

SHEBANDOWAN LOCAL SERVICES BOARD

MINUTES OF BUDGET MEETING

November 13th, 2024

The Hybrid meeting was called to order by Kathy Moshonsky, the board chairperson at 7:10 pm.

The Chairperson welcomed all who were in attendance and reminded everyone that the meeting was recorded to assist in preparing minutes.

In attendance: Kathy Moshonsky, Chairperson; Kristine Martyn, Board Member; Jeff Spittlehouse, Board Member; Lorraine Christy, Board Member; Tina Fraser, Board Member; Tracey Johnson, Fire Chief; and twenty-six inhabitants from the board area.

Disclosures of Interest: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Kathy Moshonsky, Chairperson, advised that the primary focus will be to finalize and approve the 2024-2025 budget. She turned the meeting over to Kristine Martyn for the budget portion of the meeting.

Kristine Martyn started from the bottom to see if anything needed to be changed before the board started to shave any costs. The changes that were done to the income were the donation amount collected to date and the HST which had not been accounted for since 2018. Wayne Scott said it was a wash same in and same out previously that is why it was not in. This past year was different because of the purchase of the truck.

The Board then began by starting with a \$10.00 increase from last year which would put it from \$120.00 per inhabitant to \$130.00 per inhabitant. The main reason for the increase was to make sure there was enough put into the capital expenditures. To date the amount in capital expenditures:

Roof replacement \$4,500.00,

Furnace replacement \$4,500.00

Window/door replacement \$4,000.00

Rescue replacement \$12,000.00

Equaling \$25,000.00 in capital expenditures over 8 years.

With the amounts adjusted the amount put aside after 9 years would be:

Roof \$6,500.00,

Furnace \$5,500.00

Windows/door \$5,000.00

Rescue \$15,000.00

Equaling \$32,000.00 an increase of \$7,000.00

Chief Johnson mentioned that in the beginning 9 years ago when discussing how much each would cost for replacement and the number of years before replacement was needed, Chief Johnson had given numbers and right away they were cut in half.

One of the inhabitants questioned what the Rescue and the support truck were needed for. Chief Johnson let them know the rescue is for medical calls and auto ex. The support truck carries wildfire gear. The support truck is also used when The Fire Department is not able to get into some areas with the Fire or Rescue trucks.

Wayne Scott asked that the meeting get back on topic.

The \$130.00 suggested tax rate this year would be an 8.3 % increase, and the inhabitants did not want any more than a 5 % increase. But then Jim Moshonsky said that for the past 5 years the LSB had a higher cost so we could put enough away for the rescue so the tax rate should decrease. Everyone was stating numbers from previous year's levy amounts when the rate was at \$144.00 then down to \$122.00 and even lower at \$82.00 . Chief Johnson stated that no one complained when they were taxed at the lower and the inhabitants said no we didn't.

Kathy Moshonsky said let's move on with the budget because the discussion was getting off topic.

Wayne Scott said the levy amount should be somewhere around \$112.00 with the truck having been purchased. Kristine Martyn said it should stay the same to bring up our capital expenditures.

Kathy Moshonsky said we need to go through the expenditures. Kristine Martyn said that the insurance, office supplies, honorarium, audit, equipment repairs, and maintenance, contracted services and advertising numbers had not changed since the last meeting.

Emergency telecom numbers did not change from the pre budget meeting. This year The Board needs to take out of reserve, put aside for the past 4 years, as it needs to be paid this year. Signs need to be changed so the board added to the budget \$2,000.00 to fix addressing and sign repair or replace.

Fire protection budgeted \$1,800.00 for electricity again. Propane was lowered down to \$7,000.00 from \$7300.00 because we don't know how cold the year will be.

Insurance costs this year are \$16,248.00 and telephone remains the same, Starlink is \$1750.00 for the year plus the 200.00 for Bell for the first few months, it has now been cancelled, and cell phones remain the same

Fire supplies remain the same as pre budget except the fuel cabinet to \$2,150.00.

Vehicle repairs and maintenance changes since pre budget, general repairs changed to \$1,850.00 and truck radios to \$1,900.00. A discussion regarding the radio as to if it is needed. Chief Johnson said they are bluetooth, and the Fire Department can communicate even when team members are out of the truck and that communication is the key.

Equipment Repairs and Maintenance no change from pre budget

Property repairs and maintenance no change from pre budget amounts. Jim Moshonsky asked about the repairs for the furnace and why so much. Jim suggested there may be a leak. Chief Johnson asked Mike to help; she said it was \$1,000.00 for servicing and \$200.00 for glycol. Sean changed the boiler circuit board last year for no charge.

Training and uniforms had slight change from pre budget amount. Chief Johnson and Deputy Chief needed new dress shirts, so the amount was raised up to \$1,120.00.

Advertising and recruitment no change since pre budget

Fire Chief office supplies same as pre budget amounts

Fuel expense no change from pre budget

Mileage no change from pre budget

Fire chief honorarium Tracey Johnson \$700.00 per month no change. Deputy Chief honorarium. There was a big discussion regarding Richard Baxter receiving an honorarium. David Harris then verbally started to give everyone the amount of incentives that Chief Johnson and Deputy Chief Baxter received as was published in the Treasurer's report dated September 30th, 2024, The meeting got way off topic. Chief Johnson stated O'Connor has only 5 on the team and the deputy chief gets \$300.00 per month. The inhabitants at the meeting are not in agreement to approve an honorarium for the deputy chief at this time. Chair Kathy asked the board to keep the honorarium in or take it out. Lorraine Christy board member said we keep it in. Tina Fraser board member wants to keep it in. Someone from the floor said the fire team were in it for the wrong reason if The Deputy Chief wants to receive an honorarium.

Incentive is the same as previous years and the pre budget, so the numbers stayed the same. A discussion regarding the incentives to explain to the inhabitants on the floor who did not understand it. It was asked who was running the meeting and Kathy Moshonsky said she was. Then the inhabitant asked if she could ask her question. Could we explain the incentive. Again, Dave Harris is bringing up Chief Johnson's and Deputy Chief Baxter's incentive amounts, pointing out that they get a percentage that is higher than anyone else on the fire team. The board and inhabitants then discussed if they should bring the incentive percent down for what the fire team receives and the LSB put the funds towards the appropriate budget items. This would allow the inhabitants not to have to pay more in tax. Butch Cunningham says the fire team are volunteers and should not expect anything.

Chief Johnson asked to speak freely. When the LSB was going to implement 911 that the costs were going to come out of the reserve money. Instead, the board took the recovery money, which was over \$48,000.00 that the volunteers made, so that the board would have to tax the inhabitants for the support truck. Chief Johnson feels the board would not have had to do this if the recovery money had been used for the support truck and the reserve money paid for 911.

Again, getting off topic

Capital Expenditures

A truck topper was paid for in last year's budget and that amount needs to come out of this year's budget. Once the topper is sold then the board can buy another one. The board took \$1,500.00 an

amount the LSB is probably going to lose and put it into budget. Then \$4,000.00 was taken off the budget till the board sells the topper. Once it is sold that amount will be available to be used to buy a new one.

Wayne Scott made a request to get the meeting in order.

Then there was a discussion made regarding the purchase of a fire pump and does The Fire Department need it. It was decided that The Fire Department needed it.

Jim Moshonsky said the Inhabitants tax rate should be at \$105.00 but Kristine Martyn we really need to make sure our capital expenditures are allocating enough into each of the reserve accounts.

Chief Johnson said to take out fire con and then the Board would have a balanced budget. The OFM pays for 4 people and so The Fire Department would only send 4 people this year.

Donna asked about the \$500.00 for office supplies as we went over budget last year, so it was raised to \$550.00. Kristine Martyn suggested we leave fire con in and take t-shirts out, but Chief Johnson stated the Fire Department needs to supply shirts to the volunteer fire team every two years.

Kathy Moshonsky said the biggest contention is the honorarium and The Board and Inhabitants need to do a vote. We had a vote and there were 10 yes votes and 21 inhabitants voted No. The Deputy Chief honorarium was taken out.

Wayne Scott then asked us to humor him and make a few changes to the Capital expenditures. The Board took \$500.00 off roof replacement, \$250.00 off windows and doors and \$500.00 off for rescue replacement.

Then again, more discussion regarding moving the bonus amount to 60% to allow for a deputy chief amount to stay in budget but no one would agree to give the deputy chief an honorarium or vote again.

The vote was done on the budget for 2024-2025 Moved by Kristine Martyn and seconded by Jeff Spittlehouse 22 in favour and 9 opposed none abstained budget passed.

By-Law # 9 Annual Budget approval read out Moved by Kathy Moshonsky and seconded by Lorraine Christy All in favour, with none opposed. Carried

The method of taxation was then discussed. The Board and Inhabitants have a choice between Method 1 – flat fee, Method 2 – flat tax based on service, and Method 3 – levy based on market value. Method 2 could be a lot of work to assess seasonal properties. Kathy Moshonsky asked for a show of hands from the in-person attendees for Method #1 and polled the virtual attendees for their agreement for Method #1. Kathy Moshonsky then asked for a vote for Method #3. Based on this vote, Method #1, flat fee option was passed, with 22 attendees in favour of Method 1 and 9 attendees voting for Method 3.

The board then passed By-law #10-2024-2025 OPTA PLT to notify the Ministry of Revenue of the taxation method and rate, to collect the LSB flat rate levy of \$117.00 per property for fire protection and emergency telecommunication services in the board area of Shebandowan. Moved by Lorraine Christy and seconded by Tina Fraser. All in favour, with none opposed. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08pm.

SHEBANDOWAN LOCAL SERVICES BOARD

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

November 13th, 2024

The hybrid meeting was called to order by Kathy Moshonsky, the board chairperson at 9:08 pm.

The Chairperson welcomed all who were in attendance and reminded everyone that the meeting is recorded to assist in preparing the minutes.

In attendance: Kathy Moshonsky, Chairperson; Kristine Martyn, Board Member; Jeff Spittlehouse, Board Member; Lorraine Christy, Board Member; Tina Fraser, Board Member; Tracey Johnson, Fire Chief; and twenty-six inhabitants from the board area.

Disclosures of Interest: None

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Minutes of the previous general & Pre-budget meeting dated October 23rd, 2024 were reviewed by the board. There was 1 error, and 2 omissions noted. The errors and omissions were fixed. A motion was made that the minutes be accepted and passed on the 13th day of November 2024. Motioned by Tina Fraser and seconded by Lorraine Christy. All in favour, with none opposed. Carried.

SECRETARY / TREASURERS REPORT:

The list of Payments and deposits is included. The current bank balance is \$46,050.02.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Fire Chief Johnson provided an update on the fire department. Since the last meeting, the fire department has responded to 2 recovery calls one tree on a line and highway blocked. The fire department went to Conmee for an information session on transportation of dangerous goods and then again to Conmee for some Auto ex practice. Hoses were brought to the MNR for cleaning and repackaging for free. Chief Johnson will be going to recertification for CPR and First Response. She also has a Chiefs meeting on Dec10, 2024 and Training for new training portal also in December.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

NEXT MEETING: General Meeting – Hybrid Meeting – Wednesday, January 8th, 2025 @7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm. Motion by Kristine Martyn and seconded by Tina Fraser.

Treasurer's Report
October 23 to November 4, 2024

Since the last meeting, the following have been paid:

The following pre-authorized payments:

Sargeant Propane	\$89.27
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The following cheques have been made

Kings Auto (Battery)	\$415.82
Tracey Johnson (Chief Honorarium)	\$700.00
Kristine Martyn (Treasurer Honorarium)	\$700.00
Kristine Martyn(McAfee gst,pst and Zoom)	\$254.54
Brokerlink	\$15,568.44

The following Donations have been received for Fire Department

Chesterman 100, Lepage 100, Caul 100, Milani 100, Jorgenson 100, Mintenko 100, Witoluk 100	\$700.00
Jursik 500, Stewart 200, James MacGillivray 100, Shirley Turner 100, Barker 100, Bob Turner 100, Joe Sabotig 100, Chivers-Wilson 100, Murray 100	\$1400.00
Caroline Sabotig 100, Craig 100	\$200.00

The current bank balance is	\$46,050.02
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