

WINDSOR UTILITIES COMMISSION
AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES FOR THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

A public meeting of the Windsor Utilities Commission Audit & Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 via Zoom Conference call. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ENWIN's offices remained closed to the public.

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Gid Sovran [Chair], Julian Hawkins, Doug Lawson, Jim Morrison

Management: President & CEO, H. Reidel, VP Corporate Services & CFO, M. Carlini, VP Water Operations, G. Rossi, VP of Hydro Operations, J. Brown, VP Business Development, K. Taylor; VP Customer Care & Corporate Operations; Corporate Secretary, P. Gleason, Director of Finance, G. Boose, Controller B. Pougnet; Director Human Resources, J. Damphouse; and Governance and Records Coordinator, A. Pelaccia

Guests: T. Ardovini, City of Windsor

Regrets: None

CALL TO ORDER & DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair noting quorum called the public meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved and seconded

That the following Consent Agenda item be approved as recommended.

WUC Audit & Finance Committee Public Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2021 be approved.

-CARRIED

COMMUNICATION AGENDA

The VP Water Operations reviewed item 4.4, MECP Inspections Results. Congratulations were provided to the Water team for their dedication and diligence to safe and clean drinking water, with a perfect audit score achieved for the tenth consecutive year. Media releases have been planned and will be provided to the public.

Moved and seconded

That the following Communication Agenda items be received as recommended.

- 4.1 Windsor Utilities Commission Financial and Corporate Compliance Report
for Quarter Ending Q2, 2021
- 4.2 Enterprise Risk Management
- 4.3 WUC Sinking Fund Update
- 4.4 MECP Inspection Results
- 4.5 WUC Initiatives Tracking
- 4.6 WUC Audit & Finance Committee 2021 Agenda Work Plan
- 4.7 ENWIN Group and WUC 2021 Meeting Schedule

-CARRIED

ENWIN EXECUTIVE REPORTS

5.1 WINDSOR UTILITIES COMMISSION Q2 2021 FINANCIAL REVIEW

The VP Corporate Services & CFO summarized the review for the Committee. Overall performance remains positive.

Moved and seconded

That the Windsor Utilities Commission Q2 2021 Financial Review be RECEIVED;

And that the Windsor Utilities Commission Q2 2021 Financial Review be RECOMMENDED to the Board of Commissioners FOR RECEIPT.

-CARRIED

5.2 WINDSOR UTILITIES COMMISSION 2022 BUSINESS PLAN INCLUDING THE OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS - PRESENTATION

The VP Corporate Services & CFO provided the presentation, focusing on financial highlights.

Moved and seconded

That the Windsor Utilities Commission 2022 Business Plan including the Operating and Capital Budgets – Presentation be RECEIVED;

-CARRIED

5.3 WINDSOR UTILITIES COMMISSION 2022 BUSINESS PLAN INCLUDING THE OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

A Commissioner inquired if capital expenditures should be accelerated instead of providing a rate reduction in 2022. Management discussed the liquidity and consumption projections, as well timeline and operational constraints regarding future capital projects. A Commissioner inquired about the accuracy of inflation projections. Management confirmed current volatilities with inflationary increases.

A Commissioner inquired about the impacts to an average homeowner bill if the rate is reduced, as recommended. Management confirmed that in the past, there has not been much feedback from ratepayers when rates are reduced.

Committee Members acknowledged the difficulty of reversing a rate change in the future after a reduction has been made and requested that the rate change be discussed with the Board of Commissioners.

Moved and seconded

That the WUC 2022 – 2027 Business Plan with 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets BE RECEIVED;

That the WUC Schedule A for By-Law Number 94, be referred to the WUC Board of Commissioners, subject to receiving additional information on the potential rate increase.

That the WUC Commission annual commissioner remuneration be recommended to the WUC Board of Commissioners for approval to include an inflationary increase of 2% from \$8,489 to \$8,659.

And that the WUC 2022 – 2027 Business Plan with the 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets be referred to the WUC Board of Commissioners, subject to receiving

additional information on the potential rate increase.

-CARRIED

IN CAMERA SESSION

Moved and seconded

Pursuant to the Municipal Act section 239 (2), that the Committee be directed to move in camera for the purpose of consideration of the following items of business:

WUC A&F In Camera Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2021

s. 239(2)(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

Open Legal Matters: Semi-Annual Update (as of June 30, 2021)

s. 239(2)(e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board.

District Energy Windsor Proceeds

s. 239(2)(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

In camera session commenced at 11:40 a.m.

In camera session concluded at 11:54 a.m.

RESUME PUBLIC MEETING SESSION

Moved and seconded

That the Committee move to resume the public meeting session.

-CARRIED

The public Committee meeting reconvened at 11:54 a.m.

TRANSMISSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Moved and seconded

That the recommendations discussed in camera be brought forward for consideration.

-CARRIED

Moved and seconded

That the WUC A&F Committee in camera meeting minutes of June 9, 2021 be approved as recommended.

-CARRIED

Moved and seconded

That the Open Legal Matters: Semi-Annual Update (as of June 30, 2021) be received as recommended.

-CARRIED

Moved and seconded

That the District Energy Windsor Proceeds report be received, and management follow the instructions of the Commission.

-CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

None noted.

TERMINATION

Moved and seconded.

That the meeting be terminated.

-CARRIED

The meeting terminated at 11:54 a.m.

Recording Secretary

Committee Chair