



Report to: General Committee

Report Date: September 19, 2011

SUBJECT: 2012 Budget Schedule
PREPARED BY: Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report dated September 19, 2011 entitled “2012 Budget Schedule” be received;

AND THAT the Budget Committee meetings scheduled for the dates and times below be approved:

Meeting #1 – Monday, October 3rd (3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Canada Room)

Meeting #2 – Tuesday, October 4th (2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Canada Room)

Meeting #3 – Wednesday, October 5th (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Canada Room)

Meeting #4 – Tuesday, October 11th (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Canada Room)

Meeting #5 – Friday, October 21st (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)

Meeting #6 – Tuesday, October 25th (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)

Meeting #7 – Friday, October 28th (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)

AND THAT initial public input will be sought from the four communities: Thornhill (Wards 1 & 2), Markham (Wards 4 & 5), Unionville (Wards 3 & 6), and Milliken (Wards 7 & 8);

AND THAT the initial public input meeting dates will be confirmed as soon as possible with communications to Council members accordingly;

AND THAT the initial public input meeting presentation be presented at the October 3rd Budget Committee meeting followed by approval at the October 4th Council meeting;

AND THAT the Draft Public Meeting Presentation on the Proposed 2012 Budget be presented at the November 14th General Committee meeting;

AND THAT a public meeting be held on November 16th to receive public feedback on the 2012 Budget;

AND THAT Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for the 2012 Budget meeting dates.

BACKGROUND:

The 2011 Budget process included eight Budget Committee meetings held from December 2010 to February 2011 followed by a public meeting held on February 28th 2011. The 2011 Budget was approved by Council on March 1st, 2011.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

Markham values public input to the annual budget. In the past, one public meeting was held to receive public feedback on the budget prior to Council approval. For the 2012 Budget process, initial public input will be sought at the beginning of the budget deliberation process with the following two options:

1. One meeting for the public at large at the Civic Centre
2. Meeting at each of the four communities: Thornhill, Markham, Unionville, and Milliken (dates to be confirmed)

Staff recommends option 2, to hold a meeting at each of the four communities to obtain initial public input on the 2012 Budget.

With option #2, the proposed 2012 budget process includes 7 Budget Committee meetings in October with an initial public input session at each of the four communities (dates to be confirmed as soon as possible and will be communicated to Council members accordingly), followed by a final public input session on November 16th prior to Council approval of the 2012 Budget. It is anticipated that the 2012 budget will be approved at the November 22nd Council meeting.

All Budget Sub-Committee meetings are open to the public and audio streamed through the Town webpage. Notice of the Budget Sub-Committee meetings are advertised on the “Town Page” in the Economist & Sun and Thornhill Liberal as well as the Town’s webpage. Further, members of the Board of Trade Sub-Committee on Governmental Issues will be invited to attend the budget meetings.

The following are proposed meeting dates to review, discuss and approve the 2012 budget:

Budget Sub-Committee

Meeting #1 – Monday, October 3rd (3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Canada Room)
– 2012 Budget Overview

Meeting #2 – Tuesday, October 4th (2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Canada Room)
– Capital Budget

Meeting #3 – Wednesday, October 5th (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Canada Room)
– Capital Budget

Meeting #4 – Tuesday, October 11th (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Canada Room)
– Capital Budget

Meeting #5 – Friday, October 21st (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)
– Capital Budget and Operating Budget (upon completion of Capital Budget)

Meeting #6 – Tuesday, October 25th (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)

– Operating Budget

Meeting #7 – Friday, October 28th (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)
– Operating Budget

Public Meetings – Dates to be confirmed

- Initial public input to the 2012 Budget
(draft presentation of the Public Meetings to be presented at the October 3rd Budget Committee meeting followed by Council approval at the October 4th Council meeting)

General Committee – November 14th

- Draft Public Meeting Presentation

Public Meeting – November 16th

- Feedback from the public prior to Council approval of the 2012 Budget

General Committee – November 21st

- Report on the recommended 2012 Budget and review feedback from the public prior to Council approval of the 2012 Budget

Council – November 22nd

- Council approval of the 2012 Budget

As in previous years, preliminary capital budget binders will be distributed to all Councillors in advance of the Budget Committee meeting. On-line access to the Capital Budget information can also be made available upon request to Andrea Tang.

All Councillor requests received to date have been summarized and distributed to the respective departments for comments (if required) and will be addressed at the Budget Committee Meetings.

All presentation materials can be made available to all Councillors upon request.

RECOMMENDED BY:

14/09/2011

X 

Joel Lustig
Treasurer

14/09/2011

X 

Andy Taylor
Chief Administrative Officer