

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
SESSION #10**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
May 7, 2008
12:30 p.m.

This Special Meeting of Council was called by the Mayor as a joint meeting with St. Clair Township Council and Lambton County Council.

Present: on behalf of St. Clair Township Council

	S. Arnold	Mayor
	P. Gilliland,	Deputy Mayor
	P. Carswell-Alexander,	Councillor
	P. Brown,	“
	D. Randell,	“
	S. Miller,	“
	J. Agar,	“
Staff:	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk/ Deputy CAO

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Silent Reflection
3. Roll Call
4. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest
If any
5. Special Joint Meeting of St. Clair and Lambton County Councils

Warden Jim Burns called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

After a moment of silent reflection, Warden Burns on behalf of the two Councils welcomed Amarik Ahluwalia, Shell Project Manager and Heather Cooper, Communications Officer to make their presentation to the joint meeting of Councils to discuss the current status of the proposed St. Clair Township heavy oil refinery project. Mr. Ahluwalia thanked the two respective Councils for their co-operation and support to this point of the project and outlined briefly the impact of the project. Mr. Ahluwalia pointed out several hurdles the project must be achieved before final approval anticipated to be at least 2 years in the future. It was pointed out that escalating project costs, future projections for increased oil pricing and demand and the relative high value of the Canadian dollar are obstacles the local project needs to overcome prior to any consideration by the Royal Dutch Shell Group for commitment to construct the refinery facility. Mr. Ahluwalia stated that there are five project groups working in parallel investigating four other possible heavy oil refinery sites. One of the sites being investigated is an Alberta site with 2 sites in the North West United States and a 5th site on the Texas Gulf Coast. It was pointed out that if St. Clair Township is the chosen site approximately one third to one half of the existing Shell refinery north of Corunna will be dismantled and that site would be used in conjunction with the proposed new refinery for tankage and dock usage. The public participation process carried out to date was highlighted as well as the status of the environmental assessment process that is scheduled

for final report by the end of June. Mr. Ahluwalia stated that in response to environmental concerns Shell is of the opinion that the environment on the proposed acreage under option would be better served from single ownership as opposed to the fragmented ownership that is now the case. It was acknowledged that the proposal has attracted considerable support but it has also attracted opposition from various special interest groups. In conclusion of his presentation Mr. Ahluwalia stated that final approval of the project from Royal Dutch Shell is not a forgone conclusion and the project must overcome several obstacles. It was hoped that approval would be received from the Royal Dutch Shell Board of Directors to continue to the next development stage which if approved would take approximately 10 months to complete. Presentation of the project status would be presented to the Royal Dutch Shell Board of Directors in late June or early July. At the conclusion of the presentation it was:

Moved by Steve Arnold

Seconded by Gord Perry

Motion #1 That this joint meeting of Lambton County Council and St. Clair Township Council due hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned 1:15 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK