

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

St. Clair Civic Centre
Committee Room 1
March 9, 2009
6 :00 p.m.

The meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, March 9, 2009 with the following people present:

	J. Agar,	Chairperson, Public Works and Operations
	D. Randell,	Chairperson, Finance & Administration
	S. Arnold,	Mayor
	S. Miller,	Councillor
	P. Brown,	“
	P. Carswell-Alexander,	“
	P. Gilliland	Deputy Mayor - Absent
Staff	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk
	C. Quenneville,	Director of Finance/Treasurer
	Gary Hackett	Director of Community Services

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

AGENDA

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

2. GENERAL ACCOUNTS: Month ending February, 2009

3. TREASURER’S REPORT:

A-1 – 2009 Draft budget
A-2 – Ice resurfacers
A-3 – Market change and phase in impact study
A-4 – Petrolia & Enniskillen Agricultural Society – grant request

4. BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT:

B-1 - Building Permit Reports for the month ending February, 2009

5. DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT:

Monthly report

6. CLERK’S REPORTS:

C-1 – Draft clearing of lands by-law

7. C.A.O.’S REPORTS:

8. NEW BUSINESS:

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Randell called the meeting to order and asked members to declare any conflict of interest at the appropriate time.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

GENERAL ACCOUNTS: Month of February 09

The Committee reviewed the list of General Accounts for the month ending February 2009. Council asked staff to provide information regarding the Pole Printing Account shown on page 17 of the summary.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #1 That this Committee recommend to Council that General Accounts for the new accounting system starting with supplier number 131002 to YEL001, totaling, \$1,17,388.81, be approved for the month of February, 2009.

CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report dated March 3, 2009 relative to the amended budget reviewed by the Committee at its last meeting. Mayor Arnold questioned the fact that \$20,000.00 expenditure for the Health Club equipment purchase still shows in the re-drafted budget. After considerable discussion there was some confusion as to the motion made relative to that expenditure at the last meeting was defeated or indeed carried.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #2 That it be recommended to Council that budget line item 2009-22 showing in the expenditure of \$20,000.00 for improved Health Club equipment be deleted.

CARRIED

The Committee also discussed the proposal to construct a sidewalk on Albert Street with a funding contribution from Nova Chemicals. Also, the Committee discussed the cost and financing of the proposed Splash Pad for Cap Park being sponsored as a co-operative effort between the Township and the Moore Optimist Club. The Committee also reviewed line by line the Community Services expenditures with the use of reserve funds. Mr. Quenneville pointed out that it was his understanding that certain community services functions would be financed from the year end surplus reserve to be repaid to the reserve from the profits generated from the operation of the assets. The Committee also questioned the proposed expenditures in the Capital Budget for improvements at the Wilkesport Community Centre. It was pointed out that the grant funding applied for on behalf of the Community Centre was unsuccessful but that certain repairs were going to proceed with the use of Township funding and Board funds on hand. At the conclusion of the discussion Chairperson Randell and Mr. Hackett agreed to contact the Chair and the Board to provide clarification for the next meeting of Council. The Committee also asked the Treasurer for a print out of all Township reserves as of December 31, 2008 and to prepare a report showing the status of the operating year end surplus, the Parkway endowment reserve, the education and environment reserve showing and identifying the expenditures made. It was also suggested that the budget form be supplemented by showing the declining balances of these reserves when they are being used to finance Capital projects.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #3 That the motion to accept the current draft of the 2009 budget be tabled pending further information and clarification.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #4 That this Committee recommend to Council that the report identified as A2, as listed on the agenda from the Treasurer be received and accepted and the recommendations within be accepted.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #5 That this Committee recommend to Council that the report identified as A3, as listed on the agenda from the Treasurer be received and accepted and the recommendations within be accepted.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #6 That it be recommended to Council that the funding request received from the Petrolia and Enniskillen District Agricultural Society be denied.

CARRIED

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

In discussion of the Building Activity Report the Committee asked for further information relative to the new industrial construction value of 1.1 Million Dollars.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #7 That this Committee recommend to Council that the report submitted from the County of Lambton regarding the Building Permit Reports for the month of February 2009 be received and accepted.

CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT:

Council discussed several items of Mr. Hackett's March 4th report including his recommendation to install a flag pole with ground lighting at the Township's new Emergency Services Building in view of the fact Council has denied his recommendation for free standing signage for the building.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #8 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report received from Director of Community Services dated March 4, 2009 be received and accepted, excluding the recommendation for the placement of a flag pole.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #9 That it be recommended to Council that the final decision on the placement of a flag pole at the Township's new Emergency Services Building in Corunna be tabled until budget finalization.

CARRIED

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk lead the Committee in a discussion of the draft Clean Yards By-law offered for consideration by the County. It was pointed out that the Property Standards Officer is asking municipalities to pass a consistent Clean Yards By-law to aid in her ability to enforce such by-laws. The Committee raised questions such as ponding of water on Municipal or County owned properties as well as water in ponds specifically located and created for wetlands establishment. The Clerk is to discuss these issues with the Property Standards Officer for clarification and perhaps re-draft of the by-law.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #10 That it be recommended to Council that Council support the draft Clean Yards By-law subject to amendments as discussed by Committee.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Pat Carswell-Alexander

Councillor Carswell-Alexander brought to the Committee’s attention which she considers to be an improper design for the wheel chair ramp at the Brigden Community Centre. The Committee was in general consensus that improvements could be made to the new ramp to improve users safety. Mr. Hackett to advance Councillor Carwell-Alexander’s concern to the contractor. Hearing no further business it was:

Moved by S. Miller
Motion #11 That this meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee due hereby adjourn.

Seconded by P. Carwell-Alexander

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned 7:05 p.m.

_____ D. Randell, Chairperson	_____ J. DeMars Secretary
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PUBLIC WORKS & OPERATIONS

The meeting of the Public Works & Operations Committee was held on Monday, March 9, 2009 with the following people present:

J. Agar,	Chairperson, Public Works and Operations
D. Randell,	Chairperson, Finance & Administration
S. Arnold,	Mayor
S. Miller,	Councillor
P. Brown,	“
P. Carswell-Alexander,	“
P. Gilliland	Deputy Mayor - Absent
Staff J. Rodey,	CAO
J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk
L. Burnham	Director of Public Works, Operations & Engineering

AGENDA

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

2. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Regional WWTP status

3. COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WORKS) REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated March 4, 2009

4. COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTEWATER) REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated March 4, 2009

5. COORDINATOR OF ENGINEERING REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated March 4, 2009
- Urban asphalt resurfacing

6. DRAINAGE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Monthly Report dated March 4, 2009
- Flooding ~ Thompson Street
- Flooding ~ Frog Point

7. CLERK'S REPORT:

9. CAO'S REPORT:

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Carol Amos – 84 Main Street Courtright

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Agar called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and asked members to declare any conflict of interest at the appropriate time.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS & OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING REPORT:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #12 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Director of Public Works & Operations & Engineering dated March 4, 2009, be received and accepted as information.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WORKS) REPORT:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #13 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Coordinator of Operations (Works) dated March 4, 2009, be received and accepted as information.

CARRIED

In discussion of Mr. DePooter's report the Committee discussed possible invoice to Chatham-Kent for costs incurred by the Municipality during the recent closure of the McKeough Dam and the resulting upstream flooding. The Committee discussed the possibility of installing closable gates in strategic locations for roads that are flood prone such as the Stanley Line. Staff was of the opinion that placement of such closable gates on the Stanley Line could not be done in a strategic location. Also, in response to Councillor Brown's question Mr. Burnham advised that the Township does have a program to replace deteriorating light posts. Councillor Brown pointed out several such light posts in the Westview area.

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTEWATER) REPORT:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #14 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) dated March 4, 2009, be received and accepted as information.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #15 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Coordinator of Engineering Services dated March 4, 2009 be received and accepted as information.

CARRIED

In discussion of Mr. Deline's report relative to the Stanley Line bridge replacements the Mayor requested consideration be made to raise the low lying areas at the bridge approach when the bridge is replaced. Mr. Burnham advised that prior to the raising the elevation of the road St. Clair Region Conservation Authority approval would be required and it is his opinion that the Conservation Authority would require a very extensive and expensive hydrology survey.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #16 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report submitted by the Coordinator of Engineering dated March 4, 2009 regarding urban asphalt resurfacing be received and accepted as information.

CARRIED

DRAINAGE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #17 That this Committee recommend to Council that the monthly report of the Drainage Superintendent dated March 4, 2009, be received and accepted as information and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #18 That this Committee recommend to Council that the report submitted by the Drainage Superintendent dated March 4, 2009 regarding the flooding of the Thompson Street (Courtright) be received and accepted as information and the works be authorized to be completed.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #19 That this Committee recommend to Council that the report submitted by the Drainage Superintendent dated March 4, 2009 regarding the flooding of the St. Clair Parkway (Frog Point, No. 1738 to No. 1756) be received and accepted as information and works authorized to proceed.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #20 That it be recommended to Council that a Drainage Committee meeting be scheduled to discuss possible drainage improvements in three separate segments in the Courtright area with the invitations to be sent to affected residents along the St. Clair Parkway from Lambton Generating Station north to Baby Creek including the Thompson Street area.

CARRIED

The Committee directed that the meeting of the Drainage Committee would be set for Tuesday, April 14th, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Committee discussed the letter received from Carol Amos, resident of 84 Main Street, Courtright regarding flood damage to her property. Mr. Burnham advised that the Drainage Superintendent has contacted Ms. Amos with the suggestion she contact her insurance company and information on a proposed meeting to be held with residents experiencing flooding issues in Courtright. The Committee reviewed the letter received on behalf of the

Sombra United Church requesting consideration for a reduction in the water/wastewater billing due to the fact the plumbing in the building was leaking.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #21 That it be recommended to Council that the water/wastewater bill for the Sombra United Church for the period November 15th, 2008 to February 15th, 2009 be reduced by the amount of \$71.88.

CARRIED

The Committee discussed in general terms the recent flooding issues in the community of Courtright. Mayor Arnold asked the Director of Public Works and Operations to generate a list of property owners on Thompson Street still connected to the old drain scheduled to be abandoned. Mr. Burnham pointed out that the owners have been told that the Township will make the connection to the new Thompson Street Drain if their existing storm water connection can be located.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #22 That it be recommended to Council that Township forces tie in all identifiable storm drain connections into the new Thompson Street Drain with the former drain to be abandoned as per the engineer's report on this drain.

CARRIED

Councillor Carswell-Alexander asked Staff to investigate the uneven sidewalk on Boswell Street on the east side of the Village Market. Mr. Burnham advised that if the sidewalk is uneven its probably typically due to frost heave this time of year.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #23 That it be recommended to Council that Staff conduct a traffic volume count at the intersections of St. Clair Parkway and St. Clair Boulevard in Corunna with a report for the next meeting of Council.

CARRIED

Councillor Brown asked Staff to investigate the sidewalk on the west side of Lyndoch south of Cooper Street that has several sections missing and other sections in disrepair.

Mayor Arnold briefed the Committee on his discussions with Mr. Burnham on the next intake of the Building Canada Fund. Mr. Burnham was able to put together the required engineering and business case for submission through Pat Davidson's office in advance of the March 10th Review Committee discussions. It was pointed out that the application for funding has been made to replace the Booth Creek Bridge. Mayor Arnold thanked Mr. Burnham and his staff for their hard work in putting together the impressive presentation. The Mayor also asked Council to consider possible projects for future possible participation in the Building Canada Fund. Several suggestions were made such as the Stanley Line Bridge replacement, the seawall replacement and waterline looping. At the conclusion of the discussion it was:

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #24 That it be recommended to Council that Staff be instructed to proceed with the preliminary engineering for the possible LaSalle Line waterline looping.

CARRIED

Hearing no further business it was:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #25 That this meeting of the Public Works and Operations Committee due hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

