



SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE #2 PUBLIC REPORT PUBLIC

Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 6:30 pm
Board Room
Administration Building
133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, Ontario

Trustees Present: Christine Boothby , Erica Braunovan, Rob Campbell, Chris Ellis, Lyra Evans, Mark Fisher, Wendy Hough, Jennifer Jennekens, Keith Penny, Sandra Schwartz, Lynn Scott

Staff Present: Camille Williams-Taylor (Director of Education), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director), Mike Carson (Chief Financial Officer), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Peter Symmonds (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Karyn Carty Ostafichuk (Manager of Planning), Ian Baxter (Assistant Manager, Planning), Megan Faraday (Planner), John MacKinnon (Audio-Visual Technician), and Sue Baker (Senior Board Coordinator),

1. Call to Order - Vice-Chair of the Board

Vice-Chair Braunovan called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. She acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Territory and thanked the Algonquin Nations for hosting the meeting on their land.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Penny

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

3. Delegations

There were no delegations.

4. Matters for Discussion:

4.1 Report 19-004 New Education Development Charges By-Law (2019-2024)
- Required Public Meeting and Background Study (M. Carson, ext. 8207)

Your Committee had before it Report 19-004 providing information to support a legislatively required meeting to inform the public about the Board's Education Development Charge (EDC) proposals, and to solicit input regarding a proposed new by-law which would cover the period 2019 to 2024.

Assistant Manager Baxter advised that the Board's current EDC by-law will expire on 31 March 2019. EDCs fund the acquisition and preparation of land for new schools and additions required as a result of enrolment growth from new development. Should the Board not have a new by-law in place on 1 April 2019, future land acquisition requirements would have to be funded from an alternate revenue source.

The EDC Background Study includes estimates on projected enrolment growth, new pupil places that will be required, and estimates of land costs. The study identified a calculated charge of \$787 per new residential unit and \$0.58 per new square foot on non-residential development. These figures are in line with rate increases contained in previous by-laws. The legislation governing EDCs was amended in October 2018 to freeze new EDC rates at a level no higher than those currently in force. The Board will not be able to impose the new rates calculated until a provincial review of EDCs is completed; however, it is important to ensure that the Board continues to collect EDCs while the review is underway.

During discussion, and in response to queries, the following points were noted:

- More than 10 years ago, the Ministry assigned a zero (0) pupil load to relocatable classrooms. This may result in a difference in capacities shown in the Background Study from that shown in the District's Enrolment Reports. The District provides explanations for these differences when submitting business cases for new capital projects;
- The cost of site preparation depends upon the amount of grading, soil remediation, upgrading utility services, removal of portables, demolition of existing buildings, etc. Staff is confident that an average of \$126,900 per acre is reasonable;
- The value of land outside of the Greenbelt has risen from \$400,000 to \$430,000 per acre;
- Staff does not expect the Ministry review of EDC legislation to result in significant changes to the current process for the collection of EDCs. There is nothing preventing the Board adopting a new by-law and it is important for the Board to continue collecting EDCs regardless of the current rate freeze;

- The Background Study supports the proposed EDC rate increases. Staff is scheduled to present a recommendation to adopt the new by-law at the Committee of the Whole meeting on 19 February 2019. It is hoped that the provincial review of EDC legislation will be completed by that time;
- The 80-20 apportionment of EDC charges between residential and non-residential development is based on local conditions unique to the OCDSB and in consultation with the City of Ottawa and other area school boards with respect to growth and building permits;
- The Board currently has a deficit of \$3.5 million in its EDC account, and it is expected that this deficit will be made up in the next by-law.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Erica Braunovan, Chair