



Minutes
of the September 26, 2019
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSB Boardroom

Present: Les Gamble, Vern Gorham, Richard Malette, Jim Rook, David Santi, Richard Stephens, Maureen Van Alstine, Ned Whynott, Bruce Killah, David Ham, Michael Levesque and Arthur Hayden

Regrets: Jill Beer and David Leonard

Staff : Fern Dominelli, Donna Stewart, Connie Morphet and Melody Ouellette

Media : Michael Erskine

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Les Gamble, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 19-56

Moved by: Richard Stephens

Seconded by: David Santi

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted.

Carried

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4.0 CLOSED SESSION

Resolution 19-57

Moved by: Michael Levesque

Seconded by: Dave Ham

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:00 a.m.

Carried

Resolution 19-58**Moved by:** Bruce Killah**Seconded by:** Maureen Van Alstine

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 10:20 a.m.

Carried**5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

During its Closed Session, the Board discussed Property and Human Resources Issues.

6.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**Resolution No. 19-59****Moved by:** David Santi**Seconded by:** Jim RookBE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the [June 20, 2019](#) Board meeting be approved.**Carried****7.0 COMMITTEE REPORT****Property Committee**

The Property Committee met September 25, 2019. During the meeting the committee discussed the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI), Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) Investment Plan and the Request to Swap OPHI Planning Allocation as well as Single Family Property Sales and Impact on Tenancy.

7.1 Investment Plan 2019-22 and Request to Swap OPHI Planning Allocation

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance & Administration, walked the Board through the OPHI and COCHI Investment Plan and the Request to Swap OPHI Planning Allocation.

COCHI funding represents a re-investment of federal funding that has been declining under the Canada-Ontario Social Housing Agreement. It provides an opportunity for Service Managers and housing providers to address the challenges associated with projects reaching the end of their operating agreements and/or mortgage maturity.

The COCHI funding allocation of \$294,975 will be allocated over three years for repairs. These repairs can be used towards program expenses similar to the Investment in Affordable Housing funding.

OPHI is modelled after previous affordable housing programs, with the most recent being the Investment in Affordable Housing Program Extension. There are several

additional features in this program, including the addition of a support services component and the eligibility of Social Housing under Ontario Renovates.

OPHI funding allocation has been requested to be applied to Ontario Renovates over the three years \$466,780, plus Rental Housing in the first year of \$124,250. Rental Housing is the repairs to Social Housing for service providers or the Service Manager buildings.

Total three-year OHPI funding is \$623,865 and a request to swap funding with another Service Manager has been made. If approved, we will look at options.

Resolution No. 19-60

Moved by: Bruce Killah

Seconded by: Ned Whyntott

WHEREAS the Property Committee has reviewed the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI), Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) Investment Plan 2019-22 and the Request to Swap OPHI Planning Allocation and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board accept the Property Committees recommendation and approve the [Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative, Canada Ontario Community Housing Initiative Investment Plan 2019-22](#) and the [Request to Swap OPHI Planning Allocation](#) and direct staff to action the recommendations in the report.

Carried

7.2 Single Family Property Sales and Impact on Tenancy

Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the Board through the Single-Family Property Sales and Impact on Tenancy Update.

On June 20, 2019, the Board approved the [Single-Family Property Sales & Impact on Tenancy - Issue Report](#).

This report advised that where the DSB, as the landlord, enters into an agreement of purchase and sale for a single family unit and the landlord, a purchaser or a family member requires the rental unit, the DSB as landlord could provide the tenant with a Notice to End Tenancy.

On July 28, 2019, the DSB staff were advised by the DSB's lawyer, that because the DSB is a corporation, the DSB cannot issue a Notice to End Tenancy for the reasons that the landlord, a purchaser or a family member requires the rental unit.

Based on the above legal opinion, the following clauses were added to any offer/agreement of purchase and sale for single-family dwellings:

- The seller has no obligation to deliver vacant possession on closing.
- If the Purchaser wants vacant possession on closing, then the Purchaser shall bare the entire responsibility for obtaining same.
- The Purchaser acknowledges that the property is occupied by a residential tenant.
- If the purchaser is unable to obtain vacant possession on closing, the Purchaser must still close the transaction subject to the existing residential tenancy.

The DSB wants to ensure that the residents of the single-family dwellings are continually informed of the progress with respect to their homes and the DSB intention to sell.

Resolution No. 19-61

Moved by: Bruce Killah

Seconded by: Richard Stephens

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board has reviewed the Single-Family Property Sales & Impact on Tenancy Update.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Single Family Property Sales & Impact on Tenancy Update](#) and direct staff to action the recommendations in the report.

Carried

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 CAO Second Quarter Activity Report

Fern Dominelli, CAO, walked the board through the CAO Quarterly Report. This report will be shared with member municipalities who are encouraged to add it to Council agenda packages.

Resolution No. 19-62

Moved by: Vern Gorham

Seconded by: Arthur Hayden

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [2019 CAO Second Quarter Activity Report](#) be approved as presented.

Carried

8.2 Second Quarter Unaudited Financial Report

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance & Administration, walked the Board through the 2019 Second Quarter Unaudited Financial Report, which is forecasting a year-end deficit of \$302,947.

Resolution No. 19-63

Moved by: Jim Rook

Seconded by: Ned Whyntott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [2019 Second Quarter Unaudited Financial Report](#) be approved as presented.

Carried

8.3 Ministry of Education Child Care Expansion Funding

Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the Board through the Child Care Expansion – Issue Report.

On June 7, staff received confirmation of the revised [Child Care Allocations](#). Changes to cost sharing were deferred to January 1, 2020 from April 2019.

On August 28, 2019 staff received an email communication from the Ministry providing details regarding the announcement made at the AMO conference with respect to Child Care funding implementation changes. Implementation of the cost share for expansion will be rolled out as follows:

On January 1, 2020, CMSMs and DSSABs will be asked to cost-share expansion plan operating funding at a rate of 80/20 provincial/ municipal. At this point the province continues to encourage cost sharing and the ministry is committing to providing 80 percent of this funding regardless of the CMSM/DSSAB contribution.

On January 1, 2021, CMSMs/DSSABs will be required to cost share all administrative funding at a rate of 50/50; and finally.

On January 1, 2022, the threshold for allowable administrative funding CMSMs/DSSABs can spend on Child Care will be reduced from 10% to 5% in addition to the ongoing cost sharing requirements previously introduced. Changes to administrative cost sharing and the reduction of the threshold will not have a municipal impact.

Child Care expansion funding is used to support operating costs of new spaces, increased access through expanded hours and affordability in all areas of the district.

Since 2017, 75 new spaces in 5 communities have expanded as a direct result of expansion funding. The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has also committed to future expansion of 29 spaces in 2020 in Espanola (new school) and in Little Current.

The majority of programs in our district are nearing capacity, a review is being done to address community need.

Staff will be asking the Finance Committee to determine a plan that would allow the Board to fund the municipal share over a number of years.

Child Care expansion funding is needed to maintain the current system and address expansion needs, a review of cost share implementation options is needed to maintain the Child Care system.

The municipal share of expansion funding is needed to ensure current spaces remain open and new spaces can be considered in response to community need, without this funding spaces across the district will be in jeopardy.

Staff have also reviewed the current Universal Child Care rate structure and have met with providers to develop an annual fee increase to help address increasing costs associated with wages, food and occupancy costs.

Providers have agreed to an ongoing annual increase to Universal Child Care rates of two percent beginning January 1, 2020. Parents will be notified in advance. A moderate increase of 2% will address increasing costs to deliver programs and maintain an affordable system for families.

Resolution No. 19-64

Moved by: Michael Levesque

Seconded by: Vern Gorham

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board has reviewed the Child Care Expansion Funding - Issue Report; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB support an annual increase to the Universal Child Care rates of two percent per year beginning January 1, 2020 to help address increasing costs to deliver programming; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approve the cost sharing of the Child Care expansion funding in principle and direct the Finance Committee to develop a plan to fund the municipal share during the 2020 Budget deliberations; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Child Care Expansion Funding - Issue Report](#) and directs the Finance Committee and staff to action the recommendations in the report.

Carried

8.4 Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Employment Prototypes

Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the Board through transforming of employment services.

Three prototype regions were announced on July 2, 2019 – Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula, Muskoka-Kawartha's and Peel Region – where the new employment services model will launch in fall 2019. Employment services across the rest of the province will move to the new system gradually, over the next several years.

As part of the July 2 announcement, a Request for Qualification (RFQ) was launched for interested organizations to qualify for the Call for Proposal stage.

The ministry has evaluated the RFQ submissions and invited [qualified organizations](#) to participate in the [Call for Proposal](#) to determine service system managers in the prototype regions. We will provide the Board with further details as they become available.

8.5 Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care 50/50 and First Nations Funding

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through the [50/50 and First Nations funding](#) for Paramedic Services.

The DSB received notification from the Ministry of Health that we will receive a revised funding of \$9,166,314, with respect to the Land Ambulance Services Grant (LASG) for the 2019 calendar year.

This is in response to the government understanding that the decision to provide stable funding for land ambulance services for the 2019 year did not offer municipal partners enough time to plan without potentially impacting service delivery.

Provincially, this represents on average a 4% increase for municipalities over the previous year. In order to support LASG planning for the 2020 year, municipalities can expect continued growth.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB grant received for 50/50 funding is \$39,102 less than the amount received for 2018. The Ministry used the 2018 budget, reduced the budget by the 2018 100% TWOMO and First Nation funding and applied a zero% inflationary increase for 2019.

The 2019 First Nation funding has been increased by \$137,789 over 2018 which further reduces the 50/50 funding by \$68,895.

TWOMO funding for 2019 has not been announced to date. Once all the funding envelopes are confirmed, we will provide the Board with the final update on the 2019 Land Ambulance funding.

8.6 Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Wiikwemkoong Audited Financial Statements

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance and Administration walked the Board through the Wiikwemkoong Paramedic Service Audited Financial Statements.

The financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2019 for this Ambulance Service were audited during the summer months and reported to MOHLTC.

The total expenses of \$2,176,704 were within budget and are 100% funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Resolution No. 19-65

Moved by: Richard S

Seconded by: Arthur Hayden

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [Wiikwemkoong Paramedic Service Audited Financial Statement](#) be approved as presented.

Carried

8.7 Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Paramedic Service Review

Fern Dominelli, CAO, gave the Board a brief overview of the [Paramedic Service Draft Review](#).

On June 11th and 12th of this year the Ministry of Health Ambulance Service Review Team undertook a scheduled review of Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Paramedic Services

On August 19th the service received the draft report. That report confirmed that our service was successful in the process, meaning that certification, as defined in Legislation, will be issued through 2022.

As required in the process, the DSB submitted our response document on September 19 and the DSB is now awaiting an in-person meeting with the Inspector. Following that meeting, a final report will be received and shared with the Board.

8.8 End of Operating Agreement

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through the [End of Operating Agreements](#).

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Community Housing Renewal Strategy, launched in April 2019, sets broad direction to sustain, repair and grow Ontario's community housing system and outlines the government's approach to preserving Ontario's community housing assets.

Ontario's Community Housing Renewal Strategy is focused on affordable housing for low-income households and the non-profit, co-operative and municipal housing sector. The strategy will help sustain, repair and grow the community housing system, making it work better for the people it serves.

To complement the Strategy, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has developed a [technical backgrounder](#) on the end of operating agreements and mortgages as a resource for service managers and housing providers.

This backgrounder is intended to provide community housing providers and service managers with a better understanding of what happens at the end of a housing project's operating agreement and/or mortgage. It is not intended to provide analysis on the impacts that the end of operating agreements and mortgages might have on housing providers or Service Managers. The ministry is working in partnership with service managers, housing providers and community housing sector organizations to better understand these impacts and put in place an improved framework for community housing providers once their original obligations end.

In the coming months, the province will work with its partners to explore changes to the community housing system and will work with the sector to explore how Ontario's vital community assets can be protected over the long-term.

8.9 Homeless Enumeration

Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the Board through an update on Homeless Enumeration.

On August 21, 2019, staff received a [letter](#) from the Assistant Deputy Minister, Janet Hope, acknowledging that the first province-wide enumeration was an important first step towards ending homelessness however, Ministry staff have captured lessons learned from this process.

They have identified some gaps and limitations in the enumeration approach, and resulting data collected through the first data collection.

The Ministry recognizes that there are opportunities to improve the enumeration approach required by themselves and incorporate best practices which are being used in some communities.

They also recognize that the environment in which the enumeration approach was first conceived has changed with some communities now using real time data.

For these reasons, the Ministry will pause the requirement for service managers to conduct local homeless enumeration to give them time to review in more detail future enumeration requirements and ensure that the data collected will be used to improve programs and outcomes for those experiencing homelessness.

We will not be required by the province to conduct local homeless enumeration in 2020.

The province remains committed to improving the outcomes for Ontario's most vulnerable population.

In April, the Ministry launched the province's new [Community Housing Renewal Strategy](#) which is based on the principle that everyone deserves a place to call home. The Strategy intends to make community housing safer and more sustainable to help people who need it most, so that all Ontarians can find a home that meets their needs. This includes providing more than \$1 billion in 2019- alone to help sustain, repair and grow community housing in Ontario and help end homelessness.

In addition, the 2019 Budget confirmed the province's focus on mental health and addiction issues. Supportive housing is widely considered a key element in addressing homelessness.

The Ministry is working with our partner ministries to identify opportunities to improve the flexibility of the system and outcomes for people.

8.10 Community Gardening Events

Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services, gave the Board an update on the success of the Community Gardening Events.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board and the LaCloche Best Start Hub hosted its 8th annual Family Container Gardening Event on Friday June 21st, 2019 from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the Red McCarthy Ball Field Pavilion.

Espanola Volunteer Fire Department, Espanola Police Services, and our DSB Paramedic Services attended the event and had great interaction with all participants.

Attendance was down slightly (10 less) this year with 150 folks attending the event. We tried a different approach this year by hosting the event on a Friday rather than a Saturday.

Local businesses continue to support this popular event with donations of the Commercial BBQ from Garnet's Rental; Soil and various compost products from Espanola Home Hardware; and Paper Products from Canadian Tire. These items are greatly appreciated and keep the costs down. All donators were acknowledged at the event and thanked in person for their continued support.

This year, the Sudbury North Community Gardening Event and BBQ was hosted by the Sudbury North Best Start Hub and the DSB, on site at the DSB Housing Building on June 6, 2019 from 5 – 7 pm.

The Event was a huge hit this year with over 200 participants, which is the best turnout ever! DSB Staff volunteers and volunteers from the Sudbury North Best Start Hub offered games and activities for the children in addition to the gardening fun. Thanks to the Town of Chapleau for agreeing to close part of the street to maintain the safety of the children.

As with our local event, Paramedic Services, Police and Fire Department representatives were on site interacting with attendees making the event even more enjoyable for all!

Both Community events had children and adults alike create a fun container garden, learn about plant care and food safety and good food choices. A free barbecue was also held for all in attendance.

8.11 MCCSS 2020 Ontario Works Program Delivery Funding

Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the Board through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) [announcement](#) that the government is looking for more effective and efficient ways to deliver services that are sustainable for the future and focused on improving outcomes.

The ministry is committed to continuing to work with us to introduce new digital tools, automate and modernize processes, reduce administrative costs, and enhance life stabilization supports to clients on their path towards employment.

Modernized service delivery changes the way work is done so staff can focus on high impact interactions with clients to achieve better outcomes.

They also recognize many municipalities need additional time to adjust to new approaches to service delivery. To this end, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing announced during the AMO Conference that the government is not reducing PDF levels for 2020.

To support early municipal budget planning, he confirmed the Ontario Works PDF allocation for 2020 will be based on 2018 actuals. Reductions in PDF, reflecting reduced administrative costs from modernization, are being deferred until 2021 to provide municipalities more time to plan and adjust for future budgets.

Over the coming year, they will work with municipalities, through the Provincial-Municipal Social Assistance and Employment Committee (PMSAEC), on a new funding model for Ontario Works to improve fiscal accountability and greater efficiency while supporting clients in achieving positive outcomes. The North has 10 representatives on the 3 working groups so we are well represented

8.12 AMO Conference

Fern Dominelli, CAO, gave the Board a brief overview of what was discussed at the AMO Conference.

Two documents were shared with the Board. [Things you need to know coming from the AMO Conference](#) and [Fixing the Housing Affordability Crisis: Municipal Recommendations for Housing in Ontario](#).

The DSB and NOSDA had 6 delegations with the following Ministries:

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
- Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
- Ministry of Health & Long Term Care

Topics of importance to Northern Ontario were discussed.

9.0 OTHER BUSINESS

10.0 Next Meeting – October 24, 2019

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 19-66

Moved by: Michael Levesque


Seconded by: Dave Ham

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 11:45 a.m. until the next regular meeting to be held, in the DSB's Espanola Mead Boulevard Board Room on October 24, 2019.

Carried



Chair



CAO (Secretary-Treasurer
of the Corporation)