2019 to 2023 Strategic Plan and 2019 to 2022 Regional Budget

On February 28, 2019 Regional Council considered the report dated February 21, 2019 from the Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer and the additional proposed wording from the presentation by the Chief Administrative Officer and made the following decisions:

Moved by Mayor Hackson
Seconded by Mayor Bevilacqua

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in this report as they pertain to the York Regional Police budget, as revised by the resolution of the York Regional Police Services Board dated February 27, 2019 (refer to Item F.3).

A recorded vote on the adoption of the motion was:

For: Barrow, Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Emmerson, Grossi, Hackson, Heath, Jackson, Jones, Li, Lovatt, Mrakas, Pellegrini, Perrelli, Rosati, Scarpitti, Taylor (17)

Against: Hamilton (1)

Absent: Ferri, Vegh (2)

Carried

Mayor Quirk did not take part in the discussion of or vote on this item as she declared a conflict of interest with regard to York Regional Police.

(See Items B and F.3.)

Moved by Regional Councillor Hamilton
Seconded by Regional Councillor Li

That Council refer consideration of the 2019 to 2023 Strategic Plan and 2019 to 2022 Regional Budget to the March 21, 2019 Council meeting.

A recorded vote on the adoption of the motion was:

For: Hamilton, Li, Mrakas (3)

Against: Barrow, Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Emmerson, Grossi, Hackson, Heath, Jackson, Jones, Lovatt, Pellegrini, Perrelli, Quirk, Rosati, Scarpitti, Taylor (16)

Absent: Ferri, Vegh (2)

Defeated

Moved by Mayor Barrow
Seconded by Regional Councillor Grossi

That Council adopt recommendation 2(a)(i) as follows:

2. Council approve the operating and capital budgets as follows:

    a) The 2019 operating budget tabled on January 31, 2019 detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book, as amended:

        i. To reduce the tax levy increase to 2.96%

A recorded vote on the adoption of the motion was:

For: Barrow, Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Emmerson, Grossi, Hackson, Heath, Jackson, Jones, Lovatt, Mrakas, Pellegrini, Perrelli, Quirk, Rosati, Scarpitti, Taylor (17)

Against: Hamilton, Li (2)

Absent: Ferri, Vegh (2)

Carried

Moved by Mayor Scarpitti
Seconded by Mayor Bevilacqua

That Council adopt recommendation 2(a)(ii) as follows:

2. Council approve the operating and capital budgets as follows:

    a) The 2019 operating budget tabled on January 31, 2019 detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book, as amended:

        ii. *With a further 1% increase for roads acceleration, for a total 2019 tax levy increase of 3.96%*

A recorded vote on the adoption of the motion was:

For: Barrow, Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Emmerson, Grossi, Hackson, Heath, Jackson, Jones, Li, Lovatt, Pellegrini, Perrelli, Quirk, Rosati, Scarpitti, (16)

Against: Hamilton, Mrakas, Taylor (3)

Absent: Ferri, Vegh (2)

Carried

Council recessed at 12:17 p.m. and reconvened at 1 p.m. with all members in attendance except for: M. Bevilacqua, J. DiPaola, M. Ferri, R. Grossi, C. Perrelli and T. Vegh.

Moved by Mayor Taylor
Seconded by Mayor Mrakas

That recommendation 3 be amended to delete "*including the 1% annual contribution for roads acceleration reserve*."

A recorded vote on the adoption of the motion was:

For: Li, Mrakas, Taylor (3)

Against: Barrow, Emmerson, Hackson, Hamilton, Heath, Jackson, Jones, Lovatt, Pellegrini, Quirk, Rosati, Scarpitti (12)

Absent: Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Ferri, Grossi, Perrelli, Vegh (6)

Defeated

Moved by Mayor Barrow
Seconded by Mayor Pellegrini

That Council adopt recommendations 2 to 7 as follows:

2. Council approve the operating and capital budgets as follows:

    a) The 2019 operating budget tabled on January 31, 2019 detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book, as amended:

        i. To reduce the tax levy increase to 2.96%

        ii. With a further 1% increase for roads acceleration, for a total 2019 tax levy increase of 3.96%

    b) The 2019 capital expenditures and Capital Spending Authority by program group detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book, as summarized in Attachment 3, and the authority to reallocate funding between projects in a program group as detailed in this report.

    c) The 2019 capital expenditures and Capital Spending Authority by project detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book, as detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book tabled on January 31, 2019.

3. Council endorse the 2020 to 2022 operating outlook tabled on January 31, 2019 detailed in the 2019 to 2022 Budget book, as summarized in Attachment 2, and amend the tax levy requirements to result in an annual tax levy increase of 2.96% from 2020 to 2022, including the 1% annual contribution for Roads Capital Acceleration Reserve.

4. Council approve debt authority and reserve items as follows:

    a) Incremental debt authority of $207.65 million required for 2019 Capital Spending Authority by project as specified in Column (B) of Attachment 4.

    b) Total debt authority for capital projects up to the amounts specified in Column (C) of Attachment 4 in accordance with the Capital Financing and Debt Policy.

    c) Approve a contribution of $133.3 million to the Sinking Fund Reserve for the purpose of meeting the Region's 2019 sinking fund obligations.

    d) Authorize the funding of capital projects that have been previously approved for debt financing from reserves where there are sufficient funds available and, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer, it is prudent to do so.

5. Council endorse the reconciliation of the 2019 Budget to the full accrual basis of accounting, as required under Ontario Regulation 284/09, as summarized in the Budget book and amended to reflect the changes to the operating budget noted in Recommendations 2(a) and 3.

6. Council authorize the Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer to:

    a) Make any necessary adjustments within the total approved budget to reflect organizational changes and any other reallocation of costs.

    b) Accept and adjust the budget for new provincial and/or federal funding provided there is no tax levy impact.

    c) Apply for new provincial and/or federal funding provided there is no tax levy impact and capital funding is for projects within the ten-year capital plan.

7. The final budget book be updated to reflect the changes noted in Recommendations 2(a), 3 and 5.

A recorded vote on the adoption of the motion was:

For: Barrow, Emmerson, Hackson, Hamilton, Heath, Jackson, Jones, Lovatt, Pellegrini, Quirk, Rosati, Scarpitti (12)

Against: Li, Mrakas, Taylor (3)

Absent: Bevilacqua, DiPaola, Ferri, Grossi, Perrelli, Vegh (6)

Carried

Moved by Mayor Barrow
Seconded by Mayor Pellegrini

That Council adopt recommendation 1 as follows:

1. Council approve the 2019 to 2023 Strategic Plan (Attachment 1).

Carried

Moved by Regional Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Mayor Pellegrini

That Council adopt the following additional recommendations specific to the Roads Capital Acceleration Reserve:

1. Council approve the creation of the Roads Capital Acceleration Reserve to advance priority growth-related capital projects.

2. The reserve be funded by a 1% tax levy contribution in 2019, and future tax levy contributions of up to 1% per year between 2020-2022, conditional on the overall tax levy increase not exceeding 2.96% in any given year, and the transfer of $82.7 million from the Debt Reduction Reserve in 2022.

Carried