

**THE FIRST MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Council Chamber
Tom Davies Square**

**Tuesday, January 30, 2007
Commencement: 7:00 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR TED CALLAGHAN, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Cimino; Barbeau; Berthiaume; Dutrisac; Dupuis; Rivest; Thompson; Craig (D8:40pm); Caldarelli; Gasparini (D11:28pm); Landry-Altman; Mayor Rodriguez

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; C. Matheson, General Manager of Community Development; D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Growth & Development; G. Clausen, Acting General Manager of Infrastructure; T. Beadman, Acting General Manager of Emergency Services; L. Hayes, CFO/Treasurer; R. Henderson, Director of Citizen Services; P. Thomson, Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development; E. Stankiewicz, Manager of Financial Planning & Policy; D. Bergeron, Manager of Financial Support & Budgeting; C. Zuliani, Manager of Library & Heritage Resources; A. Haché, City Clerk; F. Bortolussi, Planning Committee Secretary; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; Channel 10 News; CBC Radio-Canada

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

Welcome and
Opening Remarks

Councillor Callaghan welcomed those in attendance to the Public Input Meeting of the Finance Committee of Council. He stated that the purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the public to submit their input and opinions on the City's current budget. The Chair advised that this was the First Public Input Meeting for the Budget following the public input sessions which were held in each of the twelve Wards on Monday, January 22, 2007.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATION

2007 Budget and
Budget Process

Ms. Hayes, CFO/Treasurer, gave an electronic presentation providing a brief introduction to the 2007 budget.

Ms. Hayes indicated that the total expenditures for 2006 was \$455 million, revenues were \$299 million and the Tax Levy was \$156 million. She provided a breakdown of where the City spent its \$455 million budget, the four major sources of revenue, and how the tax dollars were spent.

2007 Budget and
Budget Process
(continued)

The presentation outlined the 2007 Budget's challenges, the opportunities available and actions taken to date. She also described the Budget Process and Budget schedule.

Ms. Hayes concluded the presentation by advising those present that, in order to accurately capture their requests, a 2007 Budget Comment Form should be completed.

PUBLIC HEARING

A speakers' list was available and submissions were heard in the order that they appeared.

Dr. George Shepherd
Greater Sudbury
Lacrosse Association

Dr. Shepherd is the Coaching Director of the Greater Sudbury Lacrosse Association (GSLA) and stated that lacrosse has a long history in Sudbury. He provided an electronic presentation entitled "*Lacrosse in Sudbury*" and stated that the GSLA represents all of the Greater Sudbury area. It is a national summer sport that has a variety of health and fitness benefits and is played between the months of April to August. The GSLA involves over six hundred (600) people and is the biggest user of arenas in the summer months for indoor lacrosse. He advised that they will be expanding into a Master's Lacrosse to meet demands for adults aged 21+. Dr. Shepherd indicated that lacrosse is a quickly growing sport in communities across Canada with Ontario registrations increasing over 400% over the past ten years.

He stated that studies show that a multi-use, year round facility would enhance the immediate economy. A facility that could accommodate large tournaments, conferences, or trade shows is needed in Northeastern Ontario and would benefit the City of Greater Sudbury. He also stated that the GSLA supports a minimum four pad facility with appropriate space for winter and summer sports, meetings, conventions, floor shows and major sporting events, to be built in the Lasalle-Notre Dame area.

Dr. Shepherd provided further information on experiences of lacrosse in other communities throughout Ontario and indicated that municipalities with modern multi-pad facilities (Whitby, Kitchener/Waterloo, Ottawa, etc.) attract large tournaments that benefit the community,

GSLA Fact Sheet

Greater Sudbury Lacrosse Association Fact Sheet was tabled.

Debbie McIntosh
Rainbow Routes

Ms. McIntosh, Executive Director of Rainbow Routes Association provided an electronic presentation which outlined Rainbow Routes' Greater Sudbury's Non-motorized Trail Strategy 2005, 2006 trail work to-date, featuring before and after pictures of various trail systems that are now operational as well as 2006 community trail

Debbie McIntosh
Rainbow Routes
(continued)

projects, such as Trails North (Valley East, Capreol, Frontier), Robinson Lake Project, Bethel Lake Boardwalk, etc. She indicated they are currently working on trail promotions such as Greater Sudbury Non-motorized Trail Maps, city-wide trail signage, Trail Tour Guide, May media blitz, etc.

Ms. McIntosh stated that in three years (2004-2006), the City has invested \$527,290, in a \$1,487,348 non-motorized trail infrastructure. She stated that without the continued work of Community Trail Organizations and CAN's, these trails would not be the success they are today.

Ms. McIntosh stated that Rainbow Routes is moving beyond the traditional sources of funding from the three levels of government and has commitments from CVRD Inco and the Wilson Charitable Foundation, and is currently seeking a partnership with Xstrata Nickel.

Letter and 2007
Project & Operating
Budget

Letter dated 2007-01-30 from Mr. Joachim Muetze, President, Rainbow Routes, and the Rainbow Routes Association Project & Operating Budget 2007 was tabled.

Sheila Prusila, Walden
Anderson Farm
Heritage Committee

Ms. Prusila provided an electronic presentation entitled "*The Anderson Farm Museum*". She stated that the Walden CAN Heritage Task Force is a sub-committee of the Walden Community Action Network (Walden CAN) and is made up of teachers, miners, pensioners, community members, etc.

She stated that their vision for the museum site is a multi-purpose, four season venue utilizing both indoor and outdoor spaces which would feature heritage events, museum displays, festivals and fairs, cultural and artistic initiatives, interactive workshops, exhibits and demonstrations. The museum would provide community access for groups of all ages and abilities and a place for "imagination to soar and creativity to come alive". She indicated that they would like to develop a memory garden and public walking trails that would connect to the Trans Canada trail.

Ms. Prusila also stated that there is a lack of year-round facilities for community use, the museum buildings and outdoor artifacts are deteriorating and decaying, and there has been high incidences of vandalism and break-ins. She indicated that the community and City staff have partnered to form the Anderson Farm Museum Committee and repair work has already begun by City staff and volunteers. With the resurgence of community involvement, the Community Garden was revived and the Walden Fall Fair reinstated, in 2006.

Sheila Prusila, Walden
Anderson Farm
Heritage Committee
(continued)

Ms. Prusila stated that the Walden Anderson Farm Heritage Committee is requesting funds to address the following concerns:

- make necessary building repairs (shingle replacement on heritage buildings, painting of buildings, address building decay)
- complete the stable building to provide a year-round facility for community groups (insulate, renovate the kitchenette, make bathrooms accessible from inside the building, make the second floor accessible to all)
- address safety and site security (improve exterior lighting, provide regular security patrols, allow for increased activities and community usage of facility)

Rob Sitko, Walden
Minor Hockey
Association

Mr. Sitko indicated that the Barrydowne arena was closed because there was no “plan” or funding to support a plan within the Leisure Services Department. With little or no public consultation, the main user was forced to use the arena in Capreol.

He stated that in 2004 an external consultant produced the “Leisure Services Master Plan” which recommended that the City “provide consistent long term investment in both existing and new arena facilities...a fund with regular annual contributions should be established”. He also stated that a funding plan was important because without one, the City would continue to close facilities due to age and major maintenance costs.

Mr. Sitko also indicated that there is a “lack of primetime ice” in the city being the ice that is available for most of the user groups, which are predominantly children. He stated that the children can not use the ice during the weekday hours as they are in school, which forces many associations to go outside of the city to secure ice time. He said that this forces families to travel to Espanola, St. Charles, or Warren during the evening and in poor driving conditions.

He stated that Sudbury is in need of a multi-use facility, for the benefit of not just the youth but the region as a whole. This facility could house two or three ice pads as well as an indoor soccer facility, and perhaps a gym. With this facility located centrally, it could be home to large events such as hockey and ringette tournaments, figure skating exhibitions, indoor soccer tournaments, lacrosse leagues, trade shows, concerts, etc. He stated that these events would generate revenue for local hotels, restaurants, shops, and attractions such as Science North. He stressed that keeping the youth active makes for healthier individuals and staying out of trouble.

Rob Sitko, Walden
Minor Hockey
Association
(continued)

Mr. Sitko also indicated that partners and/or corporate sponsors such as CVRD Inco and Xstrata Nickel could play a major role in this, and also leasing space to a Tim Horton's or Subway franchise would help with the feasibility of a facility.

He stressed that a multi-use facility could attract families to the region including health care professionals from Southern Ontario who are accustomed to having such a complex in their community. He quoted a line from the movie "A Field of Dreams", "Build it and they will come."

Scott Cosby, Junction
Creek Stewardship
Committee

Through an electronic presentation, Mr. Cosby, Co-Chair of the Junction Creek Stewardship Committee, advised that the Committee was formed in 1999 to coordinate citizen participation in restoring Junction Creek. Throughout the years, they have planted more than 10,000 trees, collected 40,000 kg of garbage, released 7,000 brook trout into the Creek and monitor the water quality. He indicated that over 3,000 elementary/secondary school students have participated in awareness programs and sixteen groups have participated in "Adopt-a-Creek" Program. Mr. Cosby stated that there are over 4,000 volunteers involved with the Committee which has a partnership with many community businesses/organizations.

He also stated that the key to their success is having a paid coordinator for the past six years and having raised over \$430,000. Mr. Cosby advised that they are requesting a \$80,000 contribution from the City over the next three years (\$30,000 in 2007, \$30,000 in 2008, \$20,000 in 2009) to cover operating expenses until they complete their five-year plan in 2010. He also advised that CVRD Inco has committed \$80,000 along with in-kind support.

Budget Request and
Five-Year Action Plan

Letter dated 2007-01-26 from Mr. Franco Mariotti, Co-Chair, Junction Creek Stewardship Committee with Five-Year Action Plan was tabled.

Naomi Grant, Friends
of the Roxborough
Greenbelt

Ms. Grant provided an electronic presentation and indicated that the Friends of the Roxborough Greenbelt are requesting that the City of Greater Sudbury Council declare the land along Kingsmount Boulevard and Riverside Drive, from Winchester Drive to Junction Creek (Roxborough Greenbelt), as a public natural park, and enter an agreement with Dalron Limited, the private landowner.

She stated that this was a unique opportunity for the City to protect one of the last urban forests in central Sudbury, which is recognized to be deficient in greenspace. She also noted that this would provide parkland to the Kingsmount/Riverside neighbourhood approaching the target specified in the Official Plan, add to the Junction Creek Waterway Park, add trail links to the Trans-Canada Trail, and link downtown to natural features and trails.

Naomi Grant, Friends
of the Roxborough
Greenbelt
(continued)

Ms. Grant advised that Friends of the Roxborough Greenbelt are committed to raising a contribution of \$50,000 towards this goal and to assist in securing outside funding for the protection of this greenbelt. She also indicated that Dalron has given their support to work towards this goal. Ms. Grant provided environmental, human health, quality of life, and economic benefits for this endeavour.

Friends of the
Roxborough Greenbelt
Budget 2007

Friends of the Roxborough Greenbelt Budget 2007 was tabled.

Monique
Landry-Sabourin &
Joanne Palkovits,
St. Joseph's Health
Centre

Ms. Landry-Sabourin, Chair, and Ms. Palkovits, CEO, of the St. Joseph's Health Centre provided the Finance Committee with an electronic presentation. Ms. Landry-Sabourin stated that St. Joseph's Villa is Sudbury's newest one hundred twenty-eight (128) bed nursing home which became operational in 2003, which is owned by the St. Joseph's Health Centre. She indicated that the St. Joseph's Health Centre is a non-profit charitable organization which is governed by a voluntary Board of Trustees with representation from lawyers, physicians, accountants, educators, etc.

She indicated that when they built and prepared their budget, they worked on the premise that they would not be paying property taxes for several reasons. She stated that in 2005, after the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care reimbursed 85% of the taxes, they paid \$30,000 to the City. Ms. Landry-Sabourin stated that this amount could go toward buying more food for the residents. Currently they have to fundraise to buy adequate food because they receive only \$5.46 per day per resident for three meals, three snacks and all nutritional supplements.

She indicated that a property tax rebate would allow them to potentially hire additional staff to assist with the personal needs of the residents (daily baths, activities). If St. Joseph's Villa was able to hire additional staff to support patients who require higher levels of care, it would alleviate the Alternate Level of Care (ALC) crisis at the hospital.

Ms. Landry-Sabourin stated that since a by-law relieving non-profit licensed day care nurseries from paying property taxes is in place to support the children of the community, one should be put in place for the seniors, as they are "equally as vulnerable and deserving of this funding". She concluded by asking the Finance Committee to provide a property tax rebate for non-profit nursing homes which are owned or operated by registered charities in the City of Greater Sudbury.

Bill McKetsy,
President, Sudbury
Curling Club

Mr. McKetsy stated that the Sudbury Curling Club was established in 1913 and is located on Wessex Street, Sudbury. Their membership has increased 25% over the last five years and includes young and old. The facility is available for rent when not in use by the members. He indicated that they installed a high-efficiency furnace, volunteers painted the ice surface and installed a metal roof last year, their website is up and running, the facility is handicap accessible, they are a not-for-profit organization which was established as a Corporation.

Mr. McKetsy indicated that the Club currently has a five-year plan in place for renovations and upgrading which requires \$250,000 to complete and the Club is requesting funding from the City in the amount of \$25,000.

Vicki Smith, Chamber
of Commerce

Ms. Smith, past Chair of the Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce, stated that they were looking forward to working with staff and Council for the next four years and that Council was taking the right steps to achieve their goals. She said that the Chamber embraces the idea of a multi-purpose facility, an Arts and Convention Facility, the Constellation City report and encourages Council to increase economic development in the City of Greater Sudbury. Ms. Smith indicated that Council must continue to improve the city's infrastructure, but avoid increasing taxes while reviewing the budget. She added that tax increases affect businesses' abilities to remain viable. Ms. Smith stated that the Chamber continues to support the Business Retention and Expansion Project. She added that the decisions of Council will have an impact on the city for years to come and that Council's efforts are appreciated.

Sudbury Community
Foundation

Ms. Simmons, Executive Director, and Mr. Bruce Hennessy, Member, of the Sudbury Community Foundation provided an electronic presentation entitled "*Sudbury's Vital Signs*".

Mr. Hennessy stated that they are a tax-exempt public charity created by and for the people of Sudbury and their mission is to enhance the quality of life and sustainability of our community through fund development, grant making and leadership.

He outlined the three features of the Foundation:

- endowment building and personalized service
- local grantmaking expertise
- community leadership

and briefly reviewed the history of the Sudbury Community Foundation.

Sudbury Community
Foundation
(continued)

He stated that their total assets exceed \$1.3 million and that grants are distributed mostly in the area of children and youth at 36.8%, followed by social services at 25.1%. Mr. Hennessy also stated that this past year, the Foundation established a sustainability fund for organizational expenses. Board members are committed to help this Fund grow and their personal contributions have been heavily weighted toward this Fund.

He also stated that there are several funds from which the Foundation can not grant funds. The Sudbury Regional Tree Fund, which has more than \$200,000, must reach \$1 million before grants can be given back to the City for ecosystem renewal, and the Greater Sudbury Charities Fund, which presently holds \$169,000, and must reach \$250,000.

Mr. Hennessy advised the Committee that the Sudbury Community Foundation will be developing a project entitled "*Vital Signs*" which provides an annual community check-up that measures the vitality of our cities, identifies significant trends, and assigns grades to at least ten areas critical to quality of life.

He stated that in order to develop this program, the Foundation is requesting start-up funding from FedNor and Trillium and because Vital Signs would benefit our local community, is seeking support from the City for research costs in the amount of \$20,000 per year for two years. He indicated that the Foundation will also look at finding potential donors and build on endowment to support this work.

Francoise Roussel
Volunteer Sudbury

Ms. Roussel provided an electronic presentation and read a quote from the Community Solution Team's Constellation report (page 26):

"Volunteer Sudbury is now solidly established in our community and should be viewed as a partner for all initiatives aimed at the volunteer sector. The city should actively assist their efforts to reach out to the smaller communities."

She stated that Volunteer Sudbury provides three programs that would assist volunteers and the City:

1. Volunteer Sudbury Taskforce: recruiting a taskforce of volunteers under the premise of helping out whoever and whenever will lead to more volunteering in our community when it is most needed.
2. Volunteer Emergency Response: through this volunteer network the Foundation proposes to work closely with the City to develop a new approach to Emergency Response Volunteer coordination.

Francoise Roussel
Volunteer Sudbury
(continued)

3. Neighbourhood Matching Program: in order to overcome the challenges of volunteer recruitment and referral in an area as large as Greater Sudbury, the Volunteer Sudbury Taskforce would be used to develop new satellite Matching Programs. These "Neighbourhood" Matching Programs would be located in each of Greater Sudbury's smaller communities.

Ms. Roussel indicated that the end result for the City of Greater Sudbury and smaller communities would be an excellent and improved volunteer delivery system.

She stated that Volunteer Sudbury requires the means to employ a permanent, full-time Executive Director, part-time administrative assistance to maintain the Volunteer Emergency Response Program, and travel reimbursement because the Neighbourhood Matching Program would require considerable travel to Greater Sudbury's smaller communities. The total funding request is \$75,700 per year for the next three years.

2007 Board
Presentation
Accompanying Report

Volunteer Sudbury's 2007 Board Presentation: Accompanying Report was tabled.

Dieter Ruse, Sudbury
District Archive
Interest Group

Mr. Ruse, Vice-President, Funding, stated that My!Sudbury advertises "rich place historically", but how do we know this? Where can we go to check? Currently the City of Greater Sudbury does not have an archives available. If Sudbury collects records, where are they? He stated that the Sudbury District Archives Interest Group wants a public archive for the City. Mr. Ruse advised that a public archives is required to collect, preserve, organize and make accessible the documentary basis of our heritage. An archives would provide an information resource for private individuals and ethnic groups, and provide the opportunity for the story of Sudbury to be told only if records are readily available and accessible. Mr. Ruse stated that the City has received an offer for a building to be gifted and to be used as a central archives, and encouraged Council to go forward with this endeavour. He also indicated that funding applications have been made to Trillium, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund, etc.

Mr. Ruse indicated that this new facility would require a start-up cost of \$100,000 for renovations and operational costs of \$250,000 to \$300,000 per year.

Barbara Reid,
Resident, Roxborough
Greenbelt

Ms. Reid lent her support to the Friends of the Roxborough Greenbelt and stated that she has witnessed people walking in the greenbelt during the summer and winter months which is utilized by those who appreciate nature. She stated that by destroying this area, the homes of animals and organisms would be destroyed.

Barbara Reid,
Resident, Roxborough
Greenbelt
(continued)

She also stated that it is a privilege to have this land in the middle of the city. Ms. Reid indicated that the greenbelt will take care of itself if it is not demolished. She lives beside the greenbelt and stated that it is a friendly place.

Dino Moretta, Sudbury
Regional Soccer
Association

Mr. Moretta, Treasurer of the Sudbury Regional Soccer Association (SRSA) and Chair of the SRSA Fields Committee, stated that SRSA is the governing soccer body for most soccer played in Sudbury. It governs Sudburnia Soccer Club, Italia Flyers Men's Recreational League, The Sudbury Regional Competitive Soccer League, to name a few, and has over 6,000 players.

He indicated that the SRSA was here to petition the city for a commitment to build a multi-field soccer complex. He stated that in 2006, the SRSA had to forfeit the rights to the North America Croatian Tournament due to inadequate field facilities (they require a minimum six field facility). Over twenty-three teams and 1,000 players/participants were lost, with a total lose of revenue of over \$500,000. Mr. Moretta also indicated that Sudbury will be requested to host the tournament in the next five to ten years.

He stated that leagues are at a capacity and the ability to establish leagues for 35+ would be contingent of additional fields.

Mr. Moretta stated that in 2006, eight teams played in the Ontario Wide (Provincial) leagues and, during the home games, Sudbury was criticized for poor field conditions. Soccer cannot be played on the fields until May, creating a shorter playing season than Southern Ontario, therefore, an artificial turf field would be beneficial and attract southern teams.

Mr. Moretta advised that the SRSA would like a commitment of a minimum eight full field complex, two lit fields, one showcase field consisting of outdoor artificial turf, and a clubhouse with at least four change rooms, a referee's room, boardroom and concessions. He stated that the SRSA was willing to secure funds to ensure this project is completed.

Funding Option

Councillor Rivest requested a funding option for creating new soccer fields in the city and an existing soccer field to be lit.

SRSA Preliminary
Multi-Field Soccer
Proposal

Sudbury Regional Soccer Association preliminary multi-field soccer proposal was tabled.

Guy Sonier
Rayside-Balfour
Workout Centre

Mr. Sonier stated that he has seen the Rayside-Balfour Workout Centre, located at the Lionel E. Lalonde Centre, grow from twenty members to three hundred fifty-six, not including City employees that utilize the facility.

He stated that the members are requesting additional hours be provided on Saturday and Sunday, which would create an approximate increase of \$5,000-6,000 per year to the City's budget.

He also requested that capital be put away for the purchase of new equipment in the future.

Mr. Sonier also stated that they are seeing an increase of fifty to sixty new members each year, especially with the Emergency Services personnel being moved to the Lionel E. Lalonde Centre. With this increase, a future expansion of the facility would be required.

Dr. Raymond Jacques

Dr. Jacques felt that staff should reevaluate development charges and provide a reserve fund to be used for future infrastructure.

Dr. Jacques stated that there should be a "Quality of Life Levy" for funding of future projects such as recreation, park or green space protection, soccer complex, etc. and placed in the present tax structure.

He said that he supports the allocation of funds for the acquisition of the Roxborough Greenbelt. Dr. Jacques also referred to the importance of walking for health and including safe walking trails within the City.

Rosemary Horn,
Sudbury Symphony
Orchestra

Ms. Horn, Development Officer for the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra, stated two things for the Finance Committee to consider when voting on the 2007 Budget:

1. The importance for the City to continue in its leadership role in the arts and in granting funds for the arts and cultural community.
2. That the City endorse the proposed performing arts centre for the City of Greater Sudbury.

She continued by explaining how the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra supports the local economy by contributing to the arts and cultural demographics. They also play a role in the community through their Outreach and Education program within the local school systems.

She stated that the City is on the cusp of committing to building a performing arts centre in which to celebrate and nurture the arts. This would assist the Symphony in allowing them to reach a larger audience. She concluded by stating that the cost of building such a facility is intimidating, but it could be financially viable.

Craig Ticalo,
Independent Living
Resource Centre

Mr. Ticalo provided an electronic presentation entitled "*Because We Belong: Housing Proposal for the Sudbury Manitoulin Independent Living Resource Centre*". He briefly outlined the background and history of the Independent Living Resource Centre (ILRC), surveys taken, their vision, and location.

Mr. Ticalo stated that the Centre's proposal was for the construction of a new ILRC office incorporating twelve to fifteen geared-to-income, barrier free housing units and providing physiotherapy services, life skills and social development programs, enhance employable skills, and computer training. Some of the potential/present funding agencies are FedNor, NOHFC, Industry Canada, etc.

He indicated that they are seeking \$500,000 for a building fund with an ongoing financial commitment from the City, a liaison with programs administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and support from the City of Greater Sudbury Economic and Community Development Initiatives.

Carrie-Lynn Hotson,
Vermilion Lake
Neighbourhood Assoc.

Ms. Hotson, President of the Vermilion Lake Neighbourhood Association, stated that they have existed as a Ratepayers Group for over thirty years. Vermilion Lake Road runs off of Highway 144 between Chelmsford and Dowling, and the Association service over two hundred fifty residential homes and seasonal residents.

She advised they currently house their Association in a building that was built by the residents thirty years ago and they are in need of a new facility. They have built a playground, ball park, basketball court, and a helicopter pad. Ms. Hotson indicated that their interim proposal to the City would be to help finance the repairs of the existing building, with the option of coming back in a few years for a new building. She also indicated that in order to properly use this facility they need help with the following hurdles:

- \$10,000 for a new water system
- \$1,000 to make the facility handicapped accessible
- \$5,000 to repair the parking lot
- \$2,000 to build a storage facility

Ms. Hotson indicated they reviewed the Constellation City Report which speaks to many of their needs and justifies the City spending money to assist them in making their space a usable one.

Ms. Hotson also indicated that they have already raised \$12,000, planted seven hundred trees, worked with Rainbow Routes to construct a 700 m trail around the property, and have raised \$4,000 selling tickets for a fishing derby to be held this week. She emphasized that they are not requesting the City to "foot the whole bill", but are requesting a financial commitment to assist them in these endeavors.

Yvan Robert, Resident

Mr. Robert indicated that he was born and raised in Sudbury. He stated that in 2004 it cost the taxpayers \$778,000 and in 2005 \$603,000 to “accommodate” Members of Council and the Mayor. In 2005, the cost of the Utility Board, which comes from the same source, the taxpayers, was \$150,000, with a total of \$753,000. Mr. Robert stated it was important that Council listen to each individual presenting tonight and for each of them to receive a small portion of funding. He also stated that there was not one single councillor, regardless of their position, worth \$778,000.

Mr. Robert stated that in 2006, seven Councillors attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference in Newfoundland, and requested that this be investigated. Why send seven Councillors?

He also requested, as a resident and taxpayer, that “if the books are not in order, I ask that they be put in order”.

Keenan Menard, Resident

Mr. Menard indicated that his goal was to leave his mark in the City of Greater Sudbury for improving the transit system. He stated that the current bus terminal was too small, a new transit schedule needs to be implemented, and articulated buses should be purchased for the larger routes.

He indicated that a new slogan “SMART - Sudbury Metropolitan Area Rapid Transit - THINK SMART...RIDE SMART!” be implemented, a commuter train system be established, and subways constructed (above/below ground). Mr. Menard feels that this would create jobs for graduating students and the unemployed.

Kathy Talos, Indoor Soccer Centre

Ms. Talos, in keeping with the City’s vision of a healthy community, would like to work with the City to build an indoor facility for soccer for the increasing number of players (young/old, male/female) who do not have adequate space in the City during the six months they are unable to play outside. She stated that they have prepared a feasibility study to develop a self-sufficient and viable facility.

Proceed Past 10:00 p.m.

2007-1 Cimino-Barbeau: THAT we proceed past the hour of 10:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Roland St. Onge, Resident

Mr. St. Onge requested that Council entertain the possibility of appointing a full-time contractual auditor, reporting directly to Council, to review line by line all municipal expenditures of every department and corporation under the jurisdiction of the municipality of the City of Greater Sudbury. Furthermore, the salary for this contractual position should be paid by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, since it is Council’s intention to find ways of identifying cost savings within the present 2007 Budget expenditures.

Roland St. Onge,
Resident
(continued)

He stated that all outlying communities within the City of Greater Sudbury are entitled to the same basic services as guaranteed under the Municipal Act, such as:

- under the Ontario Clean Water Act, potable water and raw sewage are to be funded at 100% by a municipal user fee and cannot be funded by property taxes
- garbage collection, policing, street lighting, recreation, transit and air transit services are provided to outlying residents and paid through annual property taxes
- dissatisfaction of outlying communities stems from the lack of community involvement because of liability insurance coverage; have a blanket liability insurance coverage for those who wish to hold festive activities

Mr. St. Onge indicated that the mandate of the auditor would oversee a cost savings of 10% within the 2007 municipal operating budget over the term of this Council, which could provide the possibility of building a multi-cultural arts centre, new ice pads, an art gallery, multi soccer field, etc.

He stated that all salaries, benefits and cost centres of Council, municipal departments and corporations should be reviewed, such as the vehicular pool and consider the use of personal vehicles with a car allowance, and the clothing provisions for municipal employees by having safety shoes and boots a prerequisite for the position.

Mr. St. Onge requested that a review of the transit bus system and airport services be conducted.

He concluded by adding that a review of expenditures, property assets, salaries and benefits paid to firefighters and police officers, public utilities, early retirement settlements, salary buy-outs, and lawsuit settlements, be conducted. It is time this Council provide leadership and respect the wishes of the taxpayers.

Paul Lefevbre and
Claude Gravelle,
Centre de santé
communautaire de
Sudbury

Mr. Lefevbre, President and Mr. Gravelle, Secretary of the Centre de santé communautaire de Sudbury, advised that they have satellite offices in Chelmsford, Hanmer and Gogama. They offer primary health care, promotional activities of health and of community development, an optimum level of physical, mental, economical, social, cultural and spiritual well-being.

They indicated that they received \$100,000 from the Province to increase their program and are requesting an additional one-time funding of \$100,000 from the City in order to provide additional services in Chelmsford.

Paul Lefevbre and
Claude Gravelle,
Centre de santé
communautaire de
Sudbury
(continued)

They stated that Minister Smitherman has encouraged the Sudbury Regional Hospital to provide extra services to patients in the community. They concluded by adding that this is what the Centre de santé communautaire de Sudbury is doing for the community.

Suzanne Harvey,
Pesticide Free
Sudbury

Ms. Harvey stated that in June 2006 they spoke to Council and asked for the creation of a by-law to ban the use of cosmetic pesticides. They also asked for an aggressive education campaign to complement the by-law. She stated that subsequent to her presentation, the Sudbury Pesticide Reduction Partnership requested \$30,000 for an education campaign regarding the dangers of and alternatives to cosmetic pesticides. This request was not acted upon by the former Council.

She provided information regarding how pesticides negatively impact the environment, communities that are supportive of by-laws, how pesticide testing is insufficient, how education campaigns help to make by-laws work, healthy alternative uses for weed control, and the effects on human health.

Ms. Harvey concluded by asking City Council to join the Canadian medical community in working to protect the people of Sudbury from the dangers of cosmetic pesticides and that funds be approved for an aggressive education campaign and that a by-law be passed to prevent their use.

Jose Blanco, Resident

Mr. Blanco provided an electronic presentation and displayed the amount of taxes and assessments in Toronto and Sudbury from 2002-2006. He noted that salaries and benefits have increased over the years, and taxes have increased by almost the same amount. The cost of operating the community has increased, but what does the \$455 million do for us?

Mr. Blanco stated that if budget projections were based on previous year costs, it would almost guaranteed the continuation of old practices. He also stated that in order to control costs, the system needs to be "re-directed" and a business plan created. He indicated that in order to implement a business plan, a budget with a good theme and markers along the way, such as energy use and emissions, is required. What does the City plan to do to raise efficiency and reduce carbon dioxide emissions?

He concluded by adding "Sudbury: A leader in energy efficiency and low carbon emissions."

John Lennard and
Dr. Huguette Blanco,
Laurentian University

Mr. Lennard and Dr. Blanco, Faculty of Management at Laurentian University, provided an electronic presentation entitled “*Overview: City of Greater Sudbury Revenues and Expenses*”.

Mr. Lennard provided a graph of revenue indicating that taxes and user fees have increased 29% since 2001, and conditional grants have increased 15% since 2001. He also stated that citizens have been providing an increasing proportion of city revenues.

He provided a graph of expenditures by class which showed an increase in salaries of 30% over the past five years with a stabilization in external transfers such as non-discretionary spending (Social Services). A further graph of operating expenditures by service area was displayed showing a significant increase in social and family services. He stated that this increase indicates the need for social support and the potential for administrative savings. Mr. Lennard questioned whether or not the steep increase in protection services was indicative of an increased crime problem.

A graph of capital expenditures by service area was displayed. Mr. Lennard commented by asking if the government building (199 Larch Street) was providing any net revenue to the City. He stated that there was little information on cost over-runs and asked if capital projects were on schedule and is the City getting its “value for money”?

Mr. Lennard summarized by saying that the citizens are bearing the greater financial burden due to expenditure increases such as salaries, social, family and protection services. There is a lack of publically-available information, why?

Proceed Past
11:00 p.m.

2007-2 Barbeau-Cimino: THAT we proceed past the hour of 11:00 p.m.

CARRIED

The Speakers List now complete, Councillor Callaghan asked if there was anyone present who wished to comment.

Shantelle Allard,
School Fit Program

Ms. Allard stated that the School Physical Fitness Coalition (SPFC) is a not-for-profit coalition dedicated to providing elementary school children with opportunities to experience physical fitness safely.

She stated that this year SPFC created and implemented the SchoolFIT program which targeted 1500 grade two students from all four school boards in the City of Greater Sudbury.

She outlined the program, types of activities involved, why the program is needed, and the five main barriers to physical activity addressed by the program:

Shantelle Allard,
School Fit Program
(continued)

- Time
- Teacher training
- School resources
- Availability
- Cost

Ms. Allard stated that the government has implemented a \$500 per year Child Physical Activity Tax Credit, is implementing twenty minutes per day of Daily Physical Activity (DPA) in the schools, is committing funds to the Federal Health Budget, and has commitments to increase activity by 10% by 2010.

She advised that the SchoolFIT Program offers children a fun and safe way to be physically active, removes barriers that may permit children from participating, and promotes and encourages a healthy lifestyle through fun and play.

Mr. Allard stated that the School Physical Fitness Coalition is requesting \$10,000 of funding from the City of Greater Sudbury in order to become a Title Partner for the 2007-2008 SchoolFIT Program.

Barry Hamilton,
Habitat for Humanity

Mr. Hamilton, Fundraising Chairman for Habitat for Humanity, advised they are the third largest charitable organization in the world. He requested financial assistance of \$10,000 to cover the cost of flyers, business cards, brochures, mailing, and media advertising.

Major David Carey,
Salvation Army

Major Carey stated that the Salvation Army provides services that impact the City as a whole and a lack of funds could lead to the lay-off of personnel which would affect those services.

He advised that the Salvation Army was requesting a partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury to ensure adequate funding in the budget to preserve their top-up. He stated that the shortfall was 40% of \$1.5 million or \$600,000.

Tom Sutton, LoEllen
Neighbourhood
Association

Mr. Sutton stated that they were proposing to build a beach volleyball facility at the LoEllen Secondary School park, which is currently shared by the City of Greater Sudbury and Rainbow District School Board. This site is currently being used as tennis courts which have fallen into disuse over the last few years.

He advised that there has been a growing interest in beach volleyball. Sudbury community members have participated in elite leagues and have represented the Northeast Region at the Ontario Summer Games, Ontario Beach Volleyball Adult and Youth Tour, and at the Ontario Beach Volleyball Championships.

Tom Sutton, LoEllen
Neighbourhood
Association
(continued)

Mr. Sutton stated that the total cost for the construction of sand volleyball courts would be approximately \$47,090 and is requesting that the City fund a portion of the cost.

Construction of Sand
Volleyball Courts
Budget Proposal

The budget proposal for the construction of sand volleyball courts was tabled.

Jonathon Waddell,
Earth Day Committee

Mr. Waddell, a member of the Sudbury Earth Day Committee, stated that they are trying to organize the Sudbury Earth Day Festival 2007 for April 2007. He also stated that they were requesting a donation from the City of Greater Sudbury to help fund this project which deals with environmental and health issues.

Lara Friedrich,
Sudbury Animal
Advocates

Ms. Friedrich advised that the spay and neuter program needs to be continued. She indicated that Sudbury spends less money per capita on animal control than most cities. She also requested that the City put additional funds towards animal control.

Luc Simard, Elm-west
Playground Assoc.

Mr. Simard, President of the Elm-west Playground Association, stated that in 2003-2004, the position of Outdoor Rink Supervisor's hours were cutback from 350 hours to 250 hours. Why? This has caused an increase in vandalism and theft of materials.

He requested that the City recognize their volunteers, assist with volunteer recruitment and retention, and return the Outdoor Rink Supervisor position to 350 hours seasonally.

Closing Remarks

Councillor Callaghan expressed his appreciation to those present for their attendance and input at this budget public input meeting.

Adjournment

2007-3 Cimino-Barbeau: THAT this meeting does now adjourn.
Time: 11:50 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor Ted Callaghan, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk