

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MINUTES
SESSION # 18**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
October 20, 2014
5:00 pm

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of St. Clair was held this evening with the following members present:

	S. Arnold	Mayor
	P. Gilliland	Deputy Mayor
	P. Carswell-Alexander	Councillor
	D. Randell	“
	J. Agar	“
	J. DeGurse	“
	S. Miller	“
Staff:	J. Rodey	CAO
	J. Baranek	Clerk/ Deputy CAO

**TOWNSHIP OF ST. CLAIR
COUNCIL AGENDA**

St. Clair Township Civic Centre
October 20, 2014
5:00 p.m.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Minutes:

Regular Council – Session #17 – October 6, 2014
Heritage St. Clair Committee Minutes – September 17, 2014
Lambton Children’s Safety Village – September 18, 2014

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

5:45 p.m. – 1198 Pulteney Street – Fence variance
6:00 p.m. – Court of Revision – McDonald Drain

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Lambton County Historical Society – Donation request
- b) Hazel Pretty – Water bill relief
- c) Ontario Heritage Trust Award – Dave Taylor

INFORMATION:

- 1) Pathways – Thank You
- 2) Warden’s Dinner - Invitation
- 3) Letters of opposition – 1198 Pulteney Street fence
- 4) Sarnia-Lambton Business Week Keynote Speaker - Hazel McCallion

DRAINS:

By-law #21 of 2014, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$55,270.26 less \$15,136.21 OMAFRA grant for a total of \$40,134.05 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township.

By-law #22 of 2014, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$122,113.41 less \$27,316.99 OMAFRA grant for a total for \$94,796.42 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

DEPUTY CLERK/COORDINATOR OF PLANNING:

CLERK'S REPORT:

- Information: Fence variance at 1198 Pulteney Street

CAO'S REPORT:

MOTIONS:

- Recommendations from October 20, 2014 – Finance & Administration and Public Works & Operations Committees

BY-LAWS:

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Committee of the Whole – Monday, November 17, 2014 ~ 3:00 p.m.
- Regular Council – Monday, November 17, 2014 ~ 5:00 p.m. after Committee of the Whole

In Camera

- personnel & legal

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #1 That the regular meeting of Council be convened at 5:30 p.m.

CARRIED

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked members of Council to declare any possible conflicts of interest at the appropriate time.

Council Meeting
October 20, 2014

None declared.

ADOPT MINUTES:

Council proceeded to review the minutes as listed on the agenda.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #2 That the Minutes from the Council meeting Session #17 held October 6, 2014, be received and adopted as printed.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #3 That the Minutes from the Heritage St. Clair Committee meeting held September 17, 2014 be received as printed.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #4 That the Minutes from the Lambton Children's Safety Village meeting held September 18, 2014 be received as printed.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council proceeded to review the correspondence as listed on the agenda.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #5 That a \$50 donation be made to the Lambton County Historical Society to host the Christmas Dinner meeting on November 27, 2014 at the Legion in Wyoming.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #6 That the request for relief of a high water bill submitted by Hazel Pretty be denied as there is no sewer portion of the bill that may have been subjected to relief, and that staff work with the owner to set up a reasonable interest free payment plan.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #7 That Council accept the following items of correspondence as per Council's direction:

- a) Lambton County Historical Society – Donation request
- b) Hazel Pretty – Water bill relief
- c) Ontario Heritage Trust Award – Dave Taylor

CARRIED

INFORMATION:

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #8 That the following items of information be dealt with as per Council's instructions for items identified as agenda items #1 thru 4:

- 1) Pathways – Thank You
- 2) Warden's Dinner - Invitation
- 3) Letters of opposition – 1198 Pulteney Street fence
- 4) Sarnia-Lambton Business Week Keynote Speaker - Hazel McCallion

CARRIED

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

Fence Variance Request: 1198 Pulteney Street

At the appointed time, Mayor Arnold called the public meeting related to a fence variance request for 1198 Pulteney Street in Mooretown to order and opened by asking if anyone in the audience would like to speak to the variance request. Mayor Arnold also alerted those in attendance that copies of the report drafted by the Clerk complete with photos of the fence in question were on the table outside Council Chambers.

Jane McKenney of 61 McDonald Street informed Council that she was concerned about the safety of traffic turning onto Moore Line from Pulteney Street and for pedestrians who would be blocked by the white fence.

Gus Van Wijnen of 66 Moore Line informed Council that the alley has been open since he has lived there in 1962. Without this access being open, he would have no way to get equipment to his rear yard.

Stuart McKenney stated that, in his opinion, permission should be asked before a fence that requires a variance is built, not after.

Lori Walker of 1191 Emily Street informed Council that the alley has always had overgrown vegetation but, was always clear for access. A clothesline erected in the alley has been used as a community clothesline for generations. She echoed the comments of Mr. Van Wijnen stating she uses it as access to her rear yard.

John Brough of 1199 Pulteney Street stated that it was assuming to put up the fence without permission but, he was not aware that permission was required since he has maintained the alley and has seen other fences over alley ways. Mr. Brough informed Council that he has never seen anyone use the alley for access to the rear yard.

Mayor Arnold stated that he is aware of a chain link fence behind (east) the wooden fence in question and asked if it was on the alley. Mrs. McKenney stated that the fence in question is the only fence in the alley and the fence that the Mayor referred to is entirely on private property at 67 McDonald Street.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by J. DeGurse

Motion #9 That the white fence along Moore Line located at 1198 Pulteney Street be brought into compliance with the daylight triangle provision of fence By-law 36 of 2010 by removing the 8 foot section furthest west or lowering it to a maximum height of 29.5 inches.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #10 That the fence variance request for 1198 Pulteney Street to permit it to encroach onto Township property and thereby close off an alley be denied and that the wooden fence be removed so that it is entirely within the parameters of the lot known as 1198 Pulteney Street.

CARRIED

Court of Revision – McDonald Drain:

At the appointed time, Mayor Arnold looked to open the Court of Revision for the McDonald Drain. Before doing so, the Mayor noticed there was no representation from the consultant who drafted the report for work on the drain.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #11 That the Court of Revision for the McDonald Drain be postponed until the next meeting of Council when representation for the consulting firm who drafted the report can be in attendance.

CARRIED

DRAINS:

Moved by D. Randell
Motion #12 By-law #21 of 2014, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$55,270.26 less \$15,136.21 OMAFRA grant for a total of \$40,134.05, being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar
Motion #13: By-law #22 of 2014, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$122,113.41 less \$27,316.99 OMAFRA grant for a total for \$94,796.42, being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

Seconded by J. DeGurse

CARRIED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

CLERK'S REPORT:

Moved by J. DeGurse
Motion #14 That the report submitted by Clerk - Jeff Baranek dated October 15, 2014 related to a fence variance request at 1198 Pulteney Street be received as information.

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

CARRIED

CAO'S REPORT:

CAO - John Rodey informed Council he had a legal and property matter to discuss In-Camera.

MOTIONS:

Moved by J. Agar
Motion #15 That the recommendations from October 20, 2014 – Finance & Administration and Public Works & Operations Committees be received.

Seconded by J. DeGurse

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Deputy Mayor Gilliland:

Deputy Mayor Gilliland informed Council that he received an update from Deputy Clerk Carlie McClemens relating to the fence issue at 200 St. Clair Boulevard and that a contractor has been hired to undertake the fence repairs. He continued by suggesting the recent By-law #51 prohibiting parking of marine vehicles and other trailers on township road allowances while not attached to a licensed vehicle be published in the Beacon to make the public aware.

Deputy Mayor Gilliland concluded by informing Council he would be attending Butch and Shirley Lennan's 60th Wedding Anniversary and would like to bring them a certificate of achievement from Council.

Council Meeting
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Councillor Miller:

Councillor Miller attended the Mass recognizing the grand re-opening of the new St. Patrick's High School in Sarnia and it was a wonderful event. The school has many St. Clair Township students and the renovations look great.

Councillor Randell:

Councillor Randell attended the source water meeting on October 9, 2014 where newly appointed RMO/RMI Susan MacFarlane also attended. She was very well received. He continued by suggesting the Township re-convene the accessibility advisory committee. Deadlines for implementation are approaching and this committee needs to be revived. He indicated that Carla from the Sombra Optimists would like to be a part of the committee. Councillor Randell concluded by inviting everyone to a volunteer recognition luncheon at the Sombra Museum on Monday October 27, 2014 at 12:00 pm.

Councillor Agar:

Councillor Agar extended his congratulations and thanks to all those involved with the Brigden Fair as, once again, it was a great success. He has heard lots of positive feedback.

Councillor Carswell-Alexander:

Councillor Carswell-Alexander and her daughter took a road trip to a neighbouring municipality where they did not have street lights at rural corners making visibility difficult, and extended gratitude to the Township of St. Clair for having street lights in these locations.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #16 That the by-law enforcement officer receive a 2% raise to reflect the raises incorporated in the collective bargaining agreement.

CARRIED

Councillor DeGurse:

Councillor DeGurse inquired as to the status of the former Murray Street School. The Clerk informed Council that staff has sent the owner a second letter asking him to disclose his plans for the property. Further, a letter was sent to the Township Solicitor seeking advice on how to prevent illegal land uses from developing on site.

Mayor Arnold:

Mayor Arnold began by congratulating all candidates on their performance during all candidates night on October 8, 2014. He then thanked the Optimists of Moore for, again, putting on a wonderful event. Mayor Arnold attended a meeting with Warden Case related to the OPP Contract and will keep Council current on any developments.

Mayor Arnold was thankful for his opportunity to open up the Brigden Fair on October 10 where it was great to see the enthusiasm of all the young children. The Mayor also attended many events bringing greetings from Council including the quilt show at the Sombra Museum and a 50th wedding anniversary at the hall in Wilkesport.

To conclude, Mayor Arnold reminded those in attendance that November 17, 2014 is the final meeting for this Council, and extended good luck to all candidates running for an office in the election on October 27, 2014.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Committee of the Whole – Monday, November 17, 2014 ~ 3:00 p.m.
- Regular Council – Monday, November 17, 2014 ~ 5:00 p.m. after Committee of the Whole

IN-CAMERA [convened prior to Committee of the Whole meeting]:

Mayor Arnold opened the Council meeting at 3:00pm prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting, and asked for a motion to go in-camera.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #17 *That the meeting enter into an in-camera session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 3:00 p.m.*

CARRIED

Mayor Arnold declared the meeting back into open session at 3:25 p.m. and then turned the Chair over to Chairperson Agar for the commencement of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Seeing as there was no further business to discuss and nothing to rise and report from the in-camera session, Mayor Arnold called for a motion to adjourn.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #18 *That the meeting of Council hereby adjourn.*

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK