



River District

Minutes

River District Board of Management

May 11, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Chair Dave Parsons
Vice Chair Jacqueline Furtner
Member Ron Cole
Member Kathy Hannen
Councillor Marion Koepke
Member Dianne Mattice
Deputy Mayor Brian O'Leary
Member Lois Taylor
Member Winnifred Walcott

MEMBERS ABSENT: Member Waleed Aslam

STAFF PRESENT:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager
Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Kate Allan, Director of Corporate Services
Nelly Morrow, Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Finance
Brent Fisher, Manager of Community Development and Marketing
Jamie Eckenswiller, Deputy Clerk
Viveca Gravel, Community Development Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parsons called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 2.a Manager of Community Development and Marketing Re: River District Award and Concours d'Lemons
- 2.b Deputy Clerk Re: Board Member Resignation

2.c Deputy Mayor O'Leary Re: Development of BCK Property

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

4.a Minutes of the River District Board of Management meeting held on March 9, 2022

DIA-220511-001

Moved by Deputy Mayor O'Leary

"THAT the minutes of the River District Board of Management meeting held on March 9, 2022 be approved as printed."

Carried.

5. **DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

5.a Deputation from Victoria Watson, BDO Canada LLP Re: 2021 River District Audited Financial Statements

Victoria Watson of BDO Canada LLP provided a presentation on the River District Board of Management's (RDBM) 2021 audited financial statements, noting that BDO has provided a clean opinion on the RDBM's audited financial statements, the highest assurance that can be provided.

Ms. Watson advised that the Board's revenues for 2021 totaled approximately \$256,960, and expenses totalled approximately \$280,226 creating a deficit of \$23,266. With the addition of the accumulated surplus from the beginning of the year in the amount of \$163,609, Ms. Watson advised that the RDBM's final accumulated surplus amount for 2021 is \$140,343.

Ms. Watson advised that the total surplus amount is currently being held in reserves in one reserve account and requested that the RDBM provide direction to maintain reserves solely in one account moving forward.

DIA-220511-002

Moved by Member Hannen

"THAT in consideration of the deputation provided May 11, 2022 from Victoria Watson, BDO Canada LLP respecting 2021 River District Audited Financial Statements, the River District Board of Management:

- 1. Approves the 2021 draft River District Audited Financial Statements as presented; and**

2. **Directs staff to combine the River District's legacy segregated reserves into one general reserve to reflect current practices."**

Carried.

6. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions from the public.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED**

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

8. **REPORTS OF CITY STAFF**

- 8.a Report CR-22-051 from the Director of Corporate Services Re: 2021 Year-End

The Director of Corporate Services provided an overview of the report.

DIA-220511-003

Moved by Deputy Mayor O'Leary

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CR-22-051 respecting 2021 Year-End, the River District Board of Management:

1. **Approves the report as it is presented; and**
2. **Directs the Treasurer to prepare a payment representing the net transfer from reserves to the City of Owen Sound totaling \$24,017."**

Carried.

- 8.b Report CR-22-052 from the Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting Re: Investment Decisions

The Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting provided an overview of the report.

DIA-220511-004

Moved by Councillor Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CR-22-052 respecting Investment Decisions, the River District Board of Management receives the report for information purposes."

Carried.

- 8.c Report CS-22-053 from the Community Development Coordinator Re: 2022 Content Creation Proposals

The Community Development Coordinator provided an overview of the report.

DIA-220511-005

Moved by Vice Chair Furtner

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-22-053 respecting 2022 Content Creation Proposal, the River District Board of Management directs staff to issue a purchase order (PO) to CTRE for the creation of a podcast to include 52 individual shows at a cost of \$2,800 + HST."

Carried.

- 8.d Report CS-22-052 from the Community Development Coordinator Re: Hottest Street Sale – Proposed Amendment

The Community Development Coordinator provided an overview of the report.

DIA-220511-006

Moved by Vice Chair Furtner

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-22-052 respecting Hottest Street Sale – Proposed Amendment, the River District Board of Management approves the modification to the musical acts for the Hottest Street Sale at a number of smaller locations throughout the River District replacing the larger central stage at 2nd Avenue East and 9th Street East."

Carried.

- 8.e Report CS-22-054 from the Community Development Coordinator Re: River District Website and Owen Sound Tourism Website Cooperation

The Manager of Community Development and Marketing provided an overview of the report.

DIA-220511-007

Moved by Member Mattice

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-22-054 respecting the River District Website and Owen Sound Tourism Website Cooperation, the River District Board of Management receives the report for information purposes."

Carried.

- 8.f Report CS-22-055 from the Manager of Community Development and Marketing and the Director of Community Services Re: RTO7 Grant Opportunity

The Manager of Community Development and Marketing provided an overview of the report.

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-22-055 respecting an RTO7 grant intake, the River District Board of Management:

- 1. Acknowledges the City's intention to apply to the RTO7 Tourism Relief Fund to recuperate the 2021 and 2022 costs relating to the River District Development Coordinator position; and**
- 2. Approves the extension of the River District Community Development Coordinator position for an additional 12 months through to 2023, subject to receipt of the grant."**

Carried.

8.g Verbal Report from the Vice Chair Re: 2022 OBIAA Conference

The Vice Chair provided a Verbal Report on the 2022 OBIAA Conference. Vice Chair Furtner advised that she and the Community Development Coordinator attended the conference and obtained valuable information related to Business Improvement Areas (BIA).

Vice Chair Furtner advised that in collaboration with Iain De Jong the OBIAA Board has created a toolkit for BIAs that contains a step-by-step guide for BIAs to follow in a variety of situations. The toolkit also contains a glossary with updated terminology for BIAs to use.

Vice Chair Furtner advised that the first conference session contained information for boards and municipal staff. The board session contained information on partnerships and collaborations, as well as how to build effective boards with engaged members. The municipal session was conducted in an open forum format where attendees could ask questions about best practices and share ideas.

The event's keynote speaker was Gil Peñalosa who presented ideas on sustainable mobility in parks and other public spaces as a way to improve economic development and quality of life. Mr. Peñalosa's key message was that a smart city belongs to everyone and is not meant to only move cars.

Vice Chair Furtner advised that she learned about programming horizontal and vertical planes as well as programming occupancy and styles of development in public and private places.

The Uptown Waterloo BIA hosted a session on placemaking which is described as a multi-faceted approach to the planning, design, and management of public spaces. Placemaking capitalizes on a community's assets, inspiration, and potential with the intention of creating a public space that promotes health, happiness, and well-being.

Vice Chair Furtner and the Community Development Coordinator attended sessions on building tourism and visitor economy that predicted tourism trends in the post-covid world, and BIAs resilience during covid that provided insight on how BIAs rose to the challenge of covid in support of their membership

Lastly, Vice Chair Furtner advised that she attended a session on low-cost, high-impact placemaking that discussed murals and activation ideas, followed by an awards ceremony.

DIA-220511-009

Moved by Deputy Mayor O'Leary

"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided May 11, 2022 by the Vice Chair respecting the 2022 OBIAA Conference, the River District Board of Management receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."

Carried.

8.h Verbal Report from the Board Treasurer Re: Board Finances

The Board Treasurer advised that the River District Board of Management's (RDBM) high-interest savings account has a balance of \$164,509, the gift certificate account has a balance of \$6,936, and the operating account has a balance of \$2,441.

The Board Treasurer advised that bank charges were applied to the account that has since been reversed, and the RDBM has earned \$146 in interest on the high-interest account and \$250 in interest on the GIC.

DIA-220511-010

Moved by Member Walcott

"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided May 11, 2022 by the Board Treasurer respecting Board Finances, the River District Board of Management receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."

Carried.

8.i Verbal Report from the Police Inspector Re: Police Update

Inspector Fluney advised that Owen Sound Police Services (OSPS) was successful in three grant applications through the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Two of these grants were for grant renewal under the Local Priorities funding stream to continue with the mobile mental health and addictions response team. This program teams a police officer with a mental health professional from the Canadian Mental Health Association to proactively address issues with persons in the community who are experiencing mental health-

related crises and connects them with available supports to divert these cases away from traditional police responses.

Inspector Fluney added that OSPS received funding under this stream to continue to support the part-time officers' program that provides additional resources during peak call periods, enhanced traffic education, and enforcement. The total value of the renewal is approximately \$230,000 per year for three years.

Inspector Fluney advised that new grant funding has been awarded totaling 1.2 million over the next three years for the Community Oriented Response and Enforcement (CORE) Unit. The CORE Unit officer performs a multi-role responsibility including community relations and support initiatives, direct enforcement, targeting hotspot areas, and serving as the liaison between the OSPS and local businesses. The funding will add two officers to the CORE program and will cover their salaries and benefits, a new dedicated police vehicle, the services of a crime analyst, as well as the equipment needed to support bicycle patrol in the River District and other areas of the City.

Inspector Fluney advised that OSPS continued with its cultural mindfulness training program put on by George Couhie of Red Hawk Training and Consulting. The training was done in partnership with M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre.

Inspector Fluney advised that OSPS conducted foot patrol totaling 183 hours in March and 152 hours in April.

Lastly, Inspector Fluney advised that the annual police report for 2021 has been published and is available on the OSPS website.

DIA-220511-011

Moved by Member Cole

"THAT in consideration of the Verbal Report provided May 11, 2022 by the Police Inspector respecting a Police Update, the River District Board of Management receives the Verbal Report for information purposes."

Carried.

9. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no matters postponed.

10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

11. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

11.a Correspondence from the Ontario Business Improvement Area Association (OBIAA) Re: 2022 OBIAA Conference

11.b Final approvals issued for the following Business Licences:

DIA-220511-012

Moved by Councillor Koepke

"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the May 11, 2022 River District Board of Management (RDBM) agenda, the RDBM receives items 11.a and 11.b for information purposes."

Carried.

12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

12.a River District Award and Concours d'Lemons

The Manager of Community Development and Marketing advised that the River District Action Plan received an award for strategic planning at the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO). This award signifies that the work being done by the River District Board of Management (RDBM) and City staff is having a positive impact and is not going unnoticed.

Mr. Fisher advised that he has been in contact with a group to bring a car show to the River District called 'Concours d'Lemons' which celebrates strange, mundane, and awful vehicles in the automobile world. The event has been tentatively scheduled for September 17, 2022 in the River District along 1st Avenue West and East from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

12.b Board Member Resignation

The Deputy Clerk advised that on May 10, 2022, Member Peter Reid submitted a resignation letter resigning from the River District Board of Management (RDBM) effective immediately. Mr. Eckenswiller advised that staff are not recommending filling the vacancy at this time given the remaining length of the Board term and the RDBM's desire to reduce the Board composition to nine (9) members for the new term.

12.c Development of BCK Property

Deputy Mayor O'Leary advised that City Council recently approved a development at the former BCK property for 224 units, all of which are within walking distance of the River District.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Parsons adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.