

# GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

## REPORT

Held Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.  
Classroom, Town Hall

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<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	
	P. Archdekin	Deputy Clerk	
	M. Quinlan	Treasurer	
	A. McNeill	Director of Economic Development & Tourism	
	A. Webster	Special Events Coordinator	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	T. Nicholson	Clerk	
	J. Legget	EDCCO	

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

### 2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

### 3. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

- a) Mr. Bruce Miller - Request for an extension a Development Charge Credit for 1788 River Road West that was granted to December 31, 2015

Councillor Anderson welcomed Mr. Miller to the table.

Mr. Miller thanked members for the opportunity to speak to Committee. Mr. Miller advised that he has owned property in Wasaga Beach for 59 years. He spoke to the background of his request dating back to 2009. Mr. Miller further noted that he had requested to be a deputation at the November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 General Government Committee, however due to inclement weather could not attend that day and through conversation with Mr. Vadeboncoeur it was agreed that Mr. Vadeboncoeur would suggest a one year extension. Mr. Miller then advised he had contracted out some work in 2014; however, that contractor did not begin until June of 2015 and the work is not done. He advised he is looking to build a simple cottage and requested a two year extension on the Development Charge Credit.

Deputy Mayor Bifulchi inquired if there were any other precedent setting situations. The Treasurer advised that the past Council did grant an extension that set a precedent. The mover and seconder to the motion agreed to amend the motion to approve a two year extension and it was then;

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
SECONDED BY S. BRAY

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-01

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it approve a two year extension to Mr. Bruce Miller's Development Charge Credit for his property at 1788 River Road West.

CARRIED

Mr. Miller thanked Committee and left the table.

#### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Community Health Centre – Development Charges; October 16, 2014
- b) Analysis of lost revenue in municipal parking lots due to Special Events plus cost of staff set up take down time; May 20, 2015
- c) Assessment Review Board Settlements - Two Beach Area 1 properties; June 17, 2015

#### 5. DEPARTMENTAL STAFF REPORTS

##### Economic Development and Communications

- a) EDCCO- Monthly Report – July 2015

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-02

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby receive the July 2015 Economic Development and Corporate Communication Officer Report, for information.

CARRIED

##### Special Events

- a) Special Events Monthly Report – August 2015

Councillor Smith suggested that in the future following events, police be engaged for traffic control so everyone can be directed in one direction and in particular after the Fire Works so people can get out. Mrs. Webster made note of the request.

Councillor Bray inquired of the Pangea Music Festival was still scheduled to which Mrs. Webster advised it was. It was then;

MOVED BY N. BIFOLCHI  
 SECONDED BY S. BRAY

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-03

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby receive the August 2015 Special Events Report, for information.

CARRIED

**b) Electric Elements 2016**

Mrs. Webster spoke to the Electric Elements 2016 event. Councillor Stockwell questioned what exactly “approval in principle” means to which Mrs. Webster explained the process when event organizers approach the Town.

Councillor Stockwell stated that he would like to see Council sit with staff on each event to be advised of the financial commitment. Mrs. Webster advised that she is in the process of reviewing the special events process and policy for multi-year approvals and fee schedule. The organizers are well aware this is coming forward to Committee. It was then;

MOVED BY S. BRAY  
 SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-04

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it approve in principle hosting the Electric Elements event on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

CARRIED

**Administration**

**a) Community Schools Alliance – Membership Application Form  
 (Referred from Council)**

Mayor Smith spoke to the membership noting with the recent forming of the High School Task Force the Community Schools Alliance may be of some help to the new Committee. The CAO spoke briefly to the Community Schools Alliance and it was then;

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
 SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-05

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it approve the Town joining the Community Schools Alliance.

CARRIED

**b) Chamber of Commerce – Tourism Services Review**

Committee questioned the Chamber’s obligations under the current contract to which the CAO responded they will complete their 2015 obligations; however there is a bigger picture that will be discussed when the review of the Chamber of Commerce is discussed. It was then;

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
 SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-06

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby receive and refer the correspondence from the Chamber of Commerce with respect to hosting of Special Events to the Recreation Coordinator for review and recommendation to Committee of the Whole as Budget Committee; and,

FURTHER THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend that Council grant an extension to November 15<sup>th</sup> to receive a response from the Chamber on its Tourism services review.

CARRIED

**c) Treasurer – City of Barrie – Court Rental Agreement**

Committee inquired of the history of the Provincial Court Room Rental and the rate and was advised that when the Council Chamber wing was designed City of Barrie Provincial Court Services contributed \$100,000 towards capital costs as they had specific Court needs that had to be incorporated in the design. This is a satellite court office that is similar to ones in neighbouring communities also held in Council Chambers. It is a service provided for those who receive Provincial Offence Notices, usually traffic violation tickets in Wasaga Beach. The Town also receives revenue from tickets issued in Wasaga Beach. Discussion ensued with respect to an out clause in the agreement should the circumstance arise. It was noted it is a ten year agreement and one year notice would be reasonable. It was then;

MOVED BY N. BIFOLCHI  
 SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-07

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it authorize the Treasurer to prepare an agreement with the City of Barrie for use of the Council Chambers as a court facility for the period of five (5) years at a rate of \$178/day plus HST (based on 67days/year); with the option to extend for an additional five (5) years using the rate of inflation to adjust the rate per day.

CARRIED

**d) Treasurer – Development Charges Background Study – Request for Proposal**

Councillor Anderson questioned the need to hire a consultant as the information they use comes from staff. The Treasurer advised that while there is nothing in the Act to indicate the Town has to hire a consultant, it is the legal aspect of Development Charges that they know inside and out, which staff do not. They support us at the Ontario Municipal Board and answer staff's questions on an ongoing basis. Discussion ensued with respect to the law requiring a study every five years; the expected outcome; housing figure starts used, construction costs and increase to development charges. The CAO noted the unit count forecast has to be as accurate as possible and the list of projects related to development such as; water/sewer, roads, rolling stock has to be carefully reviewed. The study is a good exercise to go through and assists in the development of the ten year capital forecast. In Simcoe County there is a wide range of development charges and it is a large component of

the soft cost of a house. The last Council phased in the Development Charge increases and that was well received by the development community. If the Town doesn't collect enough development charges, when it comes time for a project the Town will be in deficit for the project. The ideal situation is to have the money in reserves to pay for the project when it is needed. The two consulting firms that do the majority of study's for municipalities in the province are very knowledgeable and bring a lot of expertise to the table.

The Chief Administrative Officer further advised that at the Public Meeting the development community will either support or critique the study and the consultant will defend the background study, the proposed charges and why the projects are included. The last rates were justified and the consultant assisted in the five year plan that was implemented.

Mayor Smith noted that he understands why we have development charges; however, if the increase hinders development, then the Town is not further ahead. He suggested that Council needs to watch very closely the development charges that are recommended by the study.

Councillor Anderson noted that he has seen the development charges increase more than 100% in other communities and our homes are cheaper compared to neighbouring municipalities. The cost is passed on to the consumer not the tax payer.

Councillor Smith recalled that when the County raised their development charges by an incredible amount, the Town's also increased and the number of building permits declined the following year. It was then;

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
SECONDED BY S. BRAY

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-08

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that the consulting services for the Development Charges Background Study and By-Law be awarded to Hemson Consulting Ltd. in the amount of \$29,979 (inclusive of HST).

CARRIED

**e) Solid Waste Management Landfill Settlement Proposal**

MOVED BY S. BRAY  
SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 20105-08-09

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it authorize the Treasurer to accept the County of Simcoe's Solid Waste Management Landfill Settlement Proposal at a rate of \$897,921; and,

FURTHER THAT the funds be transferred to the Tax Rate Stabilization reserve for future use.

CARRIED

**f) Municipal Grant Requests**

Councillor Smith suggested that the hall rental issue needs to be discussed by Council sooner than later as we are coming into next year's budget and requests will be coming forward again. Rates have to be looked at as a separate item and soon.

Councillor Bray suggested the Town owned properties should be provided to non-profit organizations that are raising funds to come back to the Town.

Mayor Smith indicated there has to be clear and concise rules and regulations. If it is a fund raiser, how much is coming to Wasaga Beach as opposed to another community. There has to be a cleaning fee no matter what. Grants for hall rentals need to be looked at long and hard. We also need to communicate better and set deadlines; if not submitted by deadline it is not considered at all. It was then;

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-10

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it **not** approve a grant in the amount of \$888.94 to offset the hall rental fee for the Georgian Family Circle to hold its' 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Collingwood Hospital Fundraiser due to no funds remaining in the Grants to Organizations' Budget; and,

FURTHER THAT it **not** approve a grant in the amount of \$282.50 to offset the hall rental fee for the Friends of Nancy Island to hold their annual Piping Plover Volunteer Appreciation evening due to no funds remaining in the 2015 Grants to Organizations' Budget.

CARRIED

**g) Treasury Department Efficiency Improvements**

Mayor Smith noted a lot of time and effort has gone into this; however there needs to be discussion with respect to an efficiency audit for all departments done by an outside source. He would like to see this discussed in future by Council.

Councillor Bray noted that running cheques every two weeks rather than once a week would be a cut in service to local businesses.

Councillor Anderson suggested that a lot of time could be saved in the budget review as Council goes through it so many times from September to December and suggests that Council should short cut that process as it is way too long. It was then;

MOVED BY S. BRAY  
SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-11

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee does hereby recommend to Council that it receive the Treasurer's report on the efficiency review of the Treasury Department, for information.

CARRIED

**h) Beachfront Property Update**

Councillor Anderson expressed his disappointment that not all units are rented and it is costing the tax payers money. It was then;

MOVED BY B. SMITH  
SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-12

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee recommend to Council that it receive the Treasurer's update on the Beachfront properties.

CARRIED

**i) Council and Administration Accounts – July 2015**

MOVED BY N. BIFOLCHI  
SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-13

RESOLVED THAT the July 2015 Accounts as reviewed by General Government Committee, are hereby confirmed.

CARRIED

6. **OTHER AGENCY REPORTS** - None
7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – September 9, 2015
8. **CLOSED SESSION**

**a) Personal matters about identifiable individuals; Housing Units**

MOVED BY S. BRAY  
SECONDED BY N. BIFOLCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-14

RESOLVED THAT Pursuant to Section 239 of *The Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended the next portion of the August 12, 2015 General Government Meeting be closed to the public to consider personal matters about identifiable individuals with respect to the Town owned housing units.

CARRIED

The open session resumed at 11:23 a.m.

MOVED BY N. BIFOLCHI  
SECONDED BY B. SMITH

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-08-17

RESOLVED THAT the General Government Committee of August 12, 2015 does hereby confirm the direction given to the Chief Administrative Office, in Closed Session.

CARRIED

The Chair rose and reported there was discussion with respect to engaging an expert in landlord legal issues and to engage the County of Simcoe in a discussion on managing or owning the Town's housing units.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Councillor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.