



Town of Aurora  
Budget Committee Meeting Report  
2020-22 Operating Budget Review

Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall  
Monday, November 25, 2019

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**Attendance**

**Council Members** Mayor Mrakas in the Chair; Councillors Gallo, Gilliland (departed at 7:44 p.m.), Humfries, Kim, and Thompson

**Members Absent** Councillor Gaertner

**Other Attendees** Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer, Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services, Techa van Leeuwen, Director of Corporate Services, Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director of Finance, Allan Downey, Director of Operations, David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, Stephanie Mackenzie-Smith, Manager of Corporate Communications, Jason Gaertner, Manager of Financial Management Services, Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, Ishita Soneji, Council/Committee Coordinator

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Budget Committee consented to recess the meeting at 8:07 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

Budget Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, including the following addition:

- Item 3 – FS19-046 – 2020 Budget Committee Additional Information

## **2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

Prior to the discussion of Item 1(a) – Central York Fire Services 2020-22 Operating Grant, Councillor Humfryes declared a pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* as a family member is employed by Central York Fire Services.

## **3. Delegations**

None

## **4. Consideration of Items**

### **1. 2020-22 Operating Budget – Business Plans and Presentations**

#### **(a) Central York Fire Services 2020-22 Operating Grant**

Fire Chief Ian Laing presented an overview of the 2020-22 operating grant request for the Central York Fire Services highlighting details of the 2020 wages and benefits, three-year budget forecast, 2020 capital budget breakdown, key pressures, and 2020-22 operating expenses.

#### **Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation by Central York Fire Services be received; and
2. That the request for 2020-22 operating grant to the Central York Fire Services in the amounts of \$11,755,300, \$12,200,100, and \$12,613,600, which includes an annual allocation of \$6,000 for snow clearance for 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

#### **(b) Aurora Historical Society Board 2020-22 Operating Grant**

Mr. John Green, President, Aurora Historical Society (AHS) introduced Ms. Patricia Wallace, AHS Board Secretary, and former mayor Mr. Geoff Dawe, AHS Board Director and extended appreciation to the Town for its

continued support. Mr. Dawe provided a brief overview of the AHS strategic plan noting that the society is working towards redeveloping and improving the plan.

Ms. Wallace presented an overview of the vision, mission, and values of the Aurora Historical Society, including 2019 highlights, program successes, current funding sources, key performance metrics, 2020 partnership goals, and breakdown of the proposed 2020-22 grant request and allocation including projected revenues, expenses, and key pressures.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation from the Aurora Historical Society Board be received; and
2. That the request for 2020-22 operating grant to the Aurora Historical Society Board amounts of \$81,300, \$82,800, and \$80,900 for 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**(c) Aurora Cultural Centre Board 2020-22 Operating Grant**

Budget Committee consented to allow an extension to time for the presentation.

Mr. Eric Acker, President of Board of Directors, introduced Aurora Cultural Centre Board Members present at the meeting, extended appreciation to the Town, and introduced Ms. Suzanne Haines, Executive Director, Aurora Cultural Centre.

Ms. Haines presented an overview of the vision, mission, and values of the Aurora Cultural Centre, 2019 program successes including details on the Kaleidoscope in Schools program, summer outreach and education programs, community events, and the volunteer program. She provided a detailed breakdown of the 2020-22 operating grant request including projected revenues, expenses, grant allocation, and additional 2020-22 operating pressures.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation and the business plan from the Aurora Cultural Centre Board be received; and
2. That the request for the 2020-22 operating grant to the Aurora Cultural Centre Board in the amounts of \$424,000, \$432,500, and \$441,100 for 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**(d) Aurora Sports Hall of Fame 2020-22 Operating Grant**

Mr. David Thom, President, Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, presented an overview of the mission, vision, and values of the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, 2019 Hall of Fame induction celebration, and provided a breakdown of the 2020-22 operating grant request and grant allocation.

**Recommended:**

1. That the presentation from the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame be received; and
2. That the request for the 2020-22 operating grant to the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame in the amounts of \$28,700, \$29,300, and \$29,900 for 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**(e) Operational Services**

Mr. Al Downey, Director of Operational Services, presented an overview of the 2020-22 Operational Services business plan, highlighting the department functions, 2019 successes, challenges, 2020-22 objectives, key pressures, and changes and requests for the 2020-22 departmental budget.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation by Al Downey, Director of Operational Services, be received; and
2. That the 2020-22 Operating Budget for the Operation Services department as presented be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**(f) Water and Sewer Budget**

Mr. Al Downey, Director of Operational Services, presented an overview of the 2020-22 water, wastewater, and stormwater budget highlighting details on the guiding principles, expenses, regional costs, contributions made to reserves to support asset sustainability, and the proposed water, wastewater, and stormwater rates for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation by Al Downey, Director of Operational Services, be received; and
2. That the 2020-22 Operating Budget for the Water and Sewer as presented be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**(g) Planning and Development Services**

Mr. David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, presented an overview of the 2020-22 Planning and Development Services business plan, highlighting the department functions, 2019 successes, challenges, 2020-22 objectives, key pressures, and changes and requests for the 2020-22 departmental budget.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation by David Waters, Director of Planning and Development Services, be received; and
2. That the 2020-22 Operating Budget for the Planning and Development Services department as presented be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**(h) Corporate Revenues and Expenses**

Ms. Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director of Finance, presented an overview of the 2020-22 Corporate Revenues and Expenses budget highlighting the key pressures, changes in the budget from 2020 to 2022,

and provided details on the proposed Library Square debt funding strategy and additional operating pressures for the Aurora Cultural Centre.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the presentation by Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director of Finance, be received; and
2. That the 2020-22 Operating Budget for the Corporate Revenues and Expenses as presented be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**2. FS19-045 – 2020-22 Operating Budget Decision Unit Items**

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. FS19-045 be received; and
2. That the remaining incremental Aurora Cultural Centre 2020, 2021, and 2022 budget pressures be funded from existing budgeted Library Square funding; and
3. That a further 0.5 % tax levy increase for 2020 and 2021 in support of the Town's planned Library Square construction debenture, be approved; and
4. That the Library Square debenture annual carrying cost funding be contributed to the Tax Rate Stabilization reserve until such time that it is required for its intended purpose.

**Carried**

**3. FS19-046 – 2020 Budget Committee Additional Information**

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That Report No. FS19-046 be received for information.

**Carried**

**5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.