



Town of Aurora
Finance Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 12, 2017

Time and Location: 7 p.m., Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Councillor Michael Thompson (Chair), Councillor Harold Kim, and Mayor Geoffrey Dawe

Member(s) Absent: None

Other Attendees: Dan Elliott, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer, Jason Gaertner, Manager, Financial Planning, and Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Secretary

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Mayor Dawe
Seconded by Councillor Kim

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

3. Receipt of the Minutes

Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2017

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Mayor Dawe

That the Finance Advisory Committee meeting minutes of September 27, 2017, be received for information.

Carried

4. Delegations

None

5. Consideration of Items

1. Walkthrough of the Online 2018 Citizen Budget Survey

Staff provided an online demonstration of the Town's 2018 Citizen Budget Survey at aurora.citizenbudget.com, noting that the primary purposes of the Survey are to educate residents on the Town's services and obtain feedback from residents on their priorities as to where they would like to see public funds focussed. The Committee discussed various aspects of the Survey and acknowledged the challenges of engaging citizens to participate in the Budget process.

Moved by Mayor Dawe

Seconded by Councillor Kim

1. That the Walkthrough of the Online 2018 Citizen Budget Survey be received for information.

Carried

**2. Memorandum from Director of Financial Services/Treasurer
Re: Round Table Discussion: 2018 Operating Budget Pressures**

Staff provided a brief overview of the memorandum and attachments regarding the key 2018 Operating Budget pressures that are addressed within staff's recommended draft budget, resulting in a total tax levy increase of 2.9%, and the list of Council budget decision options over and above staff's recommended draft Budget. The Committee discussed various aspects including Budget presentation options, phase-in of the new provincial labour legislation (Bill 148), departmental key pressures and lost revenue, and a policy/principles-based framework under which third-party funding arrangements would be governed.

**Moved by Councillor Kim
Seconded by Mayor Dawe**

1. That the memorandum regarding Round Table Discussion: 2018 Operating Budget Pressures be received for information; and
2. That the comments and suggestions of the discussion regarding the 2018 Operating Budget Pressures be received and referred to staff for consideration and action as appropriate; and
3. **That the Finance Advisory Committee endorse the practice of using the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund to balance the Budget; and**
4. **That staff provide a report on the development of a policy/principles-based framework under which third-party funding arrangements would be managed.**

Carried as amended

6. New Business

The Committee agreed that the meetings scheduled for October 25, November 22, and December 14, 2017, be cancelled, and that any required meeting would be at the call of the Chair.

7. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Kim

Seconded by Mayor Dawe

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Carried

Committee recommendations are not binding on the Town unless adopted by Council.