

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MINUTES
SESSION # 1**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
Monday, January 8, 2007
7:00 p.m.

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
	P. Brown,	“
	S. Miller,	“
	D. Randell,	“
	J. Agar,	“
Staff:	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk/ Deputy CAO
	R. Kerr,	Director of Public Works

AGENDA:

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Adopt Minutes:

Council Meeting of December 18, 2006
Sombra Museum minutes of November 16, 2006

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

7:15 p.m. - Public meeting – Proposed Water and Wastewater Usage Rates

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Charles Nisbet – sewer charges
- b) Courtright Friendship Club – request
- c) Sue Sherred – Trailer

INFORMATION:

- 1) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Bill 130
- 2) AMO – Training Opportunities
- 3) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Planning Reform
- 4) Ron Skreptak – Police Services Facility
- 5) Canadian Cancer Society – Thank You
- 6) Notice of Passing
- 7) County of Lambton – draft plan of subdivision
- 8) Ontario Network – Canada Volunteerism Initiative

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

Committee of Adjustment-Applications B 1, B 2, B 3 and B 4/07

COORDINATOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES:

- Miscellaneous Bridge Rehabilitation – Talfourd Creek
- Bridge Inspection – Burgess Engineering
- White Line - Clay Creek Bridge Deck Replacement tenders

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Mileage Allowance

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

- 2007 Water and Wastewater Rates

CLERK'S REPORT:

- Fence Viewers

CAO'S REPORT:

IN CAMERA:

- To discuss a property issue

MOTIONS:

BY-LAWS:

- By-law 1 of 2007 – Borrowing
- By-law 2 of 2007 – Ontario Infrastructure – Courtright Sanitary Sewers
- By-law 3 of 2007 – Agreement – Lambton Kent School Board – Sir John Moore School
- By-law 4 of 2007 – Committees of Council
- By-law 5 of 2007 – Confirming
- By-law 6 of 2007 – Water and Wastewater usage rates

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Budget – Wednesday, January 10, 2007 - 9:00 a.m.
- Committee of the Whole – Wednesday, January 10, 2007 - (to follow budget meeting)
- Regular Council – Monday, January 29, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked members of Council to declare any possible conflicts of interest at the appropriate time.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

MINUTES:

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

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #1 That the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as printed and circulated:

Council meeting of December 18, 2006, Session #24
Sombra Museum Board meeting of November 16, 2006

CARRIED

In discussion of business arising out of the minutes Councillor Randell questioned if a meeting has been established with MPP Caroline DiCocco. The Clerk advised that Ms. DiCocco has not responded to the Township's letter of request. In general discussion it was suggested that Members of Council and staff prepare a list of issues and concerns that can be forwarded to Ms. DiCocco in advance of the requested meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council reviewed the Correspondence received from Mr. Charles Nisbet regarding sewer usage charges.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #2 That the extraordinary sanitary sewer usage fees for the Charles Nisbet property generated as a result of a water leak not entering into the Township's sanitary sewer system be written off as per the Nisbet request.

CARRIED

Council reviewed the request of the Courtright Friendship Club for improvements to the shoulder area of Fourth Street between Thompson and Main Street to improve on street parking.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #3 That the request of the Courtright Friendship Club be referred to the Director of Public Works and the Director of Community Services for a report as to the remedial action requested and possible cost.

DEFEATED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #4 That staff be instructed to carry out remedial work as required in the most cost effective way to address the issues raised by the Courtright Friendship Club for the area of Fourth Street between Thompson and Main Street in Courtright.

CARRIED

Council reviewed the letter received from Ms. Sue Shered regarding removal of the trailer from her property. Council was advised by the Clerk that he has contacted Ms. Shered and the trailer is proposed to be relocated out of the municipality on January 17th, 2007.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #5 That interested members of Council and staff be authorized to attend the AMO Training Sessions on Bill 130 and orientation programs for Councillors with the appropriate fees and expenses to be paid.

CARRIED

Council reviewed the information received from the County of Lambton Planning Department regarding draft plan of Subdivision on the former Colborne Street School site. Council raised several questions as to the configuration of the proposed development and questioned the status of the existing former Colborne Street School building. At the conclusion of the discussion Council received the information from the County Planning Department and referred the issue to engineering staff, planning and building staff for a report on the issue to Council.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #6 That the following correspondence be received and dealt with as per Council's instructions as noted:

- a. Charles Nisbet – sewer charges
Inst. See Motion #2
- b. Courtright Friendship Club - request
Inst. See Motion #4
- c. Sue Sherred - Trailer
Inst. Filed

CARRIED

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

At the appointed time Mayor Arnold called to order the public meeting called to consider a proposed water and wastewater usage rate increase for 2007. The Mayor called upon Mr. Ron Kerr, Director of Public Works to present his report on the issue dated January 8th. Mr. Kerr detailed to Council and in response to questions the amount of money available in both of the account reserves and recapped some of the major capital projects that will be required in the future for both the water and wastewater systems. In response to questions from those in attendance Mr. Kerr advised that Provincial legislation requires that reserves for such accounts must be dedicated to those accounts and there is not a flow of reserve funding between the general fund and specific accounts such as the water and the wastewater accounts.

Mayor Arnold stated in response to Mr. Kerr's comment regarding reserve funding for Lambton Area Water Supply System capital purposes suggested that budget process be refined where the reserves for the LAWSS system and the reserves for the Township's systems capital needs could be more easily identified. Hearing no further comments the public meeting was adjourned and the meeting returned to order.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #6 That Council approve a 5% increase in the 2007 water rates and the corresponding applicable increase in the waste water rates with the additional revenue generated dedicated to the appropriate reserves.

CARRIED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

Council reviewed Applications to the Committee of Adjustment identified as B 1, B 2, B 3 and B 4/07 and offered no comments.

COORDINATOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #7 That the quote submitted by MIG Engineering in the amount of \$15,200.00 plus GST be accepted for the design and tender preparation for the rehabilitation of the bearings and expansion joints on the St. Clair Parkway Bridge @ Talfourd Creek (Bridge #12).

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #8 That the normal tendering policy be waived and that quotation submitted by Burgess Engineering Incorporated in the amount of \$17,500.00 plus GST for detailed re-inspection of our bridges and culverts greater than 3.0 metres in span be accepted and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the contract and other related documents.

CARRIED

Mr. Burnham's report on the Clay Bridge deck replacement on the White Line was tabled for further discussion at the January 10th meeting of the Public Works Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Council reviewed Mr. Quenneville's report on the establishment of a mileage fee for employee's and Members of Council.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #9 That the report with respect to mileage allowance be received and that the mileage allowance be decreased to \$0.47 per kilometer as of January 1st, 2007 should the van not be available and \$0.40 per kilometer for employees should the van be available and that this rate be reviewed again in January, 2008.

CARRIED

CLERK'S REPORT:

Council reviewed the Clerk's report on suggested membership and appointment by Council for fence viewers. Councillor Randell suggested that the non-council members of the Committee of Adjustment could fill the role with their experience in a quasi judicial background that they possess in Committee of Adjustment decisions. Also, Councillor Carswell-Alexander suggested a name of a gentleman that may be willing to accept an appointment.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #10 That the report of the Clerk regarding the appointment of Fence Viewers be received for information, and that the non-council members of the Committee of Adjustment be polled to determine interest in an appointment as fence viewers.

CARRIED

CAO'S REPORT:

Mr. Rodey advised Council of an issue regarding a property matter to be discussed at an in camera session.

BY-LAWS:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #11 That By-law Number 1 of 2007, the Borrowing by-law for the Township of St. Clair for the year 2007, having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #12 That By-law Number 2 being a by-law to authorize the submission of an application to the Ontario Infrastructure Projects Corporation ("OIPC") for funding from the Rural Infrastructure Investment initiative for the St. Clair Parkway Sanitary Sewers eligible capital projects of the Corporation of the Township of St. Clair and to approve the expenditure of funds on said eligible capital projects.

CARRIED

Council requested the Treasurer to prepare a brief executive summary on the background of the Ontario Infrastructure Projects Corporation grant application to be shared with Council and MPP Caroline DiCocco.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #13 That By-law 3 of 2007, a by-law to authorize an agreement with the Lambton Kent District School board, be given the necessary three readings, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #14 That By-law Number 4 of 2007, as amended being a by-law to establish Standing Committees of Council and to establish certain appointments for the Township of

St. Clair for the year 2007, having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #15 That By-law Number 5 of 2007, the By-law for the Township of St. Clair to confirm the resolutions and motions of St. Clair Township which were adopted up to and including the December 18, 2006 Council meeting, having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #16 That By-law 6 of 2007, a by-law establishing water and sanitary sewer usage rates within the Township of St. Clair and to amend Township of St. Clair By-law #10 of 2005, be given the necessary three readings, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

In discussion of By-law 3 of 2007 being a by-law to authorize the agreement between the Township of St. Clair and the Lambton Kent School Board relative to the use of certain areas of Sir John Moore School, Council asked the Director of Community Services to prepare a report as to the usage of the community facilities as to types of groups using the facilities and the net impact as far as expenses versus rental revenue for Council consideration.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Pete Gilliland

Deputy Mayor Gilliland requested progress on the requested curbside painting on Lyndoch Street adjacent to the fire hydrant in front of the Royal Bank building. Also, the Deputy Mayor received some comments regarding trash pickup by the contractor during the holiday season and a perceived lack of communication to the public. Also, it was brought to the Deputy Mayor's attention that a bank of streetlights on Nash Drive north of Hill Street are no longer functional.

Jeff Agar

Councillor Agar expressed his appreciation to the staff that organized the January 6th road tour and found the tour very informative.

Pat Carswell-Alexander

Councillor Carswell-Alexander advised that due to a meeting conflict Deputy Mayor Gilliland has offered to attend an upcoming meeting of the Community Policing Committee. Also, Councillor Carswell-Alexander received comments regarding the fact that the Brigden Christmas lights were not installed by the municipality due to their apparent poor condition, it is felt that a fund raising committee would be established to aid in an effort to replace the lights for the 2007 Christmas Season and the Township would probably be approached for assistance in installing and removing the lights at the appropriate time. It was also suggested that a welcoming letter be forwarded to Mr. Tim Bechard a new site supervisor at the Clean Harbors facility, and a thank you to Ontario Power Generation Site Manager Frank Chiarotto be sent on behalf of the municipality.

Pat Brown

Councillor Brown raised the issue of possible St. Clair Township support in the effort to widen Highway 40 in the area north of Indian Road north to the 402 as well as well as expanding to four lanes a portion of the Highway 40 servicing the northerly portion of St. Clair Township. At the conclusion of the discussion it was suggested that staff contact the Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce to determine their opinion as to the most effective

way that St. Clair Township could support the on going efforts for these Highway 40 improvements, and further that staff be requested to redraft the letter on the issue offered by Councillor Brown. Staff was also requested to investigate the sidewalk on Lyndoch Street south of the Antonio's Pizza property with water overtopping the sidewalk.

Steve Arnold

Mayor Arnold advised of his recent privilege in dropping the first ceremonial puck at last weekends Silver Stick Tournament at the Sports Complex. Also, Mayor Arnold advised that he would be out of the municipality for the January 29th meeting of Council on municipal business and that Deputy Mayor Gilliland would be in the Chair for that meeting.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #17 That the meeting enter an in camera session to discuss a property matter with the Mayor as Chair.

CARRIED

Meeting returned to order.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #18 That the offer of purchase for a property in the Township's Industrial Park that is the subject of the CAO's report on the issue dated January 4th, 2007 be accepted with the provision that no on site improvements to be provided by the municipality as a condition of the offer.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #19 That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK