

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes
MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL INFORMATION MEETING

2016-37
Monday, December 12, 2016
Open Session Commencing at 1:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
City Hall
26 Francis Street, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 5R8

MEMBERS:

Mayor Andy Letham
Councillor Isaac Breadner
Councillor Pat Dunn
Councillor Doug Elmslie
Councillor Gord James
Councillor Gerard Jilesen
Councillor Brian S. Junkin
Councillor Rob Macklem
Councillor Mary Ann Martin
Councillor Gord Miller
Councillor Patrick O'Reilly
Councillor John Pollard
Councillor Kathleen Seymour-Fagan
Councillor Heather Stauble
Councillor Stephen Strangway
Councillor Andrew Veale
Councillor Emmett Yeo

Accessible formats and communication supports are available upon request.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Letham called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Councillors I. Breadner, P. Dunn, D. Elmslie, G. James, G. Jilesen, B. Junkin, M.A. Martin, G. Miller, P. O'Reilly, J. Pollard, K. Seymour-Fagan, H. Stauble, S. Strangway, A. Veale and E. Yeo were in attendance.

CAO R. Taylor, City Clerk J. Currins and various other staff were also in attendance.

Late Arrival: Councillor R. Macklem 4:11 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

CR2016-1216

Moved By Councillor Elmslie

Seconded By Councillor Pollard

RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for the Open Session of the Special Council Information Meeting of Monday, December 12, 2016, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest noted.

4. PUBLIC INFORMATION

4.1 Presentations

Mayor Letham thanked everyone for attending this meeting and outlined the process that would be followed at this meeting. The meeting was organized to allow the public a forum to express their views with respect to the three Core Service Review items. The public members were asked to provide their name on the sign-up sheet if they wished to address Council. Their names would be called out in order.

4.1.1 CC2016-37.4.1.1

Public Comments - Core Service Review - Municipal Trailer Park Options - Bobcaygeon Beach Park

Ms. Janet Wilson spoke on the recommendation to close the Bobcaygeon Beach Trailer Park and advised that she had no concerns with the park remaining open

and was concerned that the land would be used for other than park purposes. If sold it would be a one time financial gain.

Mr. Mark Lowell noted the fees at this park were lower than competitor parks in the area and they could be raised to increase city revenue and he noted that a sale would only increase revenue one time but if rates increased, it would be an annual revenue increase.

Mr. Bill Dan noted he was concerned if the park was sold as it is well run. He had no complaints with respect to the park and he was concerned that the property would be sold to a corporation that would put up buildings to block the view of residents.

Mayor Letham thanked those who had provided comments today and asked that if anyone had written notes that they wished to become part of the meeting file, that they leave them with CAO Taylor.

CR2016-1217

Moved By Councillor Miller

Seconded By Councillor Dunn

RESOLVED THAT the public comments relating to Core Service Review - Municipal Trailer Park Options - Bobcaygeon Beach Park, be received.

CARRIED

4.1.2 CC2016-37.4.1.2

Public Comments - Core Service Review - Community Hall Provision

Ms. Gerarda Schouten noted that she spoke for all communities that are facing the loss of community halls as the loss is not measured in dollars and cents but the sense of community and community fellowship. She noted the heritage factor of many of the halls as Canada marks its 150th birthday. She asked that Council reconsider closing community halls particularly the Coboconk Train Station.

Mr. Paul Zaborowski has been a member of the Coboconk Train Station for over 20 years. He outlined the work that has been accomplished over those years and the partnerships that have been developed. He noted that his biggest complaint with the report was the fact that capital renovations were included and it was not

the intention that the city would pay for that but that it would be a community fundraiser and they would chase private dollars. He requested that the Train Station be kept in the City inventory.

Mr. Alfie Peneycad noted he was the treasurer for the Coboconk Train Station and provided a brief history of the work that has been done on the Station. He was before Council to try and convince to keep the Coboconk Train Station open as this decision is about the people and not just the money.

Mr. Bill Gale is a resident of Baddow and noted that the hall was formerly the school and it has been used by the community as a community gathering place 80-90 time per year as a relatively low cost to the city. He asked that hall remain open.

Mr. Jeff Smith sits on the board of the Janetville Community Hall and while the recommendation is to keep this hall open, he wanted to echo the comments about community that have been said by previous speakers. He noted the volunteer management board looks after the hall at a small cost to the city. The community demographics are changing and the community has more younger families. He stressed the importance of the community hall.

Ms. Jennifer Wilson was representing the Coboconk Chamber of Commerce and noted the need for community halls throughout the municipality as they are an important community hub that makes the fabric of our individual communities. The loss of these halls would have a significant impact for the future on these communities. Communities need gathering places to engage in community events that support each other. She asked for Council to keep these community halls open.

Ms. Dinah Wilson is a resident of northern Kawartha lakes and is one of the volunteers that use the halls for meetings and social events. She supports keeping the community halls open and the comments of previous speakers.

Mr. Glenn Worden noted that he hoped the points raised by Ms. Jennifer Wilson are heard by Council as these facilities are the heart and soul of each community. They have low overall operating costs. He asked for the community halls to remain open.

Mr. Charlie Peel was born here, moved away and then came back to retire to a small community. He said that community members gather at the Baddow Hall

for cards and they may not be able to get to other halls. People come together and pick each other up to attend events. A closure of the community hall would take the heart out of these communities.

Ms. Sydney Barton said that the Baddow Hall averaged 76 events per year with a low annual operating cost. She asked what was to gain by closing this small centre that was perfect for small family functions. Closure of halls would dismantle communities and the people within them. She requested that the Baddow Hall remain open.

Ms. Dianne Hunt is a resident of Rosedale and she read a letter from her neighbor Moira Pell. She asked Council to consider if the dollars saved would be equal to the history lost for the individual rural community. She asked the community halls remain open.

Ms. Mariam Bartley noted that she felt it was a fundamental right for people to meet in their own community and closing the Norland Old School and making people go to the community centre would not be appropriate as they could not walk to the facility.

Mr. Darlene Cornell thanked Council for the opportunity to provide comments on the recommendations. She noted that the Baddow Hall was a gathering place, a place to celebrate and to know your neighbours and by closing the hall, it would take something away that means so much. The closure of the halls that have minimal operating costs will not pay down the debt of the City. She asked that the Baddow Hall remain open.

Ms. Kathy Helleman and Mr. Afe Helleman noted the Baddow Hall has history and provided a summary to Council. The Baddow Hall is enshrined in the community and it is a part of the culture of the community. He asked that we all sit down and talk about it. He asked that the Baddow Hall remain open.

Ms. Nancy Given advised that she had moved to the Baddow area 11 years ago to enjoy the community. The car club uses the Baddow Hall for their meeting place every month. She said that the community spirit is noticeable. She stands against the closing of community halls in the small communities for a minimum of 5 to 10 years to allow discussion.

Mr. Bob Given provided his history of the area and the Baddow School and now Hall. He said that everything at the hall was done by volunteers called the

Management Board. He asked Council to keep the Baddow community hall open.

Mr. Peter Weygang asked Council to consider the will of the people and if they don't represent the people they should resign. Selling community halls will not fill the fiscal hole as it is a short term gain with very long term pain for the communities. He asked for a referendum before closing any facility.

Mr. John Rowden noted that he is a member of the antique car club that uses the Baddow Hall and that people come from far away to be part of this club. He noted the Hall is part of the culture of the area and asked for consideration to keep the hall open.

Mr. Ross Fogwell noted he is from the Norland/Coboconk area and noted that he and his wife are involved with a number of community groups and asked that Community Halls remain open. He recorded his concern that even though the public has spoken, he asked Council to listen and make the right choice.

Ms. Carol Broumley stated she is a member of the Norland Old School Hall and this group is rather unique. They do leather work to keep this craft alive. The building is a viable space that has the essential qualities required to do their work such as an area large enough to space out tables and the lighting. The closure would be detrimental for their group.

Ms. Debbie Walker read a letter from Phil Taylor noting that the Coboconk Train Station was an integral part of the community. This train station has put Coboconk on the map and he would rather pay a little more than lose the facility. She asked that the Train Station remain open.

Mr. Carole May thanked Council for the opportunity to voice opinions today and she spoke about saving the Dalton Community Centre from closure. Her address was intended to provide Council with knowledge for the highest and best use of facilities for our communities. This space is a vibrant and healthy community space that has the support of volunteers and the participation of the community. She asked that Council keep this facility open and support partnerships with community members and its volunteers.

Mr. Mark Lowell noted that he had read the Community Guide published by the City and that only three pages of the book deal with outside of the Town of Lindsay and maybe more support would assist these Community Halls.

Mayor Letham thanked those who had provided comments today and asked that if anyone had written notes that they wished to become part of the meeting file, that they leave them with CAO Taylor.

CR2016-1218

Moved By Councillor Martin

Seconded By Councillor Elmslie

RESOLVED THAT the public comments regarding Core Service Review - Community Hall Provision, be received.

CARRIED

Council recessed at 5:34 p.m. and reconvened at 5:42 p.m.

4.1.3 CC2016-37.4.1.3

Public Comments - Core Service Review - Costing Analysis - Arena Rationalization Strategy

Ms. Christina Grylick stated that Manvers Arena was once highly used and could be again. The potential for groups outside of Kawartha Lakes could be tapped as they cannot get ice time in their municipality. She felt that the concession stand could be improved and was concerned that central booking did not return calls so bookings are lost. She asked that Manvers arena remain open.

Mr. Paul Richardson, representing a number of groups and businesses from Manvers acknowledged that the arena is not at capacity but put forward a proposal for the local group to work with the municipality to make the Manvers arena financially viable and sustainable. He outlined that a working group could be formed to create a plan with input from all parties. He asked that Council give them more time to review opportunities and to develop a plan for sustainability.

Mr. Jason Cliff representing Manvers Minor Hockey requested Council to consider the proposal from the Manvers area group and to keep the arena open as it is a long way for some families to travel to another arena should this one be closed.

Ms. Cara Mitchell and Mr. Brian McCuaig reviewed their proposal previously

submitted for an arena in Omemee. They noted that no one had been in contact with them to discuss their proposal before the final report was submitted. Their proposal meets the criteria set out. They requested that the Emily-Omemee Arena be left open and they questioned why so many services are leaving rural areas. They requested the decision be delayed until all possible options have been investigated for the city to take this opportunity for smaller communities to thrive.

Mr. Jeff Smith spoke in support of Manvers arena and noted that the demographics are changing in the area with many young families moving to the area that will need someplace to play hockey or figure skate. He noted that the extension of Hwy 407 will see a major boost to the south end of the municipality.

Ms. Kathy Morton provided a brief history of the building of the Manvers arena. She noted she understands the issue of balancing budgets while trying to maintain community identity. She stated the community will assist in any way to keep the arena and the rural area cannot be stripped of all of its services.

Mr. David Marsh thanked Council for taking the time to hear from the people about this issue. He asked Council to pause and to ask themselves if the financial gain would be worth the financial damage to communities. He acknowledged that people were not asking that the facilities be kept open with nothing changing but were willing to work with the municipality to make this facility better for the City.

Ms. Mariam Bartley spoke about the Norland ice surface and if there would be ice this year or if one of the new ice surfaces could be put in Norland as there is considerable revenue from the lake areas. She asked how these decisions were being communicated to allow seasonal people an opportunity to know what decisions were being made.

Mr. Ken Mitchelmore noted that the life cycle analysis contained outdated assumptions and he noted several areas within the costing that should be reviewed. He felt that the costing left several high dollar items out such as site cleanup, etc. He stated that Council has the mandate to make difficult decisions but Council does not have the mandate to change the makeup of our communities. He asked that the decision on this issue be postponed until after the next election.

Mr. Mark Lowell remarked that the arenas in local communities is not just about

the operation of the arena, that the local businesses feel the impact when there is a tournament in the arena. He noted that money spent on upgrading arenas, is money well spent for the communities and that they may be easy to close but very difficult to reopen and that future generations deserve to have these facilities.

Ms. Kia Tsalavoutas asked Council to listen what everyone has been saying about the history, heritage and community and what we stand to lose if these facilities are closed. She asked that Council consider keeping the Manvers arena open and to not divide the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Mr. Art Field noted he had sent to all members of Council the history of the Little Britain arena and a lot of money has been spent on the facility over the last few years. Closing this arena would impact the local businesses in Little Britain and hurt this community very badly. He felt that the building could be refurbished. He asked that the Little Britain arena remain open.

Mayor Letham thanked those who had provided comments today and asked that if anyone had written notes that they wished to become part of the meeting file, that they leave them with CAO Taylor.

CR2016-1219

Moved By Councillor Pollard

Seconded By Councillor Stauble

RESOLVED THAT the public comments regarding Core Service Review - costing Analysis - Arena, be received.

CARRIED

5. **REPORTS**
6. **CLOSED SESSION**
7. **MATTERS FROM CLOSED SESSION**
8. **CONFIRMING BY-LAW**

CR2016-1220

Moved By Councillor Strangway

Seconded By Councillor Elmslie

RESOLVED THAT a by-law to confirm the proceedings of a Special Council Information Meeting held Monday, December 12, 2016 be read a first, second and third time, passed, numbered, signed and the corporate seal attached.

CARRIED

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

CR2016-1221

Moved By Councillor Dunn

Seconded By Councillor Yeo

RESOLVED THAT the Special Council Information Meeting adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Read and adopted this 10th day of January, 2017.

Andy Letham, Mayor

Judy Currins, City Clerk