

**MINUTES**  
Budget Meeting  
June 1, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

Present:		Absent:
Reeve:	Rodney Wood	
Councillors:	Pat Garside	Dianne Holt
	Robert Jerrard	
	Dave Leask	
Road Superintendent:	Lyn Garside	
Clerk Treasurer:	Valerie Obarymskyj	

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Moved by Pat Garside 2016-72  
 Seconded by Dave Leask  
 Resolved that we do accept the Agenda as presented. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed the 2016 Fire Board budget recommended for acceptance by the Hilton Union Fire Board. The levies for both the Village of Hilton Beach and the Township of Hilton were reduced by more than \$2,000 each over 2015 due to a number of factors: discontinued rental of the old Village office; discontinuation of cell service for the Fire Chief; reduced heating costs given the installation of a propane furnace in the existing firehall. The budget included capital purchases of five sets of bunker gear and improvements to the existing firehall consisting of insulation/windows/siding. The capital costs will be funded by the Fire Reserves and Fire Reserve Funds.

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2016-73  
 Seconded by Pat Garside  
 Resolved that we do approve the Hilton Union Fire Board Budget for 2016 in the amount of \$73,575 which includes municipal levies from the Township of Hilton and the Village of Hilton Beach in the amount of \$26,938 each. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed the 2016 Library Board budget. The levies for both municipalities had been reduced by approximately \$1,200 due to a Transfer from Working Capital Reserves. The transfer was recommended as the Working Capital Reserve balance had increased in 2015 due to the utility savings resulting from the installation of a propane furnace. Utility costs in 2015 had been budgeted at \$6,000 with actual costs being \$3,614. The amount of the HST rebate for 2015 received by the Village on behalf of the Library is still unknown and should be brought forward into the Library's revenue for the 2016 year.

Moved by Dave Leask 2016-74  
 Seconded by Robert Jerrard  
 Resolved that we do approve the Hilton Union Public Library Board Budget for 2016 as presented in the amount of \$27,500 with a Hilton Township municipal levy of \$10,396. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed the 2016 Museum Board budget. Grants to offset the wages for summer students were greatly reduced resulting in an increase to municipal levies. The total municipal levy of \$29,085 included an increase of approximately \$3,000 with the Township of Hilton's share increasing \$700.

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2016-75  
 Seconded by Dave Leask  
 Resolved that we do approve the St. Joseph Island Museum Budget for 2016 as presented in the amount of \$48,750 with Hilton Township's share being \$5,960. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed a report from the Clerk detailing a performance evaluation completed for the Deputy Clerk and the following resolution was passed.

Moved by Pat Garside 2016-76  
 Seconded by Dave Leask  
 Resolved that we do recommend Sherry Hoover move from Level 8 to Level 9 within the Deputy Clerk wage Grid and this change be retroactive to January 1, 2016. \*Carried\*

Moved by Pat Garside 2016-77  
 Seconded by Dave Leask  
 Resolved that we do contribute \$500.00 to St. Joseph Township to help offset the costs associated with the Island-wide youth baseball/soccer programs offered by that municipality. \*Carried\*

Moved by Pat Garside 2016-78  
 Seconded by Robert Jerrard  
 Resolved that we do contribute \$500.00 to the Jocelyn Township Recreation Committee's 2016 fireworks display. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed the Clerk’s report addressing the draft budget for 2016. The budget as presented resulted in an increased levy of approximately \$34,000 over 2015 and a 0.8% increase to the combined municipal and education tax rate. The increase to taxation resulted from a combination of factors: Policing increased \$20,700 from \$46,000 in 2015 to \$66,700 in 2016; Social Services levy increased \$4,000 from \$257,000 in 2015 to \$261,000 in 2016; General Government increased \$8,000 as the result of computer upgrades, legal services, cost-of-living/vacation/salary adjustments. The only road construction will include Hilton Road with a projected cost of \$155,000. This cost will be offset by the 2016 OCIF of \$25,000 and accumulated Federal Gas Tax savings of \$48,500 so only \$80,000 will be funded through taxation. The Clerk recommended that given the Township’s goal of \$100,000 in annual road improvements, and the intention behind federal and provincial government grants that such monies enhance infrastructure improvements, the difference of \$20,000 be transferred to the Municipal Building Reserve Fund. This reserve fund, along with the General Reserve Fund which is composed of proceeds from the sale of shoreroad allowances, will be used to cover the future construction costs of the firehall to be built on the Township’s recently purchased W Line property.

The Clerk advised the method for funding the multi-use W Line property still needed to be confirmed with the auditor. Presently, it has been shown in the 2016 draft budget as a transfer from Working Capital as the Parks Reserve Fund money is tied up in a term deposit maturing August 2017. The portion of the lot to be used for firehall purposes will be funded by Working Capital.

Council reviewed details explaining the effect of the proposed tax rate on residential taxes and noted that total taxes on a \$100,000 assessed property would be \$919.91 in 2016 compared to \$912.40 in 2015. However, given the approximate 4% assessment increase to most residential properties, taxes on the increased assessed value of \$104,000 for 2016 would result in taxes of \$956.71, an increase of \$44.31.

The Clerk advised that if the budget was approved as presented, a by-law detailing the final tax rates for 2016 would be presented at the next regular meeting of Council.

Moved by Dave Leask 2015-79

Seconded by Robert Jerrard

Resolved that we do approve in principle the 2016 Budget as presented in the amount of \$966,648 resulting in a municipal tax levy of \$523,100 including grant-in-lieu payments with formal adoption of the required tax rates to take place at the June 15, 2016 meeting of Council. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed a summary of Algoma area tax rates for 2015 provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Moved by Pat Garside 2016-80

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do pass By-Law No. 1160-16 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting. \*Carried\*

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2016-81

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do adjourn at 10:59 p.m., Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 or at the call of the Reeve. \*Carried\*

Reeve, Rodney Wood

Valerie Obarymskyj, Clerk Treasurer

\*\*\*\*\*