Lincoln Road. Secondly, he advised that there used to be a ditch at the back of their properties on both sides of the street which took the water out of their yards. He stated the City allowed construction of homes at the ends of the street preventing the ditch from taking water away from the properties. He asked that Council look into this matter and advise the residents how they can ameliorate the situation.

### **Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce**

André Dumais, First Vice-Chair, Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce, stated that the old formula of reducing services, raising taxes and borrowing from capital reserves is not a solution in this time of global economic and financial crisis. The City must seek out efficiencies and savings in order to avoid

## **PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

### **Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce**

incurring debt. He feels that failure to do so would reduce the City's ability to act in areas that are crucial to long-term competitiveness. Council must present a viable budget balancing investment with legacy and lay the foundation for sustainable, long-term economic growth. He suggested eliminating overlapping regulations and minimizing tax administration and licensing costs for business start-ups. The budget must promote entrepreneurship, saving and investment, stimulate technological progress and boost productivity among City staff. He advised of the need for economic diversification. The capacity to encourage and foster economic development is crucial. He suggested one approach to advance economic diversification may be to develop an inventory listing of available Brownfield land. He concluded by stating that the Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce requests that Council focus on creating sustainable opportunities for employment growth in the City.

### **Debbie Grillanda**

Debbie Grillanda, Region 5 Director, Northern Ontario Curling Association, advised she is representing the seven area curling clubs. She indicated they offer recreation to all members of the community, with no age or gender bias, to help people stay active and healthy as well as socially active. She stated that curling clubs help the City realize its mandate for a healthy community by providing physical activity and is provided at no cost to the City. She further stated that curling clubs bring revenue to the City when hosting bonspiels and other events. She stated that curling clubs are in financial trouble and will be closing if they have no help. She advised that Section 361(4) of the *Municipal Act* gives Council the authority to rebate taxes to non-profit organizations. She also referred to a Town of Blind River By-law which provides for rebates. She concluded by stating that Council must realize the benefit of curling clubs to the community.

## **REPORT REQUESTED**

### **Ditches & Storm Sewers**

The Committee agreed to Councillor Barbeau's request for a report setting out what other areas in the City are in the same situation as Lincoln Road (having both storm sewers and ditches), clarification why when storm sewers are in place flooding issues continued and what the policy is for maintaining ditches.

**PUBLIC INPUT (continued)**

**Curling Clubs**

The Committee agreed to Mayor Rodriguez's request for a report on how the City taxes curling clubs. Councillor Cimino requested the report include information on how the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation assesses curling clubs and what they compare these facilities to when determining the market value.

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The following submissions were distributed to Committee Members at the meeting:

Online comments dated September 24, 2009 from Celine Rochon regarding Road Safety.

Two letters dated September 29, 2009 from Downtown Sudbury regarding Downtown Sudbury Streetscape Project.

Online comments dated September 29, 2009 from Brian Ramakko regarding Tax Increases.

Email dated September 29, 2009 from south End Community Action Network regarding their Five Priority Budget Proposals.

Two letters dated September 29, 2009 from Downtown Village Development Corporation regarding Downtown Sudbury Streetscape Project.

Online comments dated September 30, 2009 from Debi Richer regarding Tax Increase.

Online comments dated September 30, 2009 from Jeff Perry regarding Pond Hockey Festival on the Rock.

Request for Funding received September 30, 2009 from L'association des jeunes de la rue regarding Foyer Notre Dame House.

**Adjournment**

2009-10 Berthiaume-Barbeau: THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 8:25 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Councillor Ted Callaghan, Chair

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Angie Haché, City Clerk