

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MINUTES
SESSION # 6**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
April 6, 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 March 16, 2009 Session #5
Sombra Museum meeting of March 19, 2009

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

7:00pm Joe Anderson – second house request

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Joe Anderson – second house request
- b) St. Clair Regional Conservation Authority
- c) Property Standards - Complaint

INFORMATION:

- 1) Mayor Arnold – comment on Bill 150
- 2) S.C.R.T. – March 25 minutes
- 3) County of Lambton – 2009 budget
- 4) County of Lambton – telecommunications tower
- 5) Huron Boys Home – thank you
- 6) Sandra Brennan – thank you
- 7) L.F.A. – thank you
- 8) Municipality of Grey Highlands – resolution
- 9) AMO Alert – Green Energy Act
- 10) CH2MHill – February operating report
- 11) Town of Lakeshore – resolution
- 12) New Beginnings – thank you
- 13) Chamber of Commerce – invitation
- 14) Barry Uitvlugt – O.P.A. #12

Council Meeting Minutes
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DRAINS:

Drainage By-law #3 of 2009 – Various Drains
Drainage By-law #4 of 2009 – Sterling Drain

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Site Plan – 1188 Kimball Road

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Courtright Line greenhouse

DEPUTY TREASURER:

2008 Council Remuneration

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTERWATER) REPORT:

2008 Water Quality and Annual Summary

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS & OPERATIONS:

Albert Street Sidewalk
Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant
Sewage Capacity – residential development at Fane & Murray Streets

CLERK'S REPORT:

Realty services

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Pick-up truck

CAO'S REPORT:

Telephone system enhancement
Guthrie Park – Phase 2
Shell Plaque
St. Clair Civic Square - verbal

MOTIONS:

BY-LAWS:

By-law #12 of 2009 – Animal control fees
By-law #13 of 2009 – O.P.A. #12
By-law #14 of 2009 – Clearing of lands
By-law #15 of 2009 – Discharge of lieu – S.P.A.A.
By-law #16 of 2009 – Confirming by-law
By-law #17 of 2009 – Building Canada funding agreement
By-law #18 of 2009 – Road Dedication
By-law #19 of 2009 – Second residence – J. Anderson

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Finance & Administration, Public Works & Operations–Monday April 13, 2009~6:00pm
Drainage Committee – Tuesday April 14, 2009~6:00pm
LCRGPA – Thursday April 23, 2009~5:30pm (Wyoming)
Regular Meeting of Council Monday - April 20, 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:

Mayor Arnold and Councillor Brown declared a conflict of interest during the discussion of the Nova Chemicals denial of the Township’s request for financial assistance to construct a sidewalk on Albert Street due to their workplace relationship with Nova.

Council welcomed Mr. Joe Anderson present to present to Council his request to occupy the current dwelling on his property during the construction of a new single family residence. Mr. Anderson was advised of the standard Township protocol that would involve entering into an agreement with the Municipality for the removal of the current house once the new home is ready for occupancy. Mr. Anderson stated that he would be in agreement with such an agreement with the Municipality.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #1: That the request from Joe Anderson regarding permission to live in their current home while building a new one be granted, subject to the execution of the standard agreement.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

Council proceeded to review the minutes as listed on the agenda.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #2: That the minutes of the Council meeting held March 16, 2009 – Session #5 be adopted as printed and circulated

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #3: That the minutes of the Sombra Museum meeting held March 19, 2009 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council proceeded to review the correspondence as listed on the agenda.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #4: That St. Clair Township agrees to its cost share of the “special benefiting project” totaling \$665,900 as detailed in the SCRCA correspondence dated March 27, 2009.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #5: That the property standards complaint regarding 376 Murray Street, Corunna be forwarded on to the Property Standards Officer for further investigation.

CARRIED

Council reviewed the information received from the Lambton County Planning Department relative to telecommunications towers. Council was of the general opinion that the notification to neighbors of the proposed towers site should be extended to a greater distance than suggested in the report and that the Township should require financial compensation for the location of such towers.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #6: That the resolution from the Municipality of Grey-Highlands regarding Bill 150, the Green Energy Act be supported and endorsed.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #7: That interested members of Council and senior staff be authorized to attend the Chamber of Commerce breakfast on Friday March 1, 2009 to hear addresses by the MP and MPP

CARRIED

Council discussed in general terms the fact that the 2009 donations as provided for in the draft budget have already been sent to the various agencies and groups. It was suggested that notwithstanding the fact that the money has been allocated in the budget, funds do not be released until a formal request for such funding is received.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #8: That the following correspondence be received and dealt with as per Council's instructions as noted:

- a. Joe Anderson – second house request
Inst. Motion #1
- b. St. Clair Regional Conservation Authority
Inst. Motion # 4
- c. Property Standards - complaint
Inst. Motion #5

CARRIED

Council review the draft text of the Official Plan Amendment No. 12 and instructed staff to make revisions such as cash in lieu of parkland to be increased by 5%, solar panels to be a maximum of 8-10 feet with a separation of 10 feet and as well the need for a bio-mass sludge handling plan to be incorporated as a requirement.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #9: That By-law Number 13 of 2009, being a by-law to adopt Amendment No. 12 to the Township of St. Clair Official Plan having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

DRAINS:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #10: That Drainage By-law #3 of 2009, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$597.63 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for repairs and improvements to various drains in the Township of St. Clair be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

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Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #11: That Drainage By-law #4 of 2009, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$3,395.25 being money expended out of the General Funds of the township of St. Clair for repairs to the Sterling Drain in the Township of St. Clair be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Council reviewed Jeff Baranek's report relative to the site plan on property known as 1188 Kimball Road.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #12: That the report submitted by Jeff Baranek, Planner dated March 25, 2009 recommending a request for site plan agreement Instrument No. L855773 to be removed from the title of 1188 Kimball Sideroad, exempting the land owner from its requirements be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Council was advised by the Clerk that Mr. Baranek's report on telecommunications towers will be available for consideration at its next meeting of Council.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #13: That the report submitted by Jerry Weerdenburg, County of Lambton Building Inspector dated April 2, 2009 regarding the Courtright Line Greenhouse structure be received as information.

CARRIED

DEPUTY TREASURER'S REPORT:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #14: That the report submitted by the Deputy Treasurer dated March 3, 2009 regarding the 2008 Council Remuneration be received.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTEWATER) REPORT:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #15: That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) dated April 2, 2009 recommending that Council approve the 2008 Annual Water Quality report the St. Clair Township Distribution System be received and accepted.

CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND OPERATIONS REPORT:

Council discussed Mr. Burnham's report on the Albert Street sidewalk project.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #16: That the report submitted by the Director of Public Works and Operations dated April 6, 2009 regarding the sidewalk proposed for Albert Street from Hill to Beckwith be received as information.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #17: That the issue of the Albert Street sidewalk be referred to the next meeting of Public Works & Operations Committee for further discussion.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Gilliland voiced his displeasure with Nova Chemicals for its refusal to make a financial contribution towards the Albert Street sidewalk project. Mayor Arnold and Councillor Brown declared a conflict of interest due to their work place relationship with Nova, vacated their seats and left Council Chambers. Councillor Miller took the chair.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #18: That a letter be forwarded to Nova Chemicals expressing the Township's disappointment in their unwillingness to financially participate in the proposed new sidewalk on Albert Street as an effort to improve pedestrian safety relative to the vehicular traffic in the area generated by the existence of the Nova facility.

DEFEATED

Mayor Arnold and Councillor Brown returned to the Council Chambers.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #19: That staff be instructed to conduct a traffic count on Albert Street to be used as a comparison with any historical data as to the volume of vehicular traffic on that street.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #20: That the report submitted by the Director of Public Works & Operations dated April 6, 2009 regarding the Regional WWTP Costs to date be received as information.

CARRIED

CLERK'S REPORT:

Council proceed to discuss the Clerk's report relative to the retention of the services of a real estate broker. Council was advised of a phone call received today where one of the two interested parties have withdrawn the offer of service.

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #21: That the report received from the Clerk dated April 1, 2009 recommending that the offer of service from Riversite Realty Inc. be accepted within the initial listing price of \$16,900.00 brokerage fee of 6% of final selling price and a six month listing be accepted for the disposal of property known as 135 St. Clair Ave. Sombra be received and accepted.

CARRIED

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #22: That Council authorize the Department of Community Services to purchase the 2007 Dodge pickup as described from Bayview Chrysler Dodge for \$19,834.00 or equivalent used truck similarly priced as may become available as budgeted for.

CARRIED

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Mr. Rodey provided to Council a verbal report on the possibility of enhancing the telephone system that would allow incoming calls to the civic Center to be routed to individual extension without going through a switchboard type process. Council after discussion, was in general agreement with the proposal provided that the system was designed to be as user friendly as possible. The CAO is to further investigate this enhancement.

Mr. Rodey provided to Council his report on the shoreline remediation project for Guthrie Park. Mr. Rodey advised of discussions with Mr. Brian McDougall of the SCRCA who has advised that additional funding for the next phase in the amount of \$212, 500 has been secured from the Province to be match by a similar contribution by the Municipality. In his report, Mr. Rodey suggested that the project should be continued starting at the north end of the property and work southward. He also advised of discussions relative to the continuation of the current contract with the contractor on site hopefully to take advantage of certain efficiencies such as equipment mobilization.

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #23: That the SCRCA advised that the Township supports efforts by the Authority to attempt to negotiate a contract extension with the current on site contractor with the shoreline remediation project to start at the north limit of the park, progressing southward and further failing such attempts in the extension of the contract, the Authority be requested to tender that portion of the project.

CARRIED

Mr. Rodey advised Council of discussions with Shell Canada regarding the placement of an acknowledgement plaque on the Shell clock tower at the St. Clair Civic Square in Corunna. It was pointed out by Council that not only Shell made a contribution to the project but also several other major industries and of course the citizens of St. Clair Township.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #24: That Shell Canada be authorized to locate an acknowledgement plaque on the north face of the clock tower in the St. Clair Township civic square in Corunna and further that an additional two plaques be developed by the Township acknowledging contributions from major industries as well as the citizens of St. Clair Township with these plaques to be developed and paid for by the Municipality.

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #25: That By-law Number 12 of 2009, being a by-law to regulate the control of animals within the Municipality of St. Clair Township, as provided under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, C.25, Section 11 (i) Sections 103, 104 and 105, as amended 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 P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #26: That By-law Number 14 of 2009, being a by-law for requiring and regulating the filling up, draining and cleaning of land and clearing land of waste 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 P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #27: That By-law Number 15 of 2009, being a by-law to discharge a lien under the Shoreline Property Assistance Act 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 P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #28: That By-law Number 16 of 2009, being a by-law of the Township of St. Clair to confirm the resolutions and motions of St. Clair Township which were adopted up to and including March 16, 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 S. Miller

Motion #29: That By-law Number 17 of 2009, being a by-law to authorize an agreement to participate in the Building Canada Fund Communities Component 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 P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #30: That By-law Number 18 of 2009, being a by-law to dedicate property as part of a public road 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 P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #31: That By-law Number 19 of 2009, being a by-law to authorize execution of an agreement with MooreGlen Farms Ltd. on property known municipally as 912 Moore Line, Township of St. Clair for the temporary use of an existing house while a new one is being constructed 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 led Council into discussion of the recent quotation received by the Director of Community Services for the brick work for the proposed signage at the Township's Emergency Services building in Corunna. Deputy Mayor Gilliland pointed out that the quotation for the sign and the quotation for the brick work was slightly less than the amount budgeted for in the draft 2009 budget.

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #32: That the Director of Community Services be authorized to proceed with the construction of the signage at the Township's Emergency Services building in Corunna at a quoted cost of approximately \$34,500.

DEFEATED

Councillor Carswell-Alexander advised of the possibility of obtaining a used similar sign from a local contractor. Deputy Mayor Gilliland asked staff to investigate the heavy truck parking at the former Colborne Street school that is apparently causing damage to Colborne Street. Also staff was requested to contact Lambton County regarding the status of the items discussed at a meeting held between representatives of the County, MTO and the Township. Deputy Mayor Gilliland also advised of the unsuccessful attempt of the St. Clair River Trail to obtain project funding under the FCM Green Fund project. There was some discussion by the Committee that perhaps funds under the Building Canada Fund may be available. It was pointed out that such an application for funding could only be made by the Township and such a request could jeopardize funding for other Township infrastructure projects.

Darrell Randell

Councillor Randell advised Council of his attendance at a March 25th BPAC Committee meeting, March 26th meeting of the Lambton Historical Society hosted in Sombra and the March 27th meeting held in Wallaceburg hosted by the Erie/St. Clair LHIN to discuss the future of the Sydenham District Emergency services. Councillor Randell advised that the meeting was attended by a large number of St. Clair Township residents. Councillor Randell also discussed with Council, his recent email relative to the Ladney property on the Petrolia Line. Also, Councillor Randell advised of the general, annual meeting of the Wilkesport Community Center which will be held on April 8th with notice of such meeting posted on the Township's website.

Steve Miller

Councillor Miller advised of his recent attendance of the meeting of the Lambton Group Police Services Board and advised Council that the OPP plan to be fully moved in to the new Emergency Services building by the end of April.

Pat Brown

Councillor Brown attended a meeting last week of the Clean Harbors Community Committee and at the meeting, odor complaints were discussed. Councillor Brown pointed out to Council the street lights in the new portion of Clairwood seem to be leaning. Also following construction work at the intersection of Bentinck and St. Clair Boulevard, the area that was excavated to accommodate a hydro service has not been properly restored. It appears that an attempt was made to level the area and seed last fall with little success.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #33: That the residential developer at the intersection of Bentinck Street and St. Clair Boulevard be asked to sod the area disturbed during hydro service connection last fall.

DEFEATED

Darrell Randell

Councillor Randell advised of receiving a letter from a concerned rate payer regarding the reduction in service of the rescue services provided by the Canadian Coast Guard out of their facility in Port Lambton. It was pointed out in the letter that the service customarily starts on the Victoria Day weekend but this year the service has been abbreviated to start in early June. It was suggested that this letter of concern be forwarded to Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst for his comments.

Steve Arnold

Mayor Arnold advised of a recent meetings to complete the 2009 county budget as well as meetings on physician recruitment, the Prime Minister, attendance at the Lambton Historical Society meeting in Sombra and the March 31st meeting of the Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership. Mayor Arnold also briefed Council on his attendance at the meeting in Wallaceburg to discuss the future of Sydenham Campus Emergency Room services. The Mayor also attended the recent Best Start Program annual meeting as well as a meeting with the County Administration Review Committee and the Great Lakes Conference hosted in Lambeth.

Council discussed in general terms that many of the community events posted in the St. Clair Township Beacon have already taken place by the time the newsletter is circulated. It was suggested that perhaps the Township website could be expanded to include a community calendar which would allow for the more timely postings of such upcoming fundraising and charitable events.

Hearing no further business, it was;

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK