

**THE ELEVENTH (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**Council Chamber
Tom Davies Square**

**Wednesday, June 18, 2007
Commencement: 5:33 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR GASPARINI, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Cimino; Barbeau; Berthiaume; Dupuis; Rivest; Thompson; Craig (A5:35pm); Caldarelli (D6:33pm); Landry-Altman; Mayor Rodriguez (A5:35pm)

City Officials

M. Mieto, Chief Administrative Officer; G. Clausen, Acting General Manager of Infrastructure; L. Hayes, CFO/Treasurer; G. Lamothe, Manager of Communications & French Language Service; C. Wood, Manager of Operations; N. Mihelchic, Operations Engineer; B. Falcioni, Director of Roads & Transportation; P. Thomson, Director of Human Resources & Organizational Development; E. Stankiewicz, Manager of Financial Planning & Policy; I. Wood, Special Advisor to the Mayor; A. Haché, City Clerk; F. Bortolussi, Planning Committee Secretary; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

C.U.P.E.

D. Burke, CUPE National Representative; W. MacKinnon, President, CUPE Local 4705; K. Tallon, Recording Secretary, CUPE Local 4705; B. Geoffrey, (South Section; CityCenter/West) Union's Winter Control Committee; R. Leroux, CUPE Local 4705 Outside Unit Chair; M. Clouthier, CUPE Local 4705 Outside Unit Secretary

News Media

Sudbury Star; MCTV; Channel 10 News; Northern Life; CBC Radio

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

PART I

5:30 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

Item 2
Winter Control
Implementation Plan

Report dated 2007-06-14, with attachments, from the Acting General Manager of Infrastructure regarding Winter Control Implementation Plan was received.

Mr. Greg Clausen, Acting General Manager of Infrastructure, provided an electronic presentation which outlined the history of winter control. He provided comparisons of storm response times of other municipalities in northern Ontario.

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He indicated that during the 2007 Budget discussions, Council approved five options which would achieve an estimated \$3 million savings and establish a Winter Control Program budget of \$13,551,686. Council instructed staff to seek input from front line Unionized employees and prepare an implementation plan.

The following five options were presented:

Option 1: Increasing design plow times on rural and residential roads (Road Maintenance Class 4 to 6 roads) from 8-12 hours to 24 hours (not renewing/retendering contracts, doubling up of routes, plowed once in a 24 hour period starting after 8 cm of snowfall, City crews assist on rural and residential roads to meet standard).

Option 2: Reduction of one shift on arterial and collector salt routes (Road Maintenance Class 1 to 3 roads) (eliminating one shift of temporary employees, re-introduce a first, 8/24 hour reporting model, 4 hours overtime per day to provide 24 hour service Monday to Friday, maximum 20 hours overtime per week, winter control pool, part-time pool, or contractors would be utilized for backup).

Option 3: Changing a number of roads currently treated with salt to roads treated with sand (roads that have less than 5,000 AADT and have a posted speed of 50 km/hr, roads listed in Appendix 'B' of the report dated June 14, 2007 from the Acting General Manager of Infrastructure will not receive 24 hour service).

Option 4: Reduction of five Non-Union Temporary Winter Control Supervisors (reduction of one temporary supervisor in each of the five sections, supervisors will now work 56 hours per week on a 24/7 schedule).

Option 5: Reduction in standby period paid to Winter Contractors to April 15 from April 30 (contractors are not obligated to respond, delayed response on rural and residential roads with City forces).

Mr. Clausen advised that a full-time Operator Trainer is required who would provide annual training for replacement "Pool" and regular operators at an annualized cost of \$100,000, prorated to \$50,000 for the balance of 2007.

He advised that an implementation plan would be in place for the entire 2007/2008 winter season to enable staff to prepare the necessary work plans for both employees and contractors. Any modifications Council may consider would form part of the 2008

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budget process and would not be able to be implemented until the 2008/2009 winter season. He also advised that Public Service Advisories on Winter Service levels will be distributed in the early fall.

Mr. Clausen stated that the Union Winter Control Committee's alternate proposals involve a return to 12 hours service levels for all rural and residential roads, utilize City equipment operated by City employees on rural and residential roads (Class 4 to 6) in the Northwest, Northeast, and Southwest Sections while continuing with contractors for the South and Southeast Sections, and implement a second 24/7 City wide shift patrol.

The following recommendation was presented:

RECOMMENDATION 2007-28: Moved by Councillor Dupuis:

THAT Council accept the implementation of Winter Level of Service changes as detailed in this report and approved during the 2007 Budget process for the entire 2007/08 Winter Season;

AND THAT Council approve an unbudgeted expenditure up to \$100,000 for an Operator Trainer (one full-time employee) and training materials to prepare an internal pool of employees and maintain an annual Equipment Training Program;

AND THAT Council be advised that enhanced service level options developed by the Winter Control Committee be brought forward during the 2008 budget deliberations, as outlined in the report dated June 14, 2007 from the Acting General Manager of Infrastructure.

CARRIED

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION 2007-29: Moved by Councillor Berthiaume:

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 7:18 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor J. Gasparini, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk