



Town of Borden-Carleton
Minutes of Special Council Meeting
Thursday, March 26 2024
240 Main St, Borden-Carleton, PE
Royal Canadian Legion
7:00pm

PRESENT: Mayor Randy Ahearn, Deputy Mayor Larry Allen, Councillor Laurel Palmer-Thompson, Councillor Barb Wood, Councillor Nicole Arsenault, Councillor Eric Stewart and Councillor Ashley Steele.

REGRETS:

STAFF PRESENT: CAO, Jim Wentzell, Accounting & Finance Officer, Henry Le,

ALSO PRESENT: 9 members of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Mayor Randy Ahearn called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to consider Town, Gateway Arena, and the Utilities Operating and Capital Budgets for 2024/25 and to set the 2024/25 Municipal Tax Rates.

Mayor Randy Ahearn asked the Town's CAO, Jim Wentzell, to present the draft budgets and supporting information through a Power Point presentation and tangible copies of the budget documents.

2. PRESENTATION DRAFT BUDGETS FOR 2024/25:

BACKGROUND:

The Town's Assessment has increased 6.5% for 2024 that would generate \$44,988 in additional tax revenue at the current tax rates. However, expenditures have also increased for such items as: Electricity, Insurance, Salaries, Loan Interest, snow Removal and Utility rates that total \$57,063 higher than the past year.

The CAO presented the Operating Budget for the Town, Gateway Arena and both the Sewer and Water Utilities. He also circulated the proposed Capital Budget for 2024/25.

The draft budgets proposed the same tax rates for 2024/25 as were set for 2023/24 for both the Commercial and Non-Commercial tax rates. However, the budgets do reflect increase in Sewer & Water Rates for 2023/24 (25%) as well as an increase in Recreation fees over the next three years.

The CAO answered various questions from the public and Council during the budget presentation.

Documents circulated to those present at the Meeting included:

- Detailed Draft Operating Budget by Department for 2024/25 including the Gateway Arena and Utilities
- Budget revenues and expenses of the General Operating Fund for the fiscal year
- Notes on various Revenue and Expenditure items contained in the 2024/25 operating budgets
- Draft Capital Budget for all Departments for 2024/25
- 5 Year Capital Budgets for all Departments for 2024/25 to 2028/29
- Recommended Salary Scales for staff for 2024/25
- Recommended Recreation User Fees Rates for 2024/25-2026/27

The present budget is projecting an operating deficit of 71,039 for 2023/24. However, removing the depreciation expense of \$150,000 the town would have an operating surplus of 78,961.

The Town's budget meets the requirements of the MGA by not incurring a deficit in the operating budget. It also should be noted that municipalities do not fund depreciation with the tax rates.

4. MOTIONS:

4.1 Approval of the 5-year Capital Budget for 2024/25 – 2028/29 Capital Budgets for the Town and the Gateway Arena and Utilities

Moved by Councillor Eric Stewart, seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Allen

THAT Town Council approve the Five-Year Capital Budget for the Town of Borden-Carleton including the Arena and Utilities for 2024/25 to 2028/29 in the amount of \$3,594,700

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-09)

4.2 Approval of the 2024/25 Operating Budgets for the Town and Gateway Arena

Moved by Councillor Barb Wood, seconded by Councillor Nicole Arsenault

THAT Town Council approve the Town of Borden-Carleton 2024/25 Operating budget for the Town and Gateway Arena in the amount of \$1,156,913 including the budget for Amortization for 2024/25 in the amount of 150,000.

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-10)

4.3 Approval of the 2024/25 Operating Budget for the Sewer Utility

Moved by Councillor Laurel Palmer-Tompson, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Allen

THAT Town Council approve the Town of Borden-Carleton 2024/25 Operating budget for the Sewer Utility in the amount of \$242,367 including the budget for amortization for 2024/25 in the amount of 68,000.

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-11)

4.4 Approval of the 2024-25 Operating Budget for the Water Utility

Moved by Councillor Nicole Arsenault, seconded by Councillor Barb Wood

THAT Town Council approve the Town of Borden-Carleton 2023/24 Operating budget for the Water Utility in the amount of \$205,000 and the budget for amortization for 2023/24 in the amount of 60,000.

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-12)

4.5 Approval of the Wage Scales for 2024/25

Moved by Councillor Eric Stewart and seconded by Deputy Mayor Larry Allen

THAT Town Council approve the wage scales for full-time, part-time, seasonal and summer staff for 2024/25 as per spreadsheet circulated by the CAO. `

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-13)

4.6 Approval of the Recreation User Fees for 2024/25 to 2026/27

Moved by Councillor Laurel Palmer-Thompson, seconded by Councillor Nicole Arsenault

THAT Town Council approve the Recreation User Fees for 2024/25 to 2026/27 as per spreadsheet circulated by the CAO. `

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-14)

4.7 Set the 2024/25 Municipal Tax Rates for the Town of Borden-Carleton

Moved by Deputy Mayor Larry Allen, seconded by Councillor Barb Wood

WHEREAS Section 160(1) of the Municipal Government Act R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. M-12.1 requires the town to establish tax rates by resolution;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Town Council set the 2024/25 municipal property tax rates for the Town of Borden-Carleton at 57 cents per \$100 of assessment for Non-Commercial properties and \$1.40 per \$100 of assessment for Commercial properties be hereby adopted and approved.

MOTION CARRIED (6-0) (RR#26-03-15)

It was noted that there was no increase in the tax rates for 2024/25

The Levy as a result of these Tax Rates is estimated to be as follows:

Comm Assessment	Non Comm Assessment	Comm Levy	Non- Comm Levy	Total Levy
24,097,554	44,708,988	319,435.79	237,916.22	557,352.01

6. ADJOURNMENT:

At the end of the meeting Mayor Randy Ahearn thanked the residents present for their participation in the meeting and for asking various questions throughout the evening.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Mayor Randy Ahearn

CAO Jim Wentzell