

REPORT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 17, 2016

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Council was held in the Committee Room, Civic Centre on March 17, 2016 from 3:01 p.m. to 5:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor K. Perry, Chairperson; Mayor R. Avis; Councillors G. P. Ryan, J. Caul, D. Kitowski, W. Brunetta and J. Albanese

ALSO PRESENT: M. McCaig, Administrator, e. Slomke, Clerk, L. Witherspoon, Treasurer, J. Kabel, Manager of Community Services.

1. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
(Session No. 052)

1.1 Call to Order at 3:01 p.m.

1.2 Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof - None.

2. 2016 Budget Review

2.1 2016 Preliminary Capital Budget

A discussion took place. Council agree with the Capital Budget as presented with the addition of a Treadmill (\$7000.00) at the Memorial Sports Centre.

2.2 Reserve Funds
Reviewed.

2.3 2016 Preliminary Operating Budget
(includes answers to Library Budget Questions)

A discussion took place about Doctor Recruitment - Council agreed to keep the same amount as last year in the budget.

A discussion took place about Public Works staff enhancements - Council requested removal of the proposed hire in Public Works.

A discussion took place about the impact of CUPE and Fire Fighter collective agreement negotiations. No action will be taken at this time as it is unclear how the budget may be impacted.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the Library budget. Council directed that the Manager of Community Services take the message back to the Library CEO and the Library Board Chair that Council is only prepared to approve a 1.5% increase over last year's budget and that any compelling reason for anything higher would need to be presented to Council. Also, Council requested that moving forward, Library representatives will be asked to present their budget requests at a Council meeting near the beginning of the Town budget process.

2.4 Taxation Analysis - Tax Ratios

A verbal explanation was provided by the Treasurer. Council selected the use of Alternative Ratios.

3. ADJOURNMENT

3.1 The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

126 Caul - Ryan: THAT this special meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Council of the Town of Fort Frances be now closed.

CARRIED

K. Perry, Chairperson

E. Slomke, Clerk