

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
SESSION #3**

St. Clair Civic Centre  
Council Chambers  
February 2, 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,	“
	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 19, 2009 Session #2  
Moore Museum of January 7, 2009

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

7:05 pm Jane Marsh – St. Clair River Trail 2009 projects  
7:15 pm Jen Burnham – Emergency Health Care

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a) Sombra Sports and Rec – Permit request
- b) County of Lambton –Public Works road study
- c) Rick Witcher – Off road vehicles

**INFORMATION:**

- 1) Moore Agricultural Society – Thank you
- 2) Jen Burnham – Emergency room care
- 3) County of Lambton –Building Services budget
- 4) OGRA/ROMA – Annual conference
- 5) AMO Alert – Federal budget
- 6) OGRA – Federal budget
- 7) Kathy Elliott – St. Clair River Trail

**DRAINS:**

By-law #1 of 2009 – Port Lambton Storm Sewer Drain –Amending  
By-law #2 of 2009 – Austin Drain – Amending

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:**

**PROPERTY STANDARDS APPEAL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Minutes of January 20, 2009

**PLANNER'S REPORT:**

Fane and Colborne Street (Vandersteen) Subdivision  
Concept Plan of Subdivision – North of Vroom Street

**COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT:**

Decisions A1, A2, A3, B1, B2 and B3/09

**COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WORKS) REPORT:**

Street Sweeper repair

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

**CAO'S REPORT:**

In Camera legal and personnel

**MOTIONS:**

**BY-LAWS:**

By-law #4 of 2009 Confirming by-law  
By-law #5 of 2009 Appointment

**COUNCILLORS REPORTS:**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Committee of the Whole – Monday February 9, 2009 ~ 6pm  
Regular Meeting of Council– Monday February 16, 2009 ~ cancelled and rescheduled at  
the call of the Chair  
Committee of Adjustment – Thursday February 26, 2009 ~ 7pm  
Regular Meeting of Council – Monday March 2, 2009 ~ 7pm

**IN-CAMERA SESSION:**

Legal and Personnel

**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. In discussion of the January 19<sup>th</sup> Council meeting minutes, Deputy Mayor Gilliland pointed out that as the mover of Motion #3; the motion was incorrect in reflecting his intentions. Deputy Mayor Gilliland stated that the word “consider” should be removed from the motion. Councillor Carswell-Alexander stated that the term consider would be more appropriate included with Motion #4. It was brought forward that Motion #4 was declared lost due to the lack of a seconder.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

**Motion #1** That the minutes of the Council meeting of January 19, 2009 – Session #2 be adopted as corrected, printed and circulated:

**CARRIED**

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

**Motion #2:** That the minutes of the Moore Museum meeting held January 7, 2009 be adopted as printed and circulated.

**CARRIED**

At the appointed time, Council welcomed Ms. Jane Marsh, co-chair and Mr. David Cram of the St. Clair River Trail Committee. The representatives of the River Trail Committee were present to discuss the next two proposed links in the St. Clair River Trail that being from Cathcart Park to Branton Cundick Park and from Holt Line to Sombra Village. Ms. Marsh pointed out that two public meetings have been held with the affected adjacent property owners during which the consensus was determined to be that the trail from Cathcart Park to Branton Cundick Park should be on the west side of St. Clair Parkway and the trail from the Holt Line to Sombra should be on the east side of the Parkway. Ms. Marsh did advise that however this decision was not unanimously supported by those in attendance. In response to Council’s questions, Mr. Cram advised that it has not yet been determined whether the trail will be off the travel portion of the road or would consist of a paved shoulder with the appropriate signing strips. That decision will be reserved until further engineering is carried out by T.W. Gray & Associates.

Kathy Elliott, owner of property known as 3071 St. Clair Parkway was present to present to Council, her letter in opposition of the Trail being on the west side of the St. Clair Parkway for the link north of Branton Cundick Park. In her letter Ms. Elliott detailed the reasons for her opposition to this location.

Mr. Derek Weeks owner of property known as 3184 St. Clair Parkway identified himself as the owner of the agricultural property on the east side of the St. Clair Parkway. Mr. Weeks voiced his support for the location of the Trail on the west side of the Parkway partly due to the damage that may be experienced to the Trail with the access to his property with his relatively heavy agricultural equipment.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was;

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

**Motion #3:** That Council approve the St. Clair River Trail Committee’s recommendation for the completion of the links of the St. Clair River Trail from Cathcart Park to Branton Cundick Park and from the Holt Line to Sombra Village subject to engineering approval.

**CARRIED**

Jenn Burnham, Terri Houle and Shirley Roebuck were present to present to Council their presentation relative to the recently released study on emergency care at the Sydenham Campus of the Chatham Kent Health Alliance. It was pointed out in the presentation that the current proposal in the consultants report commission by the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network to downgrade the Sydenham Campus as well as the Charlotte Eleanor Engleheart facility in Petrolia from a full service emergency care unit to an urgent care unit with restricted hours of operation. The presentation sited loss of medical care to area residents due to increase travel times to either the Sarnia or Chatham hospitals. Travel time could exceed what they consider to be the one hour window of opportunity for care

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for critically ill or injured patients. In the discussion following the presentation, it was pointed out that St. Clair Township is the most effected municipality for both the Sydenham Campus and the CEE Hospital proposal affecting emergency care facilities. Mayor Arnold advised that Lambton County Council will meet in special session on Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss this issue relative to the CEE Hospital and that Ms. Burnham and her committee have been granted an opportunity should they be available to do so, make this presentation at that meeting of County Council. At the conclusion of the discussion, it was;

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by S. Miller

**Motion #4:** That St. Clair Township fully support the continuation of the full emergency care facilities at both the Sydenham Campus of the Chatham Kent Health Alliance and at the Charlotte Eleanor Englehart facility located in Petrolia.

**CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

**Motion #5:** That permission be granted to the Sombra Sports and Recreation to apply for the appropriate refreshment permit for the annual Sombra Days scheduled for July 3, 4 and 5, 2009 and that Sombra Days be declared as a significant community festival

**CARRIED**

Council reviewed the information received from the Lambton County Works Department regarding the road designation study. The correspondence is requesting input from Lambton County Municipalities no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. The study is being conducted as a follow up to the 1998 roads designation study to determine if the current differentiation between local roads and County roads is still appropriate.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

**Motion #6:** That the County Public Works Department be advised that St. Clair Township is of the opinion that the portion of Plank Road between Petrolia Line and Mandaumin Road should be designated as a County road with the improvement of the road with a paved surface.

**CARRIED**

Mayor Arnold pointed out that a meeting has been established with County roads representatives as well as St. Clair Township Public Works representatives with the meeting to be held Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the St. Clair Township offices.

Council reviewed the letter received from Rick Witcher regarding snowmobile and ATV traffic on private and public property as well as several traffic issues on Beckwith Street. Council referred the letter for staff review and report.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

**Motion #7:** That the following correspondence be received and dealt with as per Council's instructions as noted:

- a. Sombra Sports and Rec – permit request  
**Inst.** See motion #5
- b. County of Lambton – Public Works road study  
**Inst.** See motion #6
- c. Rick Witcher – Off road vehicles  
**Inst.** Referred to staff for review

**CARRIED**

**DRAINS:**

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by S. Miller

**Motion #8:** That Drainage By-law #1 of 2009, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$3,753.43 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the expenditures to the Port Lambton Storm Sewer Drain be given the necessary readings and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

**CARRIED**

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

**Motion #9:** That Drainage By-law #2 of 2009, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$30,620.19 being money expended out of the general Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the expenditures to the Austin Drain be given the necessary readings and signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

**CARRIED**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:**

**PROPERTY STANDARDS APPEAL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by Pat Carswell-Alexander

**Motion #10:** That the minutes of the Property Standards Appeal Committee dated January 20<sup>th</sup> 2009 be received as information.

**CARRIED**

**PLANNER'S REPORT:**

In review of the Planner's report both on the proposed subdivision at Fane and Colborne Streets and the concept plan of the subdivision north of Vroom Street, Council asked for consideration in the subdivision agreement for fencing and lighting on the proposed two walkways.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

**Motion #11:** That the reports submitted by Barry Uitvlugt, Planner dated January 27, 2009 recommending that Council direct staff to proceed with (Option 2) providing for a plan of subdivision north of Vroom Street with a cul-de-sac to be managed by the subdivision process while requiring a public walkway for the municipal lane/alley between the cul-de-sac bulb and Paget Street from the developer be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

**Motion #12:** That the report submitted by Barry Uitvlugt, Planner dated January 22, 2009 regarding the Draft Plan of Subdivision - Fane and Colborne (Vandersteen) recommending that Council direct staff to forward the concerns found in the report to the County of Lambton for consideration at the public meeting scheduled for February 10, 2009 be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

**COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WORKS) REPORT:**

Moved by d. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

**Motion #13:** That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Works) dated January 27, 2009 regarding Street Sweeper Repairs recommending that the requirements under the Township of St. Clair procurement policy be waived and that an early budget expense be approved from the 2009 equipment maintenance budget for repairs to the 2004 Sterling/Elgin Street Sweeper (Unit #76) by Joe Johnson Equipment for the quoted amount of \$15,330.82 (plus GST) be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

**BY-LAWS:**

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

**Motion #14:** That By-law Number 4 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 January 19, 2009 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 J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

**Motion #15:** That By-law Number 5 of 2009, the By-law for the Township of St. Clair to delegate the powers and duties of the Clerk for the Corporation of the Township of St. Clair, 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 brought to Council's attention, the snowmobile activity at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course. Also Deputy Mayor Gilliland advised of receiving winter control complaints regarding the condition of the Rokeby Line and Moore Line east of Kimball Road this past Sunday with this information to be passed on to the Public Works Department.

**Jeff Agar**

Councillor Agar led Council into discussion of the continued request for Township maintenance of the access to Sutherland Cemetery. Councillor Agar advised that there is a petition circulating through the community with approximately 200 signatures. Councillor Agar was of the opinion that since this is a public right of way for access to the cemetery, it should be maintained by the Municipality. The Clerk advised that the fact that it is a public right of way does not necessarily mean that it is public property and the Township's maintenance responsibility. Council was of the opinion that the request for access maintenance should be made by the organized cemetery board.

**Darrell Randell**

Councilor Randell advised of receiving information on the organized 4-H groups in the Township. Councillor Randell was of the opinion that the organization locally is somewhat varied and it may be more appropriate for the Township to make any financial contributions to the 4-H organization through the County Umbrella organization.

**Steve Miller**

Councillor Miller advised Council that the Lambton Group Police Services Board have elected Arnold Syer as its chair.

**Pat Carswell-Alexander**

Councillor Carswell-Alexander advised of attending a recent Brigden Library Board meeting and that the main issue brought forward was snow removal over the Christmas school vacation period and that this issue has since been resolved. Councilor Carswell-Alexander also advised of receiving information on methods of improving the efficiency and safety of crosswalks such as that in Corunna on Lyndoch Street.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by J. Agar

**Motion #16:** That improvements to the Lyndoch Street pedestrian crosswalk be approved with the establishment of flags and flag receptacles at both support posts to allow pedestrians crossing to use the flags in an effort to improve their visibility to motorists.

Motion was defeated.

**Pat Brown**

Councillor Brown presented to Council the electronic version of the Clean Harbors annual report. It was pointed out at a recent meeting of the Clean Harbors Community meeting that the volume of material disposed of at the site has decreased towards the latter part of 2008. Councillor Brown also asked staff to examine the support for the traffic light at Hill and Lyndoch Streets in Corunna and as well, investigate the illuminators at the traffic island at the same intersection. Also, staff was asked to investigate possible damage to the service club sign on the Parkway going into Corunna.

**Steve Arnold**

Mayor Arnold advised Council that he attended the founding meeting of the Ontario Landowners Association, a session on health care at the Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia, the Mayor's meeting with representatives of SLEP at the UWO Research Park as well as attended the St. Clair River Trail meeting in Sombra Village. The Mayor also attended a poverty workshop and a meeting at the Township office regarding the Olympic Torch Relay that will be on December 24<sup>th</sup> of this year. It was pointed out that the current proposal calls for the torch to be displayed through Corunna at approximately 11am with a brief stop at the St. Clair Civic Square on Lyndoch Street. It was pointed out however, that efforts will be made to persuade the torch relay organizers to at least drive the torch run caravan through St. Clair Township on the Parkway. It was also suggested that an organizing committee be established by the Township engaging input from schools, service clubs and interested citizens to mark this occasion. The Mayor also requested investigation of the condition of the property in Courtright north of the fire hall.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

**Motion #17:** That the meeting enter an in-camera session to discuss a legal and personnel matter.

**CARRIED**

The meeting returned to order.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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MAYOR

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CLERK