

Rural Municipality of Eastern Kings

Public Meeting Minutes Review of Financial Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Tuesday March 10, 2020

In attendance: Mayor Grace Cameron, Deputy Mayor Danelle Elliott, Councillors: Arthur Baker, David Stewart, Anne McPhee and Chief Administrative Officer Sonya Martin.

Regrets: Councillor Bradley MacDonald, Councillor Bernadette McInnis

NOTE: Prior to the commencement of the Public Meeting, the Council members present reviewed the final version of the Financial Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021; all were satisfied that the questions which arose in the February 25th discussion were answered and consensus was to move forward with the Plan as presented at this Public Meeting.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Grace Cameron at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present so the public meeting could proceed.

2. Conflicts of Interest Declaration – Individual Councillors

Mayor Grace Cameron asked if there were any conflicts of interest and hearing none the meeting continued.

3. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Councillor David Stewart and seconded by Councillor Arthur Baker that the agenda be approved as presented. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

4. New Business

- **Financial Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (See Appendix A) and accompanying Powerpoint Presentation**

All areas of the proposed Plan were reviewed by Mayor Grace Cameron with an open floor for questions or discussion after each section. Constituents asked questions and made comments.

Key points included:

- a) The assessed value of properties has increased approximately \$3M from March 2019 to March 2020; there is a Municipal Tax Credit from the Province which is equal to a \$0.01 rise in taxes which benefits the Municipality and allows keeping the current tax rate of \$0.19 per \$100 of assessed value.
- b) Development Permit rates do not currently cover the cost to hire a Development Officer, even on a part time basis; these will need to increase and this increase will be approved with this Financial Plan.
- c) The funding provided by the Municipality is currently meeting the needs of the Eastern Kings Fire Department.
- d) Funds have been budgeted for work on the Emergency Management Plan, to move it forward (see Contingent Expenditures).

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- **Emergency Management Plan**

Councillor David Stewart led a discussion on the development of an Emergency Management Plan for the Municipality, as required by the *Municipal Government Act*. (See accompanying Powerpoint Presentation). Council has formally adopted the Municipal Emergency Management Program Bylaw; the positions of "Municipal Emergency Coordinator" and "Deputy Municipal Emergency Coordinator" have of recently been advertised on the Eastern Kings web page and Facebook page. The Emergency Management Committee would welcome anyone who is interested in playing a role in the emergency planning of the Municipality.

- **Ideas for Investments Using Gas Tax Funding**

Mayor Grace Cameron explained how the Notional Allocation Gas Tax Funding was allocated to the Municipality and outlined some of the categories where funding can be applied. (See accompanying Powerpoint Presentation.) The current fiscal year is the sixth of a ten year program of federal funding (2014-2024). Two projects have been completed; two are in the works; approximately \$80K in funding remains over the coming four years. Groups in the area who have projects meeting the criteria are encouraged to approach the Council for discussion.

Constituents representing the Eastern Kings Fire Department and the Eastern Kings Community Centre took a moment to say thank you to Mayor Grace Cameron and the Council for their continued support with the Small Grants Programs and for their commitment to the community.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by Councillor Arthur Baker and seconded by Deputy Mayor Danelle Elliott to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

Signed in accordance
Municipal Government Act S.116(4)


Grace Cameron – Mayor

24 April 2020
Date


Sonya Martin – Chief Administrative Officer

April 24, 2020
Date

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Appendix A

Line Item	Approved April 1/2019- Mar 31/2020 Financial Plan	April 1/2019- Mar 31/2020 Actuals (Estimate)	DRAFT Financial Plan for FY 2020/2021 Scenario 1 @ .19
Revenues:			
Residential Municipal Taxes	114,167	115,849	118,893
Farm Municipal Taxes	16,372	15,806	16,133
Other NonCommercial Municipal Taxes	48,933	48,834	49,471
Commercial Municipal Taxes	8,037	8,446	8,567
Turbine Municipal Taxes	23,991	23,707	23,993
Municipal Tax Credit	0	10,786	10,681
Building Permits/Subdivision/Consolidation Fees	4,500	22,401	7,500
Refund of Previous Year's HST	0	800	0
Miscellaneous	1,000	109	0
Total Revenues	217,001	246,739	235,239
Salary Expenses:			
Chief Administrative Officer	20,000	20,267	23,146
Land Development Officer/Consultant	5,000	7,990	12,152
Fly Program	40,000	34,043	34,185
Honourarium for Council Members	4,000	4,750	4,750

217,057

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Operations and Maintenance Expenses:						
Bank Service Charges	100		100			95
Office Space Lease	4,200		4,200			4,200
Other Space Rental	900		0			200
Insurance	3,500		3,525			3,800
Office Expenses	1,500		3,348			1,500
Legal Fees	8,000		47,312			9,950
Accounting Audit Fees	3,500		6,325			4,500
Telephone Utility	1,440		1,452			1,500
Bylaw Enforcement/Security	1,500		500			1,500
Advertising/Promotion	2,000		2,659			2,500
Training for Council/Staff	2,000		350			2,000
Memberships	2,000		1,276			2,000
Election	0		0			0
Fly Program Expenses (Not Incl. Salaries)						
Vehicle (Gas and Registration)	4,000		2,636			3,000
Vehicle (Repairs)	2,500		475			750
Mosquito Magnets Repair/Maintenance	15,000					1,000
Bacterial Products	800		13,296			14,000
Storage/Truck Wear and Tear			1,560			1,600
Grants and Subsidies:						
Eastern Kings Community Centre	7,800		7,800			7,800
Small Grants Program	16,000		16,000			16,000
Eastern Kings Fire Department	76,000		76,000			76,000
Donations	0		500			750

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Contingent Expenditures (Potentially, EM Plan Costs)		12,000		0	6,360
Total Expenditures		233,740		256,364	235,238
Net Gain/Loss		-16,739		-9,626	0