



**WINDSOR  
UTILITIES  
COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION**

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009**

A meeting of the Windsor Utilities Commission was held on Thursday, May 21, 2009 in the Board Room at 787 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor, Ontario.

The meeting commenced at 9:46 a.m.

**PRESENT:**

Ken Lewenza, Chair, George Sandala, Bill Marra, Rocco Lucente, Karen Plunkett, General Manager John Wladarski, Chief Operating Officer John Stuart, Chief Financial Officer Victoria Zuber, Manager Corporate Communications Sylvia De Vries, Director Water Production Garry Rossi, City of Windsor Tony Ardochini, Windsor Star Monica Wolfson, CBC Radio Sean Henry, Residents Les Chaif, Alice DiCaro, Al Nelman and Alex Foley, Recording Secretary Wendy Howlett.

Regrets: Loretta Stoyka, Jim Drummond, Mayor Francis, Ron Jones, Helga Reidel

There being a quorum, the Chair called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by G. Sandala

Seconded by K. Plunkett

That the agenda be approved as presented. A copy of the Audit and Finance Committee's First Quarter Agenda Compliance Plan was table dropped.

**DECLARATION OR CONFIRMATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST(S)**

Nil.

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Moved by B. Marra

Seconded by K. Plunkett

That the Commission approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the meeting to convene in closed session, held April 24, 2009.

- CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION**

Infrastructure Capital Funding - It was questioned whether or not WUC would benefit from the government infrastructure stimulus funding for capital water main projects. J. Wladarski confirmed that WUC has submitted water main project descriptions and estimated costs to the City for inclusion in their municipal application. Typically, 25% of

the costs of a road rehabilitation project is spent on water main components. Should the City's road rehabilitation funding requests be approved, these proportionately allocated funds would serve the Commission in terms of being able to sustain the required investment and potentially avoid the projected 2009 deficit of approximately \$3 million.

Management was requested to provide a detailed budget summary of the WUC projects submitted for consideration, once the City is notified of the awarding of any funds for road rehabilitation projects.

Collection of Tenants' Debt - The legality of the current practice of collecting debt from tenants who vacate rental properties was questioned. J. Wladarski responded that the City of Windsor Act, 1936, provides such authority. However, WUC is proposing the introduction of a privacy release form that provides WUC with the sole authority to contact property owners should their tenant's account become overdue.

Deloitte's Director Series - It was noted that this program is being broadcast on the same day as the next Strategic Planning Education Session (June 11, 2009).

Moved by K. Plunkett

Seconded by R. Lucente

That the Commission receive as information the correspondence/information as presented.

- CARRIED

### **DELEGATIONS**

Nil.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager's Report consisted of the following items:

- 1) Capital Stimulus Plan
- 2) *ENWIN* Enterprise Resource Plan
- 3) Commissioner Questions
- 4) Sewage Surcharge Formula

Typo, p.1, para. 2: "2009 – 2103" should read "2009 - 2013".

Discussion ensued on the City Sewage Surcharge Formula. T. Ardvini advised that the City will be collecting the same amount of revenue based on the previous formula; however, the residential consumer will now have the ability to better control sewer surcharge fees by practicing water conservation. An updated report will be brought before City Council once the final figures are calculated. The City is working in conjunction with WUC in implementing the new billing formula and plans to conduct a test run on the billing system. Annual assessments will be conducted to ascertain the impact of the change in formula. Several Commissioners expressed concern over the impact that water conservation would have on water demand and production and any subsequent negative impact on the revenue required for ongoing infrastructure and capital projects; therefore, timely analysis of trends will be of the utmost importance.

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Councillor Marra cautioned that the public perception might be that conserving water will result in increased water rates.

The upcoming Strategic Planning education session will focus on such topics as conservation programs, security and reliability of the water source, voluntary environmental issues, protection of the water source, public education, and the like.

Moved by K. Plunkett

Seconded by R. Lucente

That the Commission receive as information the General Manager's Report, attached hereto as Appendix "A". - CARRIED

### **OTHER**

#### **CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

K. Lewenza clarified his position raised in Doug Schmidt's Windsor Star article published May 11, 2009, entitled "Water savers to benefit".

Moved by B. Marra

Seconded by R. Lucente

That the Commission receive as information the Corporate Communications Report as presented. - CARRIED

#### **SCADA PROJECT UPDATE**

J. Stuart provided a brief overview of the business case for the purchase of a new water SCADA management system, citing such factors as risk management, changes to cyber security protocols, regulatory requirements and productivity gains.

Moved by R. Lucente

Seconded by K. Plunkett

That the Commission approve the implementation of a new water SCADA Management System utilizing subject matter experts in the controls field, having experience in public water works systems. - CARRIED

### **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

#### **2009 Q1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

G. Sandala advised that any unfavourable variances related to the Managed Services Agreement will be adjusted with the true up in the second quarter.

Moved by G. Sandala

Seconded by R. Lucente

That the Commission approve the 2009 Q1 financial statements. - CARRIED

#### **AGENDA COMPLIANCE PLAN – AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Item 5.5.9 Committee Governance – Compliant column should read "yes".

Moved by K. Plunkett

Seconded by R. Lucente

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That the Commission approve the Audit and Finance Committee's 2009 First Quarter  
Agenda Compliance Plan. – CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**COMMISSIONERS' QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

K. Lewenza, Chair, publicly invited Mssrs. Foley, Nelman and Chaif to provide their  
presentation at the next WUC meeting, scheduled for June 25, 2009.

**TERMINATION OF MEETING**

There being no further business, it was Moved by B. Marra, Seconded by G. Sandala

That the meeting terminate at 10:45 a.m.

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Recording Secretary

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Chair