
Budget Committee Minutes

The Corporation of Norfolk County

October 16, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Council Chambers

Norfolk County Administration Building

50 Colborne St. S., Simcoe ON

Members Present: Amy Martin, Tom Masschaele, Linda Vandendriessche, Michael Columbus, Chris Van Paassen, Doug Brunton, Alan Duthie, Adam Veri, Kim Huffman

Staff Present: A. Meneses, Chief Administrative Officer, B. Cridland, General Manager of Community and Development Services, A. Grice, General Manager of Public Works, H. VanDyk, General Manager of Corporate Services, T. Rodrigues, Deputy Clerk B. Nolan, Acting General Manager Emergency and Social Services, L. Castles, Committee Coordinator, W. Tigert, County Clerk, A. Vesprini, Supervisor of Financial Planning and Reporting, C. Everets, Manager, Financial Planning, R. Fess, Senior Financial Analyst

Mayor Martin called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

Budget Committee recessed at 9:44 a.m.

Budget Committee resumed at 10:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda/Changes to the Agenda

Resolution No. BC26-01

Moved By: Councillor Veri

Seconded By: Councillor Columbus

That the agenda be amended to include the following:

- A deputation from the Simcoe BIA

Having received 2/3 majority, the motion is

Carried.

Resolution No. BC26-02

Moved By: Councillor Masschaele

Seconded By: Councillor Huffman

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest

3. Deputations

3.1 Grand River Conservation Authority

Samantha Lawson, Grand River Conservation Authority, presented her deputation with the aid of a slide deck.

Resolution No. BC26-03

Moved By: Councillor Columbus

Seconded By: Councillor Veri

That the deputation be received as information.

Carried.

3.2 Norfolk Haldimand Community Hospice (NHCH)

Andrea Binkle, NHCH, presented her deputation with the aid of a slide deck and responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-04

Moved By: Councillor Huffman

Seconded By: Councillor Van Paassen

That the deputation be received as information.

Carried.

Resolution No. BC26-05

Moved By: Councillor Van Paassen

Seconded By: Councillor Vandendriessche

That staff be directed to bring a report to the January Budget meeting regarding the funding options available.

Carried.

3.3 SCOR EDC

Kimberly Earls, SCOR EDC, presented her deputation with the aid of a slide deck and responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-06

Moved By: Councillor Duthie

Seconded By: Councillor Huffman

That the deputation be received as information.

Carried.

3.4 Norfolk County Public Library

Julie Kent, NCPL, presented her deputation with the aid of a slide deck and responded to questions.

Amy Vesprini, Supervisor, Financial Planning and Reporting, responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-07

Moved By: Councillor Masschaele

Seconded By: Councillor Huffman

That the deputation be received as information.

Carried.

3.5 Downtown Simcoe BIA

Les Anderson, Downtown Simcoe BIA, presented his deputation and responded to questions.

Chris Everets, Manager of Financial Planning, responded to questions.

William Tigert, Clerk, responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-08

Moved By: Councillor Duthie

Seconded By: Councillor Brunton

That the deputation be received as information.

Carried.

Resolution No. BC26-09

Moved By: Councillor Duthie

Seconded By: Councillor Brunton

That staff be directed to bring a report to the January Budget meeting regarding:

1. What is the cost if Norfolk County was to add a special levy / community improvement fee to the landowners inside the BIA for garbage pick up per unit (commercial and residential)
2. What is the cost if the BIA levied this directly.
3. Letters x2 year from bylaw or finance to landlords.
4. Cost of effective cameras downtown for bylaw to identify dumping culprits and fine them – compare this to one.
5. Does the municipal act allow Norfolk County to influence the BIA levy?
6. How do Norfolk County / can Norfolk County add special levy to this area or community improvement fee
7. Investigate a joint partnership on municipal blue box pick up & commercial area pick up to reduce costs.

Carried.

Budget Committee recessed at 11:34 a.m.

Budget Committee resumed at 11:45 a.m.

4. Discussion Items

4.1 Strong Mayor Budget Process and Estimated Timelines - CS-25-138

Chris Everets, Manager of Financial Planning, presented the report.

Resolution No. BC26-10

Moved By: Councillor Huffman

Seconded By: Councillor Columbus

That the Information Memo regarding the 2026 Strong Mayor Budget Process and Estimated Timelines be received as information.

Carried.

4.2 2026 Non-Union Economic Increase, CAO-25-088

Al Meneses, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the report.

Resolution No. BC26-11

Moved By: Councillor Duthie

Seconded By: Councillor Masschaele

That report CAO-25-088, 2026 Non-Union Economic Increase be received as information; and

That Norfolk County Council approve a 3% economic increase for Non-Union staff effective January 1, 2026.

Carried.

4.3 Proposed 2026 User Fees and Service Charges, CS-25-137

Ryan Fess, Senior Financial Analyst, presented the report and responded to questions.

Bill Cridland, General Manager of Community and Development Services, responded to questions.

Heidy VanDyk, General Manager of Corporate Services, responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-12

Moved By: Councillor Duthie

Seconded By: Councillor Veri

That CS-25-137 Proposed 2026 User Fees and Service Charges be received as information; and

That Council approves the revised User Fees and Service Charges as outlined in Report CS-25-137 not including the Community Center Room Rentals; and

Further That staff be directed to prepare the revised User Fees and Service Charges By-Law.

Carried.

Resolution No. BC26-13

Moved By: Councillor Vandendriessche

Seconded By: Councillor Van Paassen

That staff bring back a report on Community Center Room hourly rental rates.

Carried.

Councillor Duthie left the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

4.4 Proposed 2026 New Budget Initiatives, CS-25-136

Amy Vesprini, Supervisor of Financial Planning and Reporting, presented the report.

Heidy VanDyk, General Manager of Corporate Services, spoke to the report and responded to questions.

Budget Committee recessed at 12:46 p.m.

Budget Committee resumed at 1:25 p.m.

Andrew Grice, General Manager of Public Works, spoke to the report and responded to questions.

Bill Cridland, General Manager of Community and Development Services, spoke to the report and responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-14

Moved By: Councillor Veri

Seconded By: Councillor Masschaele

That report CS-25-136 Proposed 2026 New Budget Initiatives be received as information; and

Further that the proposed New Budget Initiatives for \$741,900 be referred to the Budget Committee for consideration with the Draft 2026 Levy Supported Operating Budget.

Carried.

4.5 2026 Budget Engagement Campaign Results, CS-25-143

Chris Everets, Manager of Financial Planning, presented the report and responded to questions.

Heidy VanDyk, General Manager of Corporate Services, responded to questions.

Resolution No. BC26-15

Moved By: Councillor Huffman

Seconded By: Councillor Columbus

That report CS-25-143 2026 Budget Engagement Campaign Results be received as information.

Carried.

5. Adjournment

Resolution No. BC26-16

Moved By: Councillor Veri

Seconded By: Councillor Masschaele

That Committee be adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Carried.

Chair: A. Martin

Clerk: Wm. Tigert