

**THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

Council Chamber
Tom Davies Square

Wednesday, July 9, 2008
Commencement: 12:40 p.m.

Chair

COUNCILLOR GASPARINI, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Cimino; Barbeau; Berthiaume; Dutrisac; Dupuis; Thompson; Callaghan; Craig; Caldarelli; Landry-Altman; Mayor Rodriguez

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; G. Clausen, General Manager of Infrastructure Services; C. Matheson, General Manager of Community Development; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Growth & Development; T. Beadman, Chief of Emergency Services; M. Leduc, Acting Fire Chief; C. Hallsworth, Executive Director, Administrative Services; D. Dumontelle, Acting Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer; P. Thomson, Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development; R. Swiddle, City Solicitor; R. Falcioni, Director of Roads & Transportation; N. Benkovich, Director of Water/Wastewater Services; B. Lautenbach, Director of Planning Services; G. Mazza, Director of Building Services/Chief Building Official; K. Shaw, Director of Engineering Services; M. Simeoni, Senior Planner; J. Ferrigan, Senior Planner; E. Stankiewicz, Manager of Financial Planning & Policy; B. Gutjahr, Manager of Compliance and Enforcement Services; S. Monet, Manager of Environmental Planning Initiatives; T. McCaffrey, Supervisor of Land Reclamation; I. Wood, Special Advisor to the Mayor; J. Brunette, AMCTO Municipal Intern; A. Haché, City Clerk; P. Pelletier, Mail Clerk; F. Bortolussi, Council Secretary

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; CIGM; Persona 10 News; Le Voyageur; Northern Life; CBC Radio-Canada

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS – PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

Item 1
Tree Policy

Report dated May 27, 2008 was received from the General Manager of Infrastructure Services regarding Tree Policy.

Robert Falcioni, Director of Roads and Transportation made an electronic presentation. He indicated the existing by-law was established by the former City of Sudbury in 1984 and covers only the former City. He listed the public concerns to be taken into account when preparing the new by-law including:

Item 1
Tree Policy

- criteria used to decide if and when to remove public trees;
- problems involving roots and damage to property;
- location of trees and ownership;
- species recommended and available for planning.

The Director of Roads and Transportation advised that they have reviewed by-laws in other municipalities and requested input from various departments (i.e. By-law, Building Controls, Legal and Greater Sudbury Utilities). The by-law will only deal with municipally owned trees. He stated that the protection of trees must be the basis of any by-law as they take a long time to grow and are important to a healthy environment. He indicated that the recommended species are based on the lot size, growth pattern and climate zone. He advised that individuals may plant trees, from the City's approved list, on municipal property upon the approval from the General Manager of Infrastructure Services. The City would then become responsible for the trees. He listed the criteria for the removal of trees with the final decision being that of the General Manager of Infrastructure Services. He also stated that the policy should be reviewed every five years by a committee formed from representatives of Parks, Legal, By-law, Building Controls, Greater Sudbury Utilities and Roads. He listed the responsibility of the Forestry Section and the current staffing indicating that contractors are used in outlying areas and to supplement City employees during peak times.

After discussions, the Committee requested a further report on the Tree Policy to include:

- research of other municipalities to see whether citizens can, if damage is proven, take action to remove and replace the problem tree;
- the involvement of Councillors in the process should they wish to provide input;
- identification and removal of fallen trees in creeks due to safety issues with children using them as balance beams;
- clarification on the trimming of trees and who would be responsible, as there is no clear by-law;
- special consideration for requests for tree removal if the tree is on the 'not recommended nor approved' list;
- more flexibility in dealing with individual situations.

Item 2
Adoption of a Quality
Management
System Policy for
Water/Wastewater

Report dated June 1, 2008 was received from the General Manager of Infrastructure Services regarding Adoption of a Quality Management System Policy for Water/Wastewater.

The Committee, by a two-thirds majority, agreed to dispense with the Rules of Procedure and vote on the motion at this time.

Rules of Procedure

Item 2
Adoption of a Quality
Management
System Policy for
Water/Wastewater
(continued)

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION #2008-40: Moved by Councillor Thompson.

THAT Council adopt the Quality Management System Policy that the Water & Wastewater Services Division has developed all in accordance with report from the General Manager of Infrastructure dated June 1, 2008.

CARRIED

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS – DECISION REQUESTED

Item 3
Procedure By-Law
Review

Report dated June 30, 2008 was received from the Executive Director, Administrative Services regarding Procedure By-law Review.

Mark Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer, made an electronic presentation entitled '*Time for Change – Meeting times and Work Life Balance*'. He indicated that the Procedure By-law Consultations found a variety of preferences about meeting times. He further indicated the focus of the presentation was to look at how employees view hours of work and how workplaces and governments are changing in response to changes in employee needs. He stated that the recently released Employee Feedback Survey indicates that impact of job on personal life is the fifth most important factor in quality of work life at 82.7% importance. He further stated that the key finding of Ipsos-Reid Poll of 1,000 Canadians was that 'life outside the office beats salary and job life' as the most important factor for employee satisfaction. He stated that stress is the number 1 reason employees leave with 34% of the participants in the Employee Feedback Survey stating that too many hours/demands is the cause. He outlined the meeting hours of some other jurisdictions. He concluded by explaining the four options set out in the report.

After discussions, the Committee agreed on a fifth option.

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION #2008-41: Moved by Councillor Caldarelli.

THAT staff be directed to prepare a new Procedure By-Law which incorporates the recommendations contained in the report dated June 30, 2008 from the Executive Director, Administrative Services;

AND THAT Option 5 with regards to meeting times be selected for inclusion in the new Procedure By-Law.

CARRIED

Item 3
Procedure By-Law
Review (continued)

Option 5 provides as follows:

- Start Committee meetings at 4:00 p.m.;
- Start City Council meetings at 5:30 p.m. (Closed Sessions at 4:00 p.m.).

After discussion the Committee agreed not to schedule regular Priorities Committee meetings in individual Wards.

Item 4
Open Air Burning
By-law

Report dated June 19, 2008 was received from the Acting Fire Chief regarding Open Air Burning By-law.

The following recommendation was presented:

Caldarelli: THAT the Open Air Burning By-Law be amended as follows:

1. That daytime burning in the winter (November 1 - April 30) be allowed subject to the other restrictions contained in the By-law being followed;
2. That ceremonial and group bonfires be allowed during daytime hours subject to approval and an inspection by Fire Services;
3. That an open fire be located a minimum of 6 meters (20 feet) from a structure.

AND THAT Option 2 be chosen for the enforcement of the Open Air Burning By-law.

The Committee agreed that the recommendation be separated into two parts.

The following recommendations were presented:

RECOMMENDATION #2008-42: Moved by Councillor Caldarelli.

THAT the Open Air Burning By-Law be amended as follows:

1. That daytime burning in the winter (November 1 - April 30) be allowed subject to the other restrictions contained in the By-law being followed;
2. That ceremonial and group bonfires be allowed during daytime hours subject to approval and an inspection by Fire Services;
3. That an open fire be located a minimum of 6 meters (20 feet) from a structure.

CARRIED

Item 4
Open Air Burning
By-law

RECOMMENDATION #2008-43: Moved by Councillor Caldarelli.

THAT Option 2 be chosen for the enforcement of the Open Air Burning By-law.

CARRIED

The Committee agreed that this Option would be referred to the 2009 budget process.

Option 2 provides for the implementation of By-law Enforcement on a 2 shift schedule operating from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the second shift would be from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

With the consensus of the Committee, Councillor Callaghan requested that the use of contractors be included in the report to be presented during the 2009 budget process.

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION #2008-44: Moved by Councillor Berthiaume.

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 3:26 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor J. Gasparini, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk