

A special meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Middleton Town Council was held at the Town Hall on Monday, May 25, 2015, starting at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Chairing the meeting, Mayor Calvin Eddy; Deputy Mayor Dan Smith; Councillors Gail Smith, John Himmelman, Marc Britney and Melinda den Haan; Chief Administrative Officer, Rachel Turner; and Recording Secretary, Sharon McAuley.

Regrets: Councillor Darren Boates and Director of Finance, Marianne Daine.

Also in attendance were Director of Public Works, John Pearson, and Director of Recreation and Community Services, Jennifer Coolen.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

CAO Turner presented the Committee with an overview of the changes made to the first draft of the 2015-16 General Operating Budget and Visitor Information Centre Budget (VIC) including:

- a. Reduction in Expenses of \$21,730 due to:
  - increase in RCMP shared office funding of \$6,770;
  - decrease in Grants to Organization of \$16,000;
  - decrease in GIS expenses of \$3,500;
  - decrease in storm sewer materials of \$3,000;
  - decrease in traffic signs of \$2,000;
  - decrease in VIC of \$4,000 (surplus from last year brought forward).
- b. Increase in Revenue of \$128,163 due to:
  - increase in recreation program revenue of \$10,000;
  - increase in deed transfer tax of \$5,000;
  - utilization of 50% of 2014-15 surplus of \$81,410;
  - three (3) cent tax increase for \$31,753.

CAO Turner informed Committee that, with the changes, there still remains a shortfall of \$30,613. Options to balance the budget include:

- reducing/adjusting service levels and/or programming;
- re-evaluating grant requests;
- utilizing additional funds from reserves;
- increasing tax rate;
- combination of two or more of the above options.

After much discussion, the Committee directed staff to:

- increase the tax rate two (2) cents;
- decrease Grants to Organizations by:
  - deleting funding to the Old Holy Trinity Church;
  - decreasing funding to Valley Community Learning to the same amount as last year;
  - decreasing funding to the Middleton Fire Department to cover the anniversary events, excluding the banquet.
- balance the budget by utilizing 2014-15 surplus.

Staff will revise the budget and bring the revised draft budget back to Council.

The Committee agreed that at the next Annapolis Partnership Steering Committee (APSC), Council will request that staff from the Town of Middleton and Annapolis County be directed to start discussions on options for equitable funding of recreation, as approximately 60-70% of participants utilizing the Town's recreation programs and facilities are County residents.

### **3. OTHER**

Committee agreed to utilize golf carts for transportation in the Heart of the Valley Festival parade.

Mayor Eddy reminded Committee members of the following meetings/events:

- Special Police Advisory Board Meeting on May 27 at 6:30 p.m.;
- Greg Kerr Roast on June 13.

### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

**150525.01: It was moved and seconded that the Committee adjourn at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried.**

  
MAYOR

  
RECORDING SECRETARY