

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL
BUDGET MEETING**

April 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 8:10 p.m., by videoconference, with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson, Chair
- Murray Atkinson
- Jody Crook
- Shaun Hatfield
- George El-Jakl

- Chris Frotten, CAO
- Leah d'Eon, Manager of Finance

ARENA FEES

In the past two years, the arena has incurred a deficit of, on average, \$180,000 each year due to a decrease in usage and an increase in maintenance and operating costs. Based on the current budget projections, the arena will incur another deficit of approximately \$200,000 in fiscal 2020/2021. For these reasons, Staff prepared a report for Council to consider increasing fees to generate more revenue to compensate for the increased costs and future replacement of the building.

There was much discussion on the matter. There were concerns that raising the rates may deter some users from using the facility and that the reduction of the youth group rate has not been in place for long enough. The arena's age and annual operating deficit was a concern voiced by some members which referred to the necessity to generate more revenues.

Resolution C200405

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that the rental fees of the Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena be increased for the 2020/21 season by the following: \$20 per hour for prime hours, \$10 per hour for non-prime hours and \$25 per hour for youth group hours.

AFFIRMATION

Murray Atkinson
Jody Crook
Shaun Hatfield

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson
George El-Jakl
Motion carried.

FURNITURE DISPOSAL FEES

The Municipality has experienced an increased quantity of furniture at our C&D landfill. Due to the increased quantity and substantial cost to the Municipality, Staff investigated the issue further and prepared a staff report recommending that council consider implementing a furniture disposal fee to commercial entities.

Members expressed the need to compensate for the cost of disposing and transporting the furniture. After some discussion, it was determined that the fee should cover the majority of the cost to the municipality rather than only a portion. The term "non-residential" also caused confusion with some members and it was requested that the term be changed to provide more clarity.

Resolution C200406

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality begin charging a non-residential furniture disposal fee of \$120 per tonne starting July 1, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

DRAFT 2020/21 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Discussion continued on the draft 2020/21 Municipal Budget with the main focus being on reserves.

The CAO and Director of Finance presented the current state and historical perspective of the Municipality's reserves and explained the purpose of each.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting