

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MINUTES
SESSION # 2**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
January 21, 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,	“
	D. Randell,	“
	S. Miller,	“
	J. Agar,	“
Staff:	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk/ Deputy CAO

AGENDA:

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Adopt Minutes:

Council Meeting of January 7, 2008 Session #1
Committee of the Whole January 16, 2008

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

7:15 pm Long Service Awards – Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst & District Chief Ron Hayward
7:30pm Paul Smith – Heritage District Environmental Resource Center

CORRESPONDENCE:

INFORMATION:

- 1) C.C.P.C. – January 8, 2008 minutes
- 2) Township of St. Clair – Notice of Site Plan meeting
- 3) County of Lambton – Oil Springs celebration
- 4) County of Lambton – building services budget
- 5) County of Lambton ~ Planning – plan of subdivision
- 6) St. Clair Regional Conservation Authority – December 13, 2007 minutes
- 7) County of Lambton – Council highlights

DRAINS:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

Committee of Adjustment-Decisions A20/07
-Applications A1/08, A2/08, & A3/08
-Minutes of December 18, 2007 meeting

CO-ORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTEWATER):

WWTP Operations Contract
Equipment Disposal

CLERK'S REPORT:

Local Improvement – Wilkesport Sanitary Sewers

CAO'S REPORT:

MOTIONS:

BY-LAWS:

By-law #3 of 2008 – delegation of authority for applications of minor variances and consents

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Transit survey and proposal

NEW BUSINESS:

Agreement – Sombra Minor Athletic Association – draft

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

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. Mayor Arnold pointed out that as mover of the motion on the Public Works & Operations Committee, it was his intention to identify the Tecumseh Road route if the water main on Greenfield Road is abandoned at the request of Shell and that the Highway 40 route be identified as a second option.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #1: That the minutes of the Council meeting of January 2, 2008 – Session #1 and Committee of the Whole January 16, 2008, as corrected, be adopted as printed and circulated:

CARRIED

In discussion of business arising from the minutes, it was;

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #2: That the County of Lambton be requested to lower the speed limit on Kimball Road through St. Clair Township to a maximum of 80 km per hour when the County conducts its road by-law review.

CARRIED

At the appointed time, Mayor Arnold, on behalf of Council, presented to Fire chief Roy Dewhirst and District Chief, Ron Hayward, the Federal long service award for firefighters achieving 35 years of service to their community. Mayor Arnold thanked Chief Dewhirst and Deputy Chief Hayward for their long and dedicated service in the protection of St. Clair Township residents. Both the gentlemen thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council reviewed the information correspondence listed on the agenda and offered no comment.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #3: That the Committee of Adjustments decisions, application and minutes be accepted and received for information.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTEWATER):

Council reviewed Mr. VanHyfte's report on the wastewater treatment plant operations contract and equipment disposal.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #4: That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) regarding the Township adhering to the agreement that was submitted June 2007 by OMI for the Wastewater Treatment Operations contract be accepted and received.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #5: That the highest tender bid for each equipment item listed below be accepted in the amount as follows (plus tax):

- 1) 1991 IHC Vactor - \$62,400.00
- 2) 1983 Ford L8000 - \$3,000.00
- 3) 1987 Pow-r Mole – no bid
- 4) 1981 Bush Hog - \$200.00
- 5) 2002 JF Disc Mower - \$28.00

CARRIED

CLERK'S REPORT:

Council reviewed the report prepared by the Clerk relative to an earlier decision of Council to apply for grant funding under the rural infrastructure investment initiative, in an effort to obtain 75% funding for a proposed Wilkesport sanitary sewer system. The Clerk's report detailed the implications of the process through the local improvement act to recover the 25% local cost share if the grant funding request is successful.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #6: That Council reconsider its position relative to an application for a grant under the Rural Infrastructure Investment Initiative for the proposed Wilkesport sanitary sewer project for 100% grant funding.

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #7: That By-law Number 3 of 2008, being a by-law to delegate the authority for considering applications for minor variances and consents, to provide for compensation for the members of the Committee of Adjustment, to adopt policies and procedures and conditions for the operation of the Committee of Adjustment, and to establish a Tariff of fees under the Planning Act., having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Pete Gilliland

Deputy Mayor Gilliland questioned staff if any information or timing has been received from the Ministry of the Environment relative to a Ministry inspection of the sludge pond located on Petrolia Line. Council was advised by staff that no information has yet been received from the Ministry. Also, Deputy Mayor Gilliland questioned the status of the Property Standard issue on the Petrolia Line. The Clerk advised that the Property Standards Officer had extended the time frame for compliance to January 24th and that she would re-examine the property after that date.

Darrell Randell

Councillor Randell advised Council of attending a training opportunity for the Source Water Protection Committee and through the Mayor asked that he be circulated any comments that may be received relative to the LAWS system.

Pat Carswell-Alexander

Councillor Carswell-Alexander reminded Council of past community involvement in the former landfill site operated by Canadian Waste on LaSalle Road. Staff was asked to contact Canadian Waste for a status report on the facility to include such things as yard and ground maintenance. Councillor Carswell-Alexander also suggested that the St. Clair Township Beacon include Community events hosted within the Township. It was pointed out that there is such provision in the Beacon that the sponsoring group must contact Bonnie Stevenson or the Township office for information to be included in the publication. Councillor Carswell-Alexander also questioned the proposed new telecommunications tower that is subject to a February 6, 2008 site plan committee meeting. The Councillor had questions as to the impact on the health to those living nearby the tower and disrupted television reception. Council suggested that these questions be brought forward by Councillor Carswell-Alexander at the site plan process. The Councillor also asked Council for consideration for possible public open houses to allow public input in the budget process. Councillor Carswell-Alexander is to discuss the concept with Mayor Arnold. The Councillor also asked for a staff report on the public washrooms in Sombra and who is responsible for the maintenance of the facility. Councillor Carswell-Alexander also asked council to consider the possibility of retaining consultants to advise Council on major projects such as the proposed Shell refinery and on issues that may be beyond the expertise of the in house staff. The CAO was asked to draft a report for Committee consideration at its February 13th meeting.

Pat Brown

Councillor Brown brought to Council's attention the need for road marking on the St. Clair Parkway near the No Frills facility. Councillor Brown also attended with several other Township representatives, the recent Chamber of Commerce breakfast to hear the MP and the MPP speak. While present, Councillor Brown mentioned to MP Pat Davidson, council's position relative to the issue of ice breaking charges being assessed to the Bluewater Ferry in Sombra.

Steve Arnold

Mayor Arnold advised Council of attending a pre-budget public consultation sponsored by Minister of Finance, Dwight Duncan. Mayor Arnold brought to Minister Duncan's attention several projects such as the proposed Shell refinery, Highway 40 improvements and other projects the Township will bring forward seeking infrastructure funding from the province.

At the appointed time, Mayor Arnold, on behalf of Council, welcomed Mr. Paul Smith present to present to Council his concept plan to develop a heritage district environmental research centre on his property at the intersection of Highway 40 and Oil Springs Line. Mr. Smith pointed out that Shell proposing to buy his fourth generation farm to be incorporated in the buffer zone for the proposed new refinery. Mr. Smith pointed out that his proposal achieves four major goals such as environmental stewardship, environmental research and education, construction worker housing and positive land stewardship. Mr. Smith has pointed out that he has provided his comprehensive plan to Shell and is seeking municipal support to advance the concept. After Mr. Smith's presentation and several questions by Council, it was:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #8: That the Township send a letter of support, in principal to Shell Canada for Mr. Smith's Heritage District Environmental Research Centre concept.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council discussed the results of the recently completed Inter-Urban Transit study and an offer of service provided by D& D Membership. In general terms, Council felt the survey results did not indicate a strong need or demand for a municipally sponsored transit system, but that transit needs may increase in the future.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #9: That the Township Inter-urban Transit survey be received for information and that no further action be taken at this time to the development of a transit system within the Municipality.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Council discussed the draft agreement between the Municipality and the Sombra Minor Athletic Association to provide interim funding for the washroom upgrade project carried out at the Sombra Park.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #10: That the draft agreement between the Municipality and Sombra Minor Athletic Association be accepted and endorsed.

CARRIED

Mayor Arnold discussed with Council his ongoing conversation with the officials of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority relative to the Ministry of the Environment concerns on the Guthrie Park shoreline rehabilitation. Mayor Arnold advised that the Conservation Authority has not as of yet, received cost or proposals from consultants qualified to comment on possible contamination of the shoreline in that area. Council also asked staff to report on the status of the Froomfield sign that was removed last week.

Hearing no further business, it was;

Council Meeting
January 21, 2008

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by S. Miller
That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

Seconded by D. Randell

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK