

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

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
January 5, 2009
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,	“
	J. Agar,	“
Staff:	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk/ Deputy CAO
Absent:	S. Miller,	Councillor

AGENDA:

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Adopt Minutes:

Council Meeting of December 15, 2008 Session #24
Moore Museum of November 5, 2008
Sombra Museum of November 20, 2008

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

7:15pm - 220 Derby Court fence exemption request

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Canton-Bonfield and East Ferris Townships – Grant request
- b) Lambton 4-H – Donation request exemption
- c) Alan Hunter & Ginette Plante – Fence
- d) County of Lambton – Surplus lands ~ Cathcart Blvd.
- e) Phillip Lumley – Community Bulletin Board

INFORMATION:

- 1) St. Clair River Trail – November 26, 2008 minutes
- 2) AMO Alert – OMPF funding
- 3) Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce – Invitation
- 4) Moore Optimist – Thank you
- 5) Notice of passing – By-law #75 of 2008

DRAINS:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT:

Applications A1, A2, A3, B1, B2 of 2009

COORDINATOR OF PLANNING REPORT:

Development Charges
Appointment for Committee of Adjustment 'Acting Secretary-Treasurer'

CLERK'S REPORT:

CAO'S REPORT:

MOTIONS:

BY-LAWS:

By-law #1 of 2009 – Borrowing by-law
By-law #2 of 2009 – Confirming by-law

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Committee of the Whole – Finance & Administration, Public Works & Operations ~
Monday January 12, 2009 **4:00pm**
Regular meeting of Council - Monday January 19, 2009 7:00pm

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. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by Pat. Brown

Motion #1 That the minutes of the Council meeting of December 15, 2008 – Session #24 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #2: That the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as printed and circulated:

Moore Museum of November 5, 2008
Sombra Museum of November 20, 2008

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council reviewed the correspondence from the Lambton 4-H group requesting a donation for the upcoming fundraising event.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #3: That Council support a financial contribution to the local 4-H club operating in St. Clair Township similar to previous years to be financed from the 2009 Operating budget.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #4: That the County of Lambton be advised that the sale of surplus land at 730 Cathcart Boulevard Sarnia is of no interest to the Township of St. Clair.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell Alexander

Motion #5: That the request received from Philip Lumley regarding a Community bulletin board at the Wilkesport Fire hall be granted subject to the design and location approval of the Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Gilliland

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

- a. Canton-Bonfield and East Ferris Townships – grant request
Inst. Not supported
- b. Lambton 4-H – donation request
Inst. See motion #3
- c. Alan Hunter and Ginette Plante – fence
Inst. See motion #8
- d. County of Lambton – Surplus lands ~ Cathcart Boulevard
Inst. See motion #4
- e. Phillip Lumley – Community Bulletin Board
Inst. See motion #5

CARRIED

In discussion of the information correspondence, Mayor Arnold advised of discussions with MPP Maria VanBommel in an attempt to establish a meeting with the Ministry of Finance officials during the upcoming ROMA Conference to discuss the Township's requests to have the Township reclassified from an urban municipality to a rural municipality in an effort to increase OMPF funding. Council also discussed the invitation from the Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce regarding an invitation to a Chamber event scheduled for January 28th, 2009. It was suggested that interested members of Council RSVP through the Clerk.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

Council reviewed the applications to be heard at the January meeting of the Committee of Adjustment. Councillor Brown had several comments relative to application A1/09. At the conclusion of the discussion it was suggested that Councillor Brown could attend the meeting of the Committee to express his concerns.

COORDINATOR OF PLANNING REPORT:

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #7: That the report received from Sandra Brennan, Coordinator of Planning dated December 30, 2008 recommending that Council collect 10% of the \$1750.00 Development Charge at time of subdivision review and 90% on issuance of building permit be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Council discussed the possibility of increasing the current development charges from \$1750.00 to \$2500.00. Council was advised of the process required if the development charges were to be increased, it was suggested that the Treasurer be asked to circulate to Council, the executive summary of the consultants report considered by Council several years ago which was used as a tool to establish the development charges at their current level.

At the appointed time, the Mayor welcomed Mr. Allan Hunter, a resident of 220 Derby Court to present his request for exemption of the fence height restriction as provided for in the Township's current fence regulation by-law. Mr. Hunter pointed out that there is an approximately 17 foot section of his fence that is approximately 6 ft and 9 in. in height. Mr. Hunter pointed out that after the subject fence was reconstructed in the spring of 2008, his rear yard was landscaped with the addition of fill material in such a fashion that the rear yard fence is less than 6 ft high on the south side, notwithstanding the fact that it is approximately 6 ft. 9 in. on the north side. Mr. Hunter advised Council that he consulted all of his neighbors prior to the reconstruction of the fence and the fence was constructed with the agreement of all his neighbors to the point that several of the neighbors assisted in the reconstruction project. Mr. Hunter presented to Council, two letters of support for the fence height from his neighbors and as well, several of Mr. Hunter's neighbors were present at the meeting in an apparent demonstration of support. At the conclusion of the discussion a motion by Councillor Randell to grant the fence height exemption failed to get a seconder and was lost.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #8: That the fence height exemption requested by Mr. Hunter, owner of property known as 220 Derby Court be tabled for further discussion at the next meeting of Council to allow members of Council an opportunity to attend on site to view the subject fence.

CARRIED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS CONTINUED:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #9: That the Council of the Corporation of the Township of St. Clair appoint Jeff Baranek, County of Lambton Planner, as Acting Secretary Treasurer for the Committee of Adjustment in the absence of Sandra Brennan, secretary Treasurer for the St. Clair Township Committee of Adjustment.

CARRIED

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Mr. Rodey advised of the need for an in-camera meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

BY-LAWS:

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #10: That By-law Number 1 of 2009, the Borrowing By-law for the Township of St. Clair for the year 2009, 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 D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #11: That By-law Number 2 of 2009, 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 15, 2008 Council meeting, having been given the necessary three

readings, by signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

Pete Gilliland

The Deputy Mayor advised of receiving numerous complaints as to the winter control protocol during and following the December 19th snow storm. It was suggested that further discussion be tabled until the January 12th meeting of the Public Works and Operations Committee.

Jeff Agar

Councillor Agar advised of receiving compliments to the Township in its efforts in winter control following the December 19th snow storm particularly from residents in Paddock Green. Councillor Agar also brought to Council's attention of a recent sewer blockage on Murray Street which was determined to be in the area between the cleanout and the sewer main. Council suggested that Councillor Agar contact the affected party with a request to file a comprehensive written claim detailing the circumstances of the incident. Councillor Agar also questioned the protocol for winter control in various Township cemeteries. The Clerk is to provide Councillor Agar a contact for a board member on the Union Cemetery on the Moore Line.

Pat Brown

Councillor Brown led Council in a discussion of the request for the Mayor of the City of Sarnia for the reestablishment of a detox center in Lambton County.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #12: That the meeting enter an in-camera session to discuss a personnel issue.

CARRIED

The meeting returned to order.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK