



**Village of Belledune**  
Committee of Whole Council Meeting  
Budget Session #3  
October 25, 2021

**Time:** 6:30 PM  
**Place:** Belledune Council Chambers  
Mayor, Paul Arseneault  
Deputy Mayor, Ron Bourque  
**Present:** Councillor, Lilliane Carmichael  
Councillor, Cynthia Robinson  
Councillor, Kristie Carrier  
Councillor, Marilyn Guitard-McDonnell  
**Staff Present:** Clerk - Treasurer, Brenda Cormier  
CAO, Scott Ferguson 6:30 – 7:00 P.M. – Closed Session

**Closed Session: 6:30 P.M.**

Personnel – 2022 Budget

Councillor, Carmichael vacated meeting – Conflict of Interest - Personnel Discussion

CAO, Ferguson was directed to review the recommendation on salaries and resubmit a revised proposal to Council.

No amounts will be included in the Budget until the revised proposal is submitted to Council and approved by directive to CAO.

**Call to Order & Welcome 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor called meeting to order

Acknowledgement of “Treaties of Peace and Friendship”

Reaffirmation of Oath of Office

**Kristie Carrier moved that the Agenda be Adopted as Presented, seconded by Lilliane Carmichael. MOTION CARRIED.**

Statements of Conflict of Interest: Nil

**Business**

- 2022 General Operating Budget Preparation

The following Budget Expenditure Services were reviewed for the third meeting.

Clerk/Treasurer, Cormier advised that the Tax Base amount were received. There was a decrease in the Central Zone and an increase in the Fringe Zone. Overall, there was a slight increase in the total Tax

Base. As well the amount for the Community Funding & Equalization Grant (CFEG) was received and there is a decrease from 2021 from \$345,829 to \$298,139. Property in lieu of Taxes (PILT) was also received for amount of \$425 which is in the Revenue section.

For the Expenditure side the amount has not been received for the Policing or DTI Maintenance Rates.

#### Revenues

- No changes were made under this section from the last Budget Session, with the exception of adding the \$425 for PILT

#### General Government

- Solicitor services was increased from \$20,000 to \$30,000, reflective of the cost for year 2021 and more usage anticipated for year 2022, as legal advisory services will be requested more.
- Civic Relations will be increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000 to cover the cost of 2023 calendars.

#### Protective Services

- Policing Cost are still pending
- Fire Service are the same as 2021 – with the exception of the Dispatch Service cost through Bathurst 9-1-1, which have decreased from \$12,321 to \$11,505.

#### Transportation

- DTI rates for Winter and Summer Maintenance are still pending
- The amount of \$125,000 is to remain in the Budget for Mitchell/Lawlor Rd. intersection work
- Public Works Manager will be consulted on sections of Budget for other road works
- Crack Filling Equipment will have further discussion after information is received from DTI Summer Maintenance work potentially being removed.
- The request regarding flooding on property on Noel Road, CAO Ferguson has that on the Committee of Whole Council meeting for update and discussion
  - Depending on the decision of Council, the Budget will have to be adjusted accordingly to cover any work of this type.
- CAO, Ferguson will update Council at the Committee of Whole Council meeting regarding the speed signs on Route #134

#### Environmental Health

- Solid Waste Collection Other is up substantially over Budget this year, mainly due to Compactor Trucks repairs. New truck is due in early next year, not sure if this will impact a reduction in that cost next year. However, there is still the need to have the second truck for backup, both are old and may see additional cost in 2022 as well. That budget should be considered for directive to increase or not.

#### Environmental Development

- Rail spur line repairs. The question as to whether the users pay 100% or 50% was clarified. There is only one agreement in place with one user that indicate the user will pay.
- Housing Incentive – Is Council going to keep or let this go. The decision of Council will be reflected in the Budget. Directive is to have the Policy put on the agenda of the next Regular Meeting of Council to be repealed, date of effectiveness will be determined at that meeting. Budget will be at \$0 for 2022

## Recreation

- Recreation & Wellness budget list was provided to Council. Council inquired about the three programs (Yoga, Fitness, Zumba) are all 3 necessary or could it be reduced to the 2 most used. Or could the programs be set up, that the providers get the space free in lieu of payment to instructors and they charge the clients directly.
  - Clerk/Treasurer, said she has a spreadsheet on the programs which includes village cost, # of users per class and revenue collected. That will be shared with Council.
- Summer Camp program – Discussion was held previously by Council about the program, expanding it to include more availability, etc.
  - Clerk/Treasurer will request Rec. & Wellness Coordinator to prepare a detailed report on the Summer Camp program, including the activities and cost and what the cost would be to expand it to accommodate more users, etc. This will be shared with Council.
- The Recreation Centre Budget may see some changes related to Janitorial Services. CAO, Ferguson is working on the tender which will include both the Recreation Centre and the Municipal Building. Those bids may not be in before the budget is finalized, so that amount will not be known until received and awarded.
  - It was noted that the Recreation Centre is under utilized and is should be look at to see how to maximize its usage.
- Arena Operation will depend on the amounts of weeks the facility is open and if it will be open for Hockey School again in 2022. The amount to be Budgeted will be impacted by those decisions.
  - Clerk/Treasurer advised she does a spreadsheet for the Rental Hours, Employment Hours and Revenue. She will share this with Council. As well she will calculate the Revenue vs. Expense for the Hockey School this season and provide that to Council as well.

## Fiscal

- No changes in Fiscal and no Capital Projects identified for the Operating Budget.

## Council discussed in general terms:

- SPCA Services and problems
- Salmon Barrier & Campground - # of Weeks

(Councillor, Carmichael vacated meeting – Conflict of Interest (8:09 p.m. – 8:13 p.m.))

- Council decision 2 years ago to increase the # of weeks. CAO, Ferguson will be asked to review and see if this is still necessary and make a recommendation.
  - It was noted that the Salmon Barrier has the largest run of Salmon at the end of the season
  - Look at changing the dynamic at the Salmon Barrier; there are a few things there to look at
- It was noted that it is likely that the amounts being included in the Budget may have to be amended, as they are, the Budget will most likely have to be amended and some sectors of the Budget reduced.

- Roherty Point Rd. and Roherty Point Development were mentioned as projects to be discussed.
  
- 2022 Utility Operating Budget Preparation
  - Revenue and Expenditure sectors of the Budget were presented.
  - The 2022 Budget can be reflective of the 2021 Budget with one small adjustment in the Revenue Section for Second Previous Year Surplus at \$1,049.
  - The User rates for 2022 will remain at \$500 annual fee for Residential Water & Sewer and \$1.16 per Cubic Meter for Non-Potable Industrial fee.

The Tax Base evaluation for Glencore was explained. The current amount for the 2022, is not based on the actual Assessment evaluation, as that has not been completed yet. May be by January 2022, but will only be reflected in the 2023 Tax Base.

**Adjournment**

**Lilliane Carmichael moved that the meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M., seconded by Kristie Carrier. MOTION CARRIED.**

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Mayor

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Clerk/Treasurer