



SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

A meeting of the Social Services Committee was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at the County of Renfrew Administration Building, Pembroke, Ontario.

Present were: Debbie Robinson, Chair
Jennifer Murphy, Warden

Committee Members: James Brose, Glenn Doncaster, Debbi Grills, Brian Hunt, John Reinwald,

City of Pembroke
Representative: Ed Jacyno

Regrets: Janice Visneskie Moore

Staff Present: Paul Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Laura LePine, Director of Social Services
Jeffrey Foss, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Carol Neill, General Manager, Renfrew County Housing Corporation
Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care & Early Years Services
Andrea Patrick, Ontario Works Manager
Jennifer Dombroskie, Ontario Works Supervisor
Angela Kuehl, Data Analysis Coordinator
Rosalyn Gruntz, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk
Karen McManus, Administrative Assistant

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The roll was called and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-19-04-16

Moved by: Councillor Doncaster
Seconded by: Councillor Reinwald

THAT the minutes of the Social Services Committee meeting held on March 13, 2019 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-19-04-17

Moved by: Warden Murphy
Seconded by: Councillor Grills

THAT the minutes of the Social Services Committee meeting held on March 27, 2019 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

Ms. Laura LePine, Director of Social Services, reviewed the Department Report, attached as Appendix A.

Mr. Jeffrey Foss, Director of Finance/Treasurer, overviewed the 2018 Unaudited Financial Statements for the Social Services Department as at December 31, 2018. Mr. Foss indicated that the statements reflected a surplus and this will be transferred into the Working Capital Reserve in accordance with the Year End Surplus/Deficit Policy adopted by County Council.

Ms. LePine advised that correspondence was received advising that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved the request of the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) to extend the deadline of the five-year review of Housing and Homelessness Plans from June 30th to the end of calendar year 2019.

Ms. LePine updated the Committee on the Human Services Integration initiative project at Renfrew County Place to integrate Ontario Works, Renfrew County Housing Corporation and Child Care Services into one area with a common counter to provide a streamlined approach to service delivery. She advised that Ms. Jennifer Dombroskie, Ontario Works Supervisor, has agreed to take on the project lead for service integration, and conducting a service delivery review, in addition to her current duties.

Ms. LePine circulated to the committee an addendum to her report (attached as Appendix B). The report included copies of two letters that had been sent to the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of the Solicitor General, from Warden Jennifer Murphy and also from Mayor Andy Letham, Chair of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, objecting to the mandate requiring municipalities to develop a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

Warden Murphy indicated that at the last meeting of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus she attended there was unanimous objection to this legislation and agreement that responsibility for developing and implementing a plan should not rest with municipalities. She indicated that she is hopeful all municipalities will support the County of Renfrew's position and express their concerns to the Ministry.

Councillor Jacyno vacated the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

Child Care and Early Years Division

Ms. Judy Mulvihill, Manager of Child Care and Early Years Services, overviewed the Child Care and Early Years Division report.

Ms. Mulvihill advised that on May 10, 2019 the Child Care and Early Years Division will be hosting its 7th Annual Early Childhood Education Professional Development Day and she is expecting over 225 child care professionals to attend.

Ms. Mulvihill advised that the North Renfrew EarlyON Child and Family Centre program has been launched in the Deep River and Laurentian Hills communities.

Ms. Angela Kuehl, Data Analysis Coordinator, overviewed the 2018 Statistical Report for the Child Care Division.

Ms. Mulvihill reported that on June 27, 2018 County Council approved funding to support a francophone consultant through the Association francophone à l'éducation des services à l'enfance de l'Ontario (AFÉSEO) to ascertain the model for the delivery of francophone EarlyON programming in Renfrew County. The collaborative activity of the francophone working group has resulted in the Board of Directors of the existing licensed child care centre Garderie Les Petite Mains agreeing to operate a francophone EarlyON program within Centre Scolaire Catholique Jeanne-Lajoie, Pavillion Elementaire located in Pembroke.

RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-19-04-18

Moved by: Councillor Doncaster

Seconded by: Councillor Grills

THAT the Social Services Committee recommends to County Council that By-law No. 122-17 authorizing the County of Renfrew to enter into an agreement with Early Years Child and Family Centres, be amended to enter into a new agreement with the La Garderie les petites mains inc. to facilitate local francophone EarlyON programs in the County of Renfrew.

CARRIED.

Ontario Works Division

Ms. Andrea Patrick, Ontario Works Manager, overviewed the Ontario Works Division Report including caseload statistics and program updates.

Ms. Patrick reviewed several training initiatives and meetings that occurred in March that included both Ontario Works staff and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) staff. She indicated the meetings were an opportunity to collaborate and plan how to work together to support mutual clients.

Ms. Patrick advised that the first Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Client Advisory Group (CAG) meetings were held on March 26, 2019 in Pembroke and March 27, 2019 in Renfrew. The CAGs are made up of 10 clients with an equal number from each program as well as one staff and one management representative from each office. Valuable feedback was received during both meetings and participants commented that they were proud to be a part of positive change and that it was extremely refreshing to know they have a voice. The group will be meeting four times per year.

RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-19-04-19

Moved by: Councillor Doncaster

Seconded by: Councillor Brose

THAT the Social Services Department Report, attached as Appendix A and Appendix B, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

New Business

Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation

On September 6, 2018 the Renfrew County Housing Corporation Board received a letter from Mr. Lewis MacDonald, Board Chair of Opeongo Non-Profit Community Residential Development Inc., requesting that the Renfrew County Housing Corporation absorb the Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation portfolio. The Board of the non-profit indicated the timing is appropriate due to the retirement of the Property Manager who has been managing the non-profit since its inception in 1988.

Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation is a non-profit housing provider located at 124 Vimy Boulevard in Renfrew. Built in 1989, it is a community of 42 Units consisting of 2-storey townhomes with 2 and 3 bedrooms, two of which are barrier free. All units are rent-geared-to-income. It is located on approximately 4.6 acres and is situated at the end of Vimy Boulevard, which is in close proximity to the Renfrew County Housing Corporation project located at 41 Vimy Boulevard.

Staff of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation have reviewed financial and budget implications and an implementation plan is underway outlining the steps to be taken to complete the transition.

At a meeting of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation held on April 10, 2019, a resolution was adopted by the Board recommending to the Social Services Committee that the Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation portfolio located at 124 Vimy Boulevard in Renfrew be transitioned into the Renfrew County Housing Corporation.

RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-19-04-20

Moved by: Councillor Brose

Seconded by: Councillor Reinwald

THAT the Social Services Committee recommends to County Council that the Opeongo Non-Profit Housing Corporation portfolio located at 124 Vimy Boulevard in Renfrew be transitioned into the Renfrew County Housing Corporation.

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. SS-C-19-04-21

Moved by: Councillor Reinwald

Seconded by: Councillor Brose

THAT the next meeting of this Committee be held on May 15, 2019 and this meeting adjourn. Time 2:40 p.m.

CARRIED.