

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC WORKS & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Committee Room 1
July 11, 2007
2:00 p.m.

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Wednesday, July 11, 2007 with the following people present:

S. Miller,	Chairperson, Public Works and Operations
S. Arnold,	Mayor
P. Gilliland	Deputy Mayor
D. Randell,	Councillor
J. Agar,	“

P. Brown, Councillor - Absent

P. Carswell-Alexander - Chairperson, Finance & Administration - Absent

Staff	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk
	R. Kerr,	Director of Public Works
	C. Quenneville,	Director of Finance/Treasurer
	G. Hackett	Director of Community Services
	Larry Burnham	Coordinator of Engineering Services

AGENDA:

2:00 p.m. – Jane Marsh, Dave Cram , St. Clair River Trail, Dedecker Link

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

2. GENERAL ACCOUNTS: Month ending June 30, 2007

3. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION: for period ending June 30, 2007

4. TREASURER’S REPORT:

A-1 - Question Pertaining to Accounts Payable Invoices
A-2 - Business Education Tax Rate Reduction
A-3 - 2008 Budget Time Table
A-4 - Ministry of Transportation Gas Tax Program
A-5 - Report from Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrator Group
A-6 - 2007 Industrial Properties Tax and Water Comparison Report

5. BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT:

B-1 - Building Permit Reports for the month ending June 30, 2007

6. CLERK’S REPORTS:

C-1 - Rural Broadband

7. DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated July 4, 2007

8. C.A.O.’S REPORTS:

9. NEW BUSINESS:

10. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #1 That Jeff Agar act as Chair for this meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #2 That it be recommended to Council that the General Accounts for the new accounting system starting with supplier number ACK001 to ZEZ001, totaling \$6,234,022.43 be approved for the month of June 2007.

CARRIED

Mr. Quenneville responded to several questions posed by members of the Committee relative to the account.

The Committee discussed the 2007 grant for operations at the Wilkesport Community Centre.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #3 That it be recommended to Council that the 2007 grant to the Wilkesport Community Centre be raised from \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 with the \$2,000.00 balance to be paid to the Wilkesport Community Centre Board at this time.

CARRIED

Chairman Agar on behalf of the Committee welcomed Jane Marsh and Dave Cram of the St. Clair River Trail Committee present to discuss with the Committee the plans for the Dedecker Link, north of Sombra Village and a portion of the Trail adjacent to Ontario Power Generation and Willow Park. Ms. Marsh advised the Committee of the results of a recent public meeting held to discuss with the general public the proposed Dedecker Link notwithstanding the Committee had originally proposed the Trail to be located on the east side of St. Clair Parkway, plans were changed to locate the trail to the west side of the Parkway.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #4 That it be recommended to Council that Council approve in principle the Dedecker Link of the St. Clair River Trail north of Sombra Village subject to the final approval of the Township's engineering department.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #5 That it be recommended to Council that the portion of the St. Clair River Trail proposed for the area adjacent to the Ontario Power Generation property be approved in principle subject to final approval of the Township's engineering department.

CARRIED

In response to the Committee's questions Mr. Cram advised that it is anticipated that the projects will be tendered for fall construction. The Committee thanked Ms. Marsh and Mr. Cram for their attendance and presentation.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #6 That it be recommended to Council that the report on the Statement of Financial position for the Municipality for the period ending June 30, 2007 be accepted and approved.

CARRIED

Mayor Arnold advised of a discussion with MPP Caroline DiCocco regarding the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund. Ms. DiCocco has advised the Mayor that the level of funding for the Municipalities would be the same in 2008 as was the case in 2007. The Mayor advised

that he continues to lobby for reconsideration of the Township's urban status relative to this grant program.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #7 That it be recommended to Council that the Treasurer's Reports identified as A-1, A-2, A-4, A-5 and A-6 be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Discussion of the Treasurer's Report identified as A-4 regarding Minister of Transportation Gas Tax Program relative to Transit Systems, staff was directed to prepare a report on the cost and feasibility of an internal transit system linking smaller village areas with Corunna perhaps on a two times per week basis. The Committee reviewed Mr. Quenneville's report identified as A-3 regarding capital and operating budget timetable. The Mayor outlined to his Committee his vision on reformatting the budget process to provide for a 2 year capital budget with each major service function being allocated specific amount of capital funding with room built into the budget for discretionary spending at the discretion of Council. The Mayor advised that he would bring forward a more formal proposal at the August meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #8 That it be recommended to Council that the budget timetable proposed in the Treasurer's Report on the subject dated June 14th, 2007 be advanced by approximately one month.

CARRIED

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #9 That it be recommended to Council that the Building Permit Report for the month ending June 30th, 2007 be received and accepted.

CARRIED

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk provided to the Committee a verbal report on the status of the proposed application to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs for the program known as the rural connection program which would provide grant funding in the amount of 1/3 for the provision of high speed internet service to parts of rural Lambton County namely the Township of St. Clair, Township of Dawn-Euphemia, Township of Enniskillen and a portion in the northerly part of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. The Municipalities named have been working with the County of Lambton through Charles Fisher to draft an application for grant funding through the program. The application calls for a project estimated to cost approximately 1.3 Million Dollars with several identified funding partners including the Township of St. Clair and the private sector. The Township of Dawn-Euphemia has been identified as the lead participant in the grant process. The Clerk pointed out to his understanding final financial commitment to the project by the Township of St. Clair would be after the request for proposals are received and reviewed.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #10 That the Council of the Township of St. Clair support the application made by the Township of Dawn-Euphemia for participation in the "Rural Connection" program sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to provide improved access to high speed internet to rural sections of the municipality and further that the municipality will make a financial contribution to the project subject to participation by other partner groups with final approval by Council to be considered following the request for proposal process and further that the Township considers the completion of this project will be an important service to strengthen rural St. Clair Township.

CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #11 That it be recommended to Council that the report of the Director of Community Services dated July 4, 2007 be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Discussion of the portion of Mr. Hackett's report relative to the Community Halls, Mr. Hackett lead the Committee in a discussion on work that is required to be done at the Brigden Community Hall and the Port Lambton Community Hall. Unfortunately, Trillium Foundation Grant applications for these two projects have been denied. After considerable discussion the Committee requested Mr. Hackett to put together an information package regarding necessary improvements that the Brigden Community Hall, the Port Lambton Community Hall and the Wilkesport Community Hall to assist the Mayor in his lobbying efforts with MPP Caroline DiCocco to determine if the projects would be eligible for other forms of Provincial funding.

The CAO was requested to contact the offices of MP Pat Davidson to arrange a meeting with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to discuss with the MP farm credit corporation grant application made on behalf of the Wilkesport Community Centre and other issues of mutual interest.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Arnold

Motion #12 That it be recommended to Council that it approve Corunna Athletic Park as the venue for the fireworks display planned for the Captain Kidd Community Festival, subject to the provision of acceptable liability insurance coverage.

CARRIED

C. A.O.'S REPORT:

Mr. Rodey advised the Committee that the Lambton Group Police Services Board have accepted the draft plans for the proposed Corunna Police Facility sized at approximately 5,600 square feet. Councillor Miller advised that the Board has agreed to provide to the Township an annual rental payment of approximately \$10.00 per square foot. The CAO advised that the architect will revisit the site with electrical and structural consultants hopefully later this week in an effort to complete the drawings and the specifications required for the tendering process.

NEW BUSINESS:

The response to the Deputy Mayor's question, staff advised that the staff report regarding the request to locate a Bell Tower on Mooretown Campground property has not been finalized.

Mayor Arnold requested the CAO to determine which MP's and MPP's that may be available at the upcoming AMO Conference for an audience with Municipal Officials. It was suggested that an attempt should be made to have an audience with Federal Health Minister Tony Clements and the Ministry of the Environment to discuss the Hill Street Brownfield Site. The Mayor also asked Committee members consideration for possible projects for application to the Dow Legacy Fund recently announced by Dow Chemical. Staff was asked to research the application deadline for these project funding proposals. Councillors Agar was requested to contact the Sombra Museum Board for an estimated cost on the new signage for the Sombra Museum.

Being no further business it was:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #13 That the meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee due hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

J. Agar, Chairperson

J. DeMars, Secretary

AGENDA:

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

2. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated June 27, 2007
- Monthly Report (Water/Wastewater) dated July 4, 2007
- Monthly Report (Works) dated July 4, 2007

3. COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated June 28, 2007

4. COORDINATOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES:

- Monthly Report dated July 5, 2007

5. DRAINAGE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Monthly Report dated July 5, 2007

6. CLERK'S REPORT:

7. CAO'S REPORT:

8. NEW BUSINESS:

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Miller called to order the meeting of the Public Works and Operations Committee at 3:10 p.m. and asked members to declare any conflict of interest at the appropriate time.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #14 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Director of Public Works dated June 27, 2007, be accepted and approved.

CARRIED

The Committee reviewed Mr. Kerr's report dated July 11th, 2007 regarding the Wastewater Treatment Operations contract.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #15 That the Director of Public Works report on the issue on the Wastewater Treatment Operations contract be tabled for consideration by Council at its next meeting.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #16 That it be recommended to Council that the monthly report of the Coordinator of Operations Water/Wastewater be received and accepted.

CARRIED

The Committee discussed with Mr. Kerr the three liability claims filed relative to the wastewater system. The Committee requested a report from Mr. Van Hyfte as to the amount of the financial claim made on behalf of Mr. Dean Cox.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #17 That the monthly report of the Coordinator of Operations (Works) be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Council discussed the issue raised in Mr. Van Hyfte's report regarding liability claim from a cyclist on the St. Clair River Trail adjacent to Bogey's Inn. Mr. Kerr explained to the Committee the details of the incident and the Committee discussed at length the status of the curbing placed by the owners of the Inn. The Committee requested a staff report as to the status of the curbing relative to its removal or relocation.

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WORKS) REPORT:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #18 That it be recommended to Council that the report of Terry Selman regarding the 2007 Surface Treatment project and the report dated June 28, 2007 and the recommendations contained therein be accepted and approved.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #19 That it be recommended to Council that the monthly report of the Director of Engineering Services dated July 5, 2007 be received and accepted.

CARRIED

The Committee questioned Mr. Burnham on the item in this report relative to the Riverside Drive bridge replacement. Mr. Burnham advised that the contractor is proposing to pour in place the concrete box culvert required to be installed as a solid unit in an effort to reduce construction time and the bridge closure. The bridge replacement project is expected to commence in early August following the Civic Holiday observation.

DRAINAGE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #20 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Drainage Superintendent dated July 5, 2007, and the recommendations contained therein be accepted and approved.

CARRIED

C.A.O.'S REPORT:

Mr. Rodey advised of a recent meeting attended by himself and the Mayor with Suncor officials regarding drainage outlet repair work required under the St. Clair Parkway adjacent to the Suncor facility in south Sarnia. It is proposed a temporary bridge will be installed with detours through St. Clair Township.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Kerr advised Council of a proposed lease of the Sombra Dock to Southwest Sales. Staff has drafted a proposed lease for consideration by Southwest Sales. The Committee discussed the possibility of reducing the area proposed to be leased to Southwest Sales in an effort to increase off road parking availability for the Fawn Island residents. In response to the Mayor's questions, Mr. Kerr advised that the earlier comment by the Committee regarding the Courtright Gravel Dock and the issue of stone stockpiled on road allowance property and multiple entrances is being considered by Public Works staff. Mayor Arnold also suggested that future meetings of the Committee of the Whole be attended by the Fire Chief who would be available to respond to any questions that may be posed by the Committee. The Mayor also questioned the status of the roof project at the Port Lambton Fire Hall. Also, the Mayor

questioned the slope stability project on the St. Clair Parkway north of Seager Park. Mr. Burnham advised that a meeting is planned later this with the project consultant with a report forthcoming to Council or this Committee on the results of this on site investigation.

Councillor Randell asked Mr. Kerr to have staff investigate the trail across Baby Creek relative to the delineation sign that perhaps requires relocation as to not obstruct the cyclist traffic.

Deputy Mayor Gilliland questioned staff if any response had been received from the Ministry of the Environment regarding a site investigation at the waste lagoon site on Petrolia Line. Staff advised that no formal response has been received from the Ministry of the Environment relative to the Township's request for a timely site investigation. Mr. Kerr advised that he would contact the site operator to express Council's concern.

Councillor Agar questioned the status of his earlier request for the establishment of a four-way stop at the intersection of Bentinck and Fane Street in Corunna. Mr. Kerr advised that the Public Works Department was doing a traffic count in this area. Councillor Agar also led the Committee in a discussion on the status of the final course of asphalt at the south end of Bentinck Street. Mr. Burnham advised that he is aware of the issue. Several remedial measures were discussed. Hearing no further business it was:

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #21 That the meeting due hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

S. Miller, Chairperson

J. DeMars, Secretary