



**MINUTES**  
**FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2011 AT 4:00 P.M.**  
**CITY HALL ROOM 205**

---

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Arlene Wright  
Mayor Deb Haswell  
Councillor Bill Twaddle  
Ray McKelvie  
Ron Hopper  
Paul Caron

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councillor Colleen Purdon

**STAFF PRESENT:** Wayne Ritchie, Director of Financial Services  
Jamie Walpole, Manager of I.T.  
James Krauter, Manager of Revenue  
Kate Allan, Manager of Accounting

**1. CALL TO ORDER –** Chair Arlene Wright called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Wayne Ritchie had a request from the Bluewater Association for Lifelong Learning (BALL) for the City to act as a sponsor with the Community Foundation of Grey and Bruce.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

There were no disclosures of Pecuniary Interests declared.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Moved by Ray McKelvie:

**“That the minutes of the Financial Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 be approved.”**

Carried Unanimously

Ray McKelvie asked what steps were being taken to reduce the amount of city budget devoted to Police and Fire expenses. He mentioned that the Finance

Advisory Committee has received numerous reports detailing the amount of budget these two departments consume and that many candidates in the municipal election last fall had discussed this as well. Council members on the committee discussed the challenges municipalities face in the arbitration and mediation processes when negotiations break down. City representatives have discussed these challenges with the Province.

## 5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF COMMITTEE / BOARD IS REQUIRED

There was no correspondence received.

## 7. REPORTS AND MATTERS TABLED

### a) Debenture Schedule and 2011 Loan Issue – Director Wayne Ritchie

The City has \$10,478,253 in Capital Works that are completed and were to be financed from long term debt. The annual budgetary impact of financing this long term debt has been included in budget discussion and presented in the Debenture Schedules presented previously.

Moved by Paul Caron:

**“That the Financial Advisory Committee receives the report entitled Debenture Schedule and 2011 Loan Issue dated July 8th, 2011 submitted by the Director of Financial Services and recommends that negotiates take place with Infrastructure Ontario and the City’s financial services provider the Royal Bank of Canada to obtain a long term loan at the lowest rate of interest.”**

Carried Unanimously

### b) Actual to Budget Comparison January to June 2011 – Wayne Ritchie

Director of Financial Services Wayne Ritchie reviewed the financial results from operations for the period January to June 2011. Overall at June 30<sup>th</sup> the City may be in a slight deficit position from operations due to increased fuel costs and a longer than average winter season.

Moved by Mayor Deb Haswell:

**“That the Financial Advisory Committee receives the report entitled Actual to Budget Comparison January to June 2011 submitted by the Director of Financial Services dated July 27, 2011.”**

Carried Unanimously

c) Owen Sound Wireless Internet Review – Jamie Walpole

There are currently 19 free wireless access points throughout the City. The Manager of Information Technology provided statistics on how this service was being used by patrons. The current method of providing this service has several issues and the Manager discussed these with the Committee. The 2011 IT Capital budget included funds to remediate some of these issues, and the 2012 Capital budget will include funding for improvements as well. Part of the challenge is to provide a level of free wireless service and then to promote to the public what that level of service is. Once the approved level of service is in place a public advertising campaign will be undertaken.

Moved by Paul Caron:

**“That the Financial Advisory Committee receives the report entitled Owen Sound Free Wireless Internet Review dated August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 written by the Manager of Information Technology and supported by the Director of Financial Services for information purposes.”**

Carried Unanimously

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

Director of Financial Services Wayne Ritchie has been contacted by the Bluewater Association for Lifelong Learning (BALL) asking if the City would act as a sponsor for this group to apply for a grant from the Community Foundation Grey Bruce. If obtained the grant would help sponsor a lecture series they are providing called Paging Through the Ages. The Director pointed out that the City has acted as sponsor for similar groups that provide a benefit to the community. The committee supported this initiative.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED WHICH IS PRESENTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE/BOARD**

No correspondence was received.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair thanked the Committee members for attending and declared the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

**11. THE NEXT MEETING**

**The next Financial Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Room 205.**