

**THE FIRST MEETING OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE  
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

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Committee Room C-11  
Tom Davies Square

Tuesday, June 12th, 2007  
Commencement: 4:10 p.m.  
Adjournment: 4:35 p.m.

**ANGIE HACHÉ PRESIDING**

Present

Councillors Cimino, Caldarelli, Thompson

Mayor Rodriquez

Staff

L. Hayes, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer; T. Derro, Supervisor of Tax/Chief Tax Collector

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

Appointment of Committee Chair

Nominations were held for the appointment of **Committee Chair**.

**NOMINATOR**

**NOMINEE**

Councillor Caldarelli

Councillor Thompson

The following recommendation was presented:

**2007-01** Caldarelli-Cimino: THAT Councillor Thompson chair this meeting of the Hearing Committee.

**CARRIED**

**COUNCILLOR RUSS THOMPSON PRESIDING**

**MANAGERS' REPORTS**

Item R-1  
Charity Rebate  
Application,  
Section 361,  
Municipal Act

Report dated June 1st, 2007 was received from the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer regarding Charity Rebate Application, Section 361, Municipal Act.

Lianne Bergeron and Yves Nadeau of Le Centre Alpha Culturel were present.

The Supervisor of Tax/Chief Tax Collector advised that this matter is before this Committee as a result of a request from Le Centre Alpha Culturel to process a late application for a charity property tax rebate.



## MANAGERS' REPORTS (cont'd)

Item R-1  
Charity Rebate  
Application,  
Section 361,  
Municipal Act  
(cont'd)

The Supervisor of Tax/Chief Tax Collector indicated that the Municipal Act provides the authority for a municipality to give a property tax rebate to registered charities occupying commercial space within the municipality. This is a provincially mandated program which rebates 40% of taxes charities pay to their landlords. In order to be eligible, a charity must have a registered charity number under the Income Tax Act, be occupying a commercial space and make application after the first day of January of the subject year and before the last day of February in the following year. He advised that in 2005, 37 charities and, in 2006, 40 charities were rebated property taxes.

The Supervisor of Tax/Chief Tax Collector advised that, in March of 2007, Lianne Bergeron of Le Centre Alpha Culturel contacted him requesting the City to process a late application for a charity property tax rebate. He advised Ms. Bergeron that the request could not be accepted as it was received after the deadline. He indicated that a request for acceptance of a late application was received from another charity and that request was denied.

The Supervisor of Tax/Chief Tax Collector advised that this program is only one of a number of provincially mandated programs administered by the City. He stated that the province has set the deadline for applications to ensure that all taxpayers are treated equally. He further stated that adherence to deadlines provides budgeting continuity, ease of administration and ensures that the City remains in good standing with its auditors.

When asked, the Supervisor of Tax/Chief Tax Collector advised that Le Centre Alpha Culturel received a rebate for 2005 and that the onus is on the taxpayer to make application.

Mayor Rodriguez stated he was aware of another charity that requested acceptance of a late application (Northern Ontario's Christian Radio Network) and was not aware of an appeal process. He asked whether notifications were sent out prior to 2006 and was advised that notice was only sent out one time.

Lianne Bergeron of Le Centre Alpha Culturel advised that the first time she applied, in 2005, she did not notice a deadline; however, the application was made prior to the deadline. This year, she missed the deadline. She stated that, being a charitable organization, there is only herself and a trainee with no administrative support. They received some funding which had to be spent before March 31st, 2007 for work shops, etc. She stated



**MANAGERS' REPORTS (cont'd)**

Item R-1  
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(cont'd)

they organize job fairs for the homeless and for those who have problems integrating into the job force. She indicated they relocated the office which required some renovations and the rebate (approximately \$1,200) was earmarked for that purpose.

The following recommendations were present:

**2007-02** Cimino-Caldarelli: THAT the request by Le Centre Alpha Culturel for the City of Greater Sudbury to accept and process the charity's application after the statutory deadline not be approved.

**DEFEATED**

**2007-03** Caldarell-Cimino: THAT the City of Greater Sudbury provide a one-time grant to Le Centre Alpha Culturel and Northern Ontario's Christian Radio Network with respect to their 2006 property taxes at their respective locations.

**CARRIED**

Adjournment

**2007-04** Cimino-Caldarelli: THAT we do now adjourn.  
TIME: 4:35 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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CITY CLERK

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COUNCILLOR RUSS THOMPSON PRESIDING

