

# GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

## REPORT

Held Thursday, January 14, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.  
Classroom, Town Hall

---

<b>PRESENT:</b>	R. Anderson	Councillor/Chair
	S. Bray	Councillor/Co-Chair
	N. Bifulchi	Deputy Mayor
	B. Smith	Councillor
	B. Stockwell	Councillor
	R. Ego	Councillor
	B.F. Smith	Mayor
	G. Vadeboncoeur	CAO
	T. Nicholson	Clerk
	P. Archdekin	Deputy Clerk
	M. Quinlan	Treasurer
	J. Legget	EDCCO
	A. Webster	Special Events Coordinator
P. Lehr	Events	

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### 2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Bray declared a Pecuniary Interest with respect to cheque number 017274, Façade Improvement grant for 2014 for her business.

### 3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

#### a) Pauline Jones & Lawrence Johnston – request for relief on the tax account of Leonard Spring

Councillor Anderson welcomed Ms. Jones, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Spring to the table. Ms. Jones stated that she and her brother appreciated the time to discuss this matter. Leonard Spring is their nephew and they are requesting the Town forego interest and tax sales fees for 667 River Road West. Ms. Jones advised that Leonard's dad passed away when he was twenty two and his mother three years later. He has been on his own since then and there should have been a Trustee set up for Leonard at that time; however, it was not done. Leonard does not understand the severity of the situation nor does he understand the amount of interest added to the account.

Leonard has worked at odd jobs all his life, shoveling snow, cutting grass and janitorial work. They are trying to get Leonard on a pension administered by a Trustee. They are also considering other options in the family such as a “Family Help Leonard Fund” to pay his back taxes. Ms. Jones thanked Committee for their time and consideration of this situation.

Councillor Anderson thanked Ms. Jones and Mr. Johnston for coming forward. He then requested Committee’s approval to move the item forward on the Agenda. Committee agreed and it was then;

MOVED BY S. BRAY  
SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-01

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommends to Council that it grant interest relief in the amount of \$3,938.56 due to extenuating circumstances for Mr. L. Spring owner of 677 River Road West; and,

FURTHER THAT the General Government Committee recommends to Council that it authorize the Treasurer to enter into an extension agreement for the full payment of taxes.

CARRIED

Ms. Jones expressed how grateful they were and appreciated the help of Council.

Councillor Anderson advised that a request has been received for a second deputation from Mr. Seniuk with respect to a Summer Farmer’s Market. Councillor Anderson requested Committee to permit the deputation. Committee was in agreement and Mr. Seniuk was welcomed to the table.

Mr. Seniuk circulated a hand out and advised that along with his wife Helen Smith, they own Kowabunga. They attend Farmers Markets and wondered why Wasaga Beach didn’t have one and then talked to the Farmers Market Association and Health Board on what it takes to start one. He has a steering committee of five people in place and their philosophy is that of a true Farmers Market offering own grown/raised produce. His preferred sight is Third Street as he has the Kowabunga business there. He noted there won’t be anyone selling other items such as belts etc. There are 169 markets registered in Ontario. They have blanket insurance on each vendor for \$5M. He is considering a charge of \$650.00 for the season. The vendors’ seasonal rate will be about \$18.00 per stall. The website is in place; [www.wasagabeach.farmersmarket.ca](http://www.wasagabeach.farmersmarket.ca); e-mail in place and telephone number to be released. He has met vendors that he will contact to determine interest and register with the health authority. He felt the most suitable lot was Third Street and the parking lot beside Big Chris’s could also be considered. He asked the Town to assist by providing parking for vendors and visitors; assist with pop up tents and tables; washrooms; clean up at each closing; the Farmers Market registration for the market is \$125.00 and possibly insurance for the vendors.

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi advised that the Town has attempted a Farmers Market and the Town was compensated for lost parking revenue. If the Town is paying to help someone get started, every request has to be fair. She wondered if there was a more fair way to do this.

Ms. Legget advised that when the waterslide was in the Third Street Parking Lot behind Kowabunga a calculated amount of parking revenue was provided to rent that space. In this situation it will depend on the number of vendors and she understood that the funding goes into a holding account and the organizers pay back the Town. The risk is in not knowing how any vendors there will be and the spaces required.

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi noted that the Town is being asked for staff to help set up, take down and clean up. That is an expense to the tax payers and events have to be considered. The Farmers Market is fantastic, but there is a cost.

Mayor Smith inquired of the time frame. Mr. Seniuk advised he is looking from May 16<sup>th</sup> to October 10<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Councillor Ego noted that Farmers Markets have pop up tents and questioned if the vendors will supply them. Mr. Seniuk advised some places provide and some do not but he would take them if available. With respect to the washroom, two portable toilets are in the lot and would be required elsewhere.

Councillor Bray advised that in the past she attended a vendors market as a participant in Collingwood and suggested that a shorter time of 8 a.m.-12 p.m. would be better. At that time they provided tents and screwed them down due to the wind for safety. She couldn't comment on tables. Mr. Seniuk stated that he has not done this before and is working through what it entails. It was noted that the Town did not provide the tents or tables for the market.

Mayor Smith clarified that registration for Farmers Market of Ontario of \$125.00 is an annual fee and he is asking for the Town to pay that.

Mayor Smith further noted that he is asking for clean-up help at closing. Ms. Seniuk advised that he and/or one of the committee will be in attendance at the beginning to set up properly but at the end there will be debris to be cleaned up.

Mayor Smith noted that the Third Street Parking lot location is prime location in the summer and giving him that lot may be difficult. Glenwood and Main is something to consider and more advantageous on a windy day. Mr. Seniuk said he would consider that lot.

Councillor Smith suggested shorter hours and considering visibility, the lot at the corner of Glenwood and Main has easier access for residents than the beach front.

Councillor Bray inquired if there were any plans for a Town market attached to Jazz in the Park. Ms. Legget responded that the market was tried at the RecPlex for many years and it didn't work out. There was no consideration for a Town market.

Ms. Legget noted that as this is the first time we have heard the presentation it is important to get a complete understanding of costs and determine location. The Town parking lot at the corner of Glenwood and Main may be more preferable and she will bring a report back in February as to what the costs will be once Mr. Seniuk provides in writing all of his requests. There is a consideration for portable toilets also. Council needs exact costs to make an informed decision.

Councillor Anderson felt timing is a concern for him with staff.

Councillor Smith noted that at the original Farmer's Market there was a request for hydro and also should be considered. Ms. Legget noted the purpose of the deputation is to get a sense if Committee would like it researched further.

Mayor Smith noted he is in favour of further exploration as this is a great opportunity if done right and well.

Councillor Anderson read the motion and requested an amendment which Committee gave consensus. It was then;

MOVED BY S. BRAY

SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTUON NO. 2015-01-02

RESOLVED THAT the motion pertaining to the establishment of a Farmer's Market be amended by adding the following to the end of the first paragraph, "report back to Committee at its next meeting in February", and delete the second paragraph.

CARRIED

The Committee then voted on the motion, as amended.

MOVED BY S. BRAY

SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-03

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee direct staff to explore options of a Farmers Market to be held on Saturday mornings during the 2015 summer season in the Beach Area One and Two vicinity and report back to the Committee at its next meeting in February.

CARRIED

Mr. Seniuk thanked Committee for the time and for listening, noting he will be contacting vendors for interest and availability.

Councillor Stockwell left the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Sign By-Law (reviewed) – March 12, 2009
- b) 102 Fernbrook Drive Encroachments – Aug. 28, 2014; October 16, 2014
- c) Community Health Centre – Development Charges; October 16, 2014

**5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Economic Development and Communications**

**a) Monthly Report – December 2014**

MOVED BY S. BRAY

SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-04

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby receive the December 2014 Economic Development and Corporate Communication Officer's Report, for information.

CARRIED

**b) Economic Development & Communications Accounts – December 2014 – no comments**

**Special Event**

**a) Monthly Report – December 2014**

MOVED BY B. SMITH

SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-05

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby receive the December 2014 Special Events Report, for information.

CARRIED

Snowman Mania buttons will be available on Friday for purchase. Ms. Lehr spoke to the number of locations for sales being reduced and the reasons.

**b) 2015 Summer Market**

Dealt with earlier on the Agenda.

**b) Special Events Accounts – December 2014 – no comments**

**Administration****a) Treasurer – Tax Relief – 677 River Road West – L. Spring**

Dealt with earlier on the Agenda.

**b) Treasurer - South Georgian Bay Community Health Centre – Request for Relief of Fees**

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi advised that she has been part of the Community Health Centre meetings and felt that the Centre is important and will benefit the community greatly.

Mayor Smith would like to have CHC show Council what they are asking us to grant at the end rather than upfront.

The Treasurer advised that through the County a charitable organization can apply via an application submitted to the Town and will automatically receive a 40% reduction in fees.

The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care provides a one-time capital grant of \$6,107,900.00 for the new building, which includes funds for development charges and related fees. The Community Health Centre has requested relief of Development Charges and Building and Planning fees of approximately \$78,000. Council's Grants to Organizations budget is capped at \$55,000. The Treasurer has asked the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing for clarification on whether the Community Health Centre falls under the *Public Hospital's Act* and awaits a response. There is a section under the *Development Charges Act* to not impose development charges if the organization is defined as a hospital under the *Public Hospitals Act*.

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi noted a number of local medical service groups who will go into that building already receive a grant and the Town may not have to give the same in the future.

Councillor Ego spoke to another municipality who provides a grant because of a walk in clinic.

Mayor Smith advised that he has some experience in dealing with Community Health Centres and the annual budget is quite healthy and it is not struggling. He would like to review the whole picture and organization that will be using this building. He also inquired if the CHC is prepared to host a walk in clinic. It was noted that this CHC had struggled to keep doctors on staff. Mayor Smith suggested a meeting be arranged.

As there are many unanswered questions, the Chair suggested that it be deferred.

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi noted that from the information already provided in the layout, a walk in clinic was not provided for and would the layout provide room for a walk in clinic.

It was noted that a decision can be deferred to have discussions with the Community Health Centre. The CAO suggested a priority may be a walk in clinic and this is an opportunity to pursue that option.

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi noted consideration of grant should not be based on if the CHC will provide a walk in clinic.

Councillor Smith stated that at one time when the Doctors were in the Redick Building the Town did support a summer walk in clinic.

Committee was in support and voted to defer the matter; it was then;

MOVED BY N. BIFOLCHI  
SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-06

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it support a request to the County of Simcoe for relief from property taxes under County of Simcoe By-Law 6014, where organizations that are defined as charitable under section 248(1) of the Income Tax Act are entitled to a 40% reduction of property taxes, which equates to a \$6,000 annual savings based on estimated taxes of \$15,000/year; and,

FURTHER THAT General Government Committee recommends to Council that it **not** grant relief for the total estimated fees (\$167,489) for the South Georgian Bay Community Health Centre; and,

FURTHER THAT if the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing establishes that the Community Health Centre falls under the definition of a Public Hospital in the *Public Hospitals Act* that the Town waive the Development Charges as allowed for under S. 2 s (4) of the *Development Charges Act*.

DEFERRED

**c) Treasurer - Insurance Renewal**

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
SECONDED BY S. BRAY

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-07

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it authorize staff to accept the proposed renewal premium from Jardine Lloyd & Thompson Inc. with an updated deductible of \$25,000 and issue an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the provision of General Insurance and Risk Management Services for the 2016 renewal.

CARRIED

**d) CAO – Town Office Closure Christmas 2015**

A brief discussion was held with the proposed Christmas closure. It was noted that it is the Administration Building only that closes; By-Law is on call, Public Works and the Recreation Office are open. The residents are accustomed to the Administration office being closed and can use the mail drop box. It was noted that very few phone messages were left. Staff has to save vacations days, use banked overtime or take the leave as non-paid days so planning can start in January each year. It was then;

MOVED BY S. BRAY

SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-08

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it approve the closure of the Municipal Office commencing at noon on December 24<sup>th</sup> for two and a half (2.5) days during the 2015 Christmas and New Year's holiday period, reopening on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with staff required to take two and a half (2.5) vacation days, 20 hours of banked time or two and a half (2.5) days of un-paid leave during this period.

CARRIED

**e) Council and Administration Accounts – December 2014**

MOVED BY N. BIFOLCHI

SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01-09

RESOLVED THAT the December 2014 Accounts as reviewed by General Government Committee, are hereby confirmed.

CARRIED

**6. OTHER AGENCY REPORTS - None**

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 11, 2015**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Councillor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.