

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MINUTES
SESSION # 4**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
February 25, 2010
9:00 a.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
	D. Randell,	“
	S. Miller,	“
	J. Agar,	“
Staff:	J. Rodey,	CAO
	J. DeMars,	Director of Administration/Clerk/ Deputy CAO
	C. Quenneville	Treasurer
	R. Dewhirst	Director of Emergency Services
	G. Hackett	Director of Community Services
	L. Burnham	Director of Public Works & Operations
	P. Brown, Councillor	joined the meeting in progress

AGENDA:

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Draft 2010 Operating Budget:

Adopt Minutes:

Council Meeting of February 1, 2010
Sombra Museum minutes of January 21, 2010
Finance & Administration minutes of February 8, 2010
Public Works & Operations minutes of February 8, 2010
Drainage Committee minutes of February 2, 2010
Moore Museum minutes of February 3, 2010

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

11:00 a.m. – Dick Vandendool – First Solar – response

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Sombra Sports & Recreation – permission
- b) Moore Ag. Society – grant request
- c) Ryan Wilson – sponsorship – postponed until March 1st
- d) Lambton Municipal Association – annual meeting
- e) Agricultural Hal of Fame – membership
- f) Francis DeSena – quit claim deed
- g) Sombra Field Board – appointments
- h) Sombra Sports & Rec. – grant request

INFORMATION:

DRAINS:

Drainage By-law #5 of 2010 – Port Lambton Storm Sewer Drain – Amending

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

PROPERTY STANDARDS OFFICER REPORT:

Various locations

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Trillium Traffic signs draft development agreement

COORDINATOR OF PLANNING REPORT:

Planning fees

COORDINATOR OF OPERATION (WATER/WASTEWATER) REPORT:

Proposed 2010 water and sanitary rates

Proposed 2010 user fees

Building repairs for 359 Moore Line

Proposed 2010 billing procedures

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Workwell Audit

CLERK'S REPORT:

CAO'S REPORT:

MOTIONS:

Appointment to Perch Creek Court of Revision - April 8, 2010

Appoint substitute Committee of Adjustment member

Tile loan approval

BY-LAWS:

By-law #11 of 2010 - 2010 Municipal Elections

By-law #12 of 2010 - Pipeline Agreement – Ontario General Energy

By-law #13 of 2010 - Agreement with AMO – Federal Gas Tax

By-law #14 of 2010 - Property purchase – 1100 Emily Street

By-law #15 of 2010 - Tile loan

COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting of Council – Monday March 1, 2010 ~ 7pm

Committee of the Whole Monday March 8, 2010 ~ 6pm

Regular Meeting of Council – Monday March 15, 2010 ~ 7pm

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked members of Council to declare any possible conflicts of interest at the appropriate time.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

It was pointed out that the morning session of this meeting was to discuss the initial draft of the 2010 Operating budget. Mayor Arnold turned the chair over to Councillor Randell to act in his capacity as Finance Committee Chair. The CAO provided introductory remarks relative to the 2010 budget and then called upon the Treasurer to present the budget and responds to Council's questions. In response to the question from the Mayor, Mr. Quenneville advised that although he suspected a slight operating surplus for the year 2009, that will not be confirmed until the 2009 accounts payable are processed and the audit is completed which he anticipates will take approximately 2 months. There was considerable discussion on the budgetary effect of the new accounting protocol to include amortization for all municipal assets. The Treasurer provided highlights of the negative budget impacts for 2010 being the OPP contract increase of \$117,000.00, the payment on the capital debt of the ESB of \$80,000.00 and the \$90,000.00 increase in insurance premiums for 2010. Council also discussed the funding source for the purchase of property known as 1100 Emily Street.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #1: That the property purchase for the property known as 1100 Emily Street be financed from the General Fund year end surplus account with the proceeds from any sale of municipal property to be credited to that same reserve fund.

CARRIED

Council also requested from the Treasurer his annual report on the Township Education and Environment Fund relative to money added into the fund and expenditures financed from the fund. After a short recess, Council reviewed the list of options presented by staff for Council consideration in an effort to reduce expenditures for 2010.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #2: That the line item to purchase a new vehicle to replace the current Township van be deleted.

CARRIED

Council proceeded to review the list of possible reductions identified as exhibit TL4 for fire services.

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Arnold

Motion #3: That the deletion of line item #15, a reduction in life cycle costing in the amount of \$50,000 be approved.

CARRIED

A motion by Councillor Carswell-Alexander to split the Wilkesport paving project into 2 phases over a 2 year period did not get a seconder and failed.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #4: That line item #14 to eliminate transfer to reserves in the amount of \$151,561.00 be deleted from the list of proposed budget cuts.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #5: That line items #29, 30 and 31 be removed from the budget deletion listing.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #6: That line item #39 being a proposed rent increase of 5% starting in September for the arena fees be deleted from the budget cut list.

CARRIED

Council Meeting Minutes
Of February 25, 2010

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #7: That line item #28 being the project to reconstruct Eighth Street in Courtright be deleted from the budget cut list.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Arnold

Motion #8: That line item #35 being \$5000.00 in the purchase of flowers and trees for Community Services be deleted from the budget cut list.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #9: That the budget portion of this meeting be adjourned until later in the day.

CARRIED

Mayor Arnold welcomed Mr. Dick Vandendool present to present to Council his summary on the response to the First Solar farm proposal primarily in former Sombra Township. In his presentation, Mr. Vandendool expressed concerns as to the projects impact on Township roads during and post construction periods as well as the effect on the Township's emergency response capabilities, the change in topography and the resulting possible negative aspects of drainage, the prevention of wildlife movement due to the proposal to enclose the subject area by fence and the potential off-site impacts of glares from the solar panels. There was also concern expressed that the material within the solar panels themselves have been identified as a carcinogen. At the conclusion of Mr. Vandendool's presentation, Mayor Arnold on behalf of Council, thanked him for his review of the material provided by First Solar and advised that Mr. Vandendool would be forwarded a copy of the Township's formal response.

Mayor Arnold declared a recess until 12:40pm. The meeting returned to order and Council proceeded to review the draft 2010 budget. Mayor Arnold turned the Chair over to Councillor Randell to act in his capacity as Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee.

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #10: That relative to line item # 1164 page 25, the proposed amount to be transferred into Works equipment reserve be reduced by \$125,000.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #11: That relative to line item #2035 on page 42, the Park's equipment expense be reduced by \$10,000.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Arnold

Motion #12: That relative to line item #1356 on page 29, the Port Lambton storm sewer expense be reduced by \$5000.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #13: That relative to line item #1291 on page 28, that the drainage expense be reduced by \$10,000.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #14: That relative to line item #1308 on page 28, regarding a needs study be reduced by \$3000.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by S. Arnold

Motion #15: That the current budget be referred to senior staff for further review to reduce possible increases of the tax rate for 2010 to approximately 1.5%.

CARRIED

Council Meeting Minutes
Of February 25, 2010

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #16: That a \$250.00 contribution be made in partnership with the Sombra Sports and Rec. Association to fund placement of park benches and other park improvements.

CARRIED

The Director of Community Services was requested to proceed with the installations of the signs requested by the sports and recreation group. Council proceed to review the possible grants and donations list for 2010.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #17: That the grant provided to the VON in the amount of \$1000.00 in 2009 be deleted from the 2010 budget.

DEFEATED

Moved by S. Arnold

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #18: That the Treasurer be authorized to release funding for the following grants:

Cemetery grants	\$1950.00
Meadowview Villa	50.00
Corunna Community Policing Committee	500.00
Moore Skating Club	150.00

CARRIED

Council directed that the revised budget be revisited by the Finance and Administration Committee at the March 8th meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee. The budget portion of this meeting was adjourned and Council returned to order.

MINUTES:

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

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #19: That the minutes of the Council meeting held February 1, 2010 – Session #3 be adopted as printed and circulated

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #20: That the minutes of the Sombra Museum meeting held January 21, 2010 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

Moved by P.. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #21: That the minutes of the Finance and Administration meeting held February 8, 2010 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #22: That the minutes of the Public Works and Operations meeting held February 8, 2010 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #23: That the minutes of the Drainage Committee meeting held February 2, 2010 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #24: That the minutes of the Moore Museum meeting held February 3, 2010 be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #25: That the Sombra Days event held July 2, 3 and 4 2010 be declared a community festival and that permission be granted for the refreshment tent license as per established Township policy.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #26: That the letter received from the Moore Agricultural Society dated February 3, 2010 requesting financial assistance in the amount of \$5000.00 be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #27: That the correspondence received from the Lambton County Municipal Association regarding membership fees in the amount of \$125.00 be paid and any extra tickets be purchased as well.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #28: That the correspondence received from the Hall of Fame Committee regarding membership fees and nominations be received and accepted.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #29: That staff be authorized to accept a quit claim deed from Francis DeSena on behalf of his client on property known as Part 2 Plan 25R9733.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #30: That Council accept the appointments offered to the Sombra Field Board elected February 10th 2010 for a 2 year term.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #31: That a grant in the amount of \$8500.00 be provided to the Moore Presbyterian Foundation in support of Thomson Gardens for 2010.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #32: That the following correspondence be received and dealt with as per Council's instructions as noted:

a. Sombra Sports and Rec - permission

Inst. See motion #25

b. Moore Ag Society – grant request

Inst. See motion #26

c. postponed

Inst.

d. Lambton Municipal Association – annual meeting

Inst. See motion #27

e. Agricultural Hall of Fame – membership meeting

Inst. See motion #28

Council Meeting Minutes
Of February 25, 2010

f. Francis DeSena - quit claim deed

Inst. See motion #29

g. Sombra Field Board – appointments

Inst. See motion #30

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

DRAINS:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #33: That Drainage By-law #5 of 2010 being a by-law to raise the sum of \$8,735.33 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 an Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

PROPERTY STANDARDS OFFICER REPORT:

Moved by p. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #34: That the reports of the Property Standards Officer dated February 1st and 22nd, 2010 be received and accepted as information.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #35: That the Property Standards Officer be instructed to order the clean up of property known as 507 Colborne Street by June 1, 2010.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #36: That the Property Standards Officer be instructed to issue a property standards violation orderinst property known as 2392 Boswell Street.

CARRIED

PLANNER'S REPORT:

Moved by s. Miller

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #37: That the report received from Barry Uitvlugt dated June 19, 2008 recommending that Council approve in principle the draft development agreement with Trillium Signs Inc. to permit the renovation of an existing building for a new office and storage building.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF PLANNING REPORT:

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by P. Carswell-Alexander

Motion #38: That the report of the Coordinator of Planning regarding increased planning fees be tabled until further budget deliberations on March 8th, 2010.

CARRIED

COORDINATOR OF OPERATIONS (WATER/WASTEWATER) REPORT:

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #39: That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) dated February 17, 2010 recommending that the attached water and sanitary rates are adopted effective March 1, 2010 be tabled.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland
Motion #40: That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) dated February 17, 2010 recommending that St. Clair Township User Fee By-law 64-2004 reflect the changes proposed be tabled.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell
Motion #41: That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) dated February 17, 2010 regarding building repairs at 359 Moore Line be received and accepted as information only.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland
Motion #42: That the report submitted by the Coordinator of Operations (Water/Wastewater) dated February 17, 2010 regarding proposed 2010 utility billing and collection procedures changes be tabled

CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Moved by S. Miller
Motion #43: That the report received from the Treasurer dated February 17, 2010 recommending that the updated on WSIB Workwell Audit Compliance report be received and accepted.

CARRIED

MOTIONS:

Moved by P. Carswell-Alexander
Motion #44: That Councillor Darrell Randell be appointed as the Township representative for the Perch Creek Court of Revision to be held April 8th at the City of Sarnia.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell
Motion #45: That Mayor Arnold and Councilor's Carswell-Alexander and Brown be appointed as alternates to the Committee of Adjustment to act as additional members as required to assure a quorum at the meetings of the Committee of Adjustment.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Brown
Motion #46: That the following application for loan under the Tile Drainage Act be approved subject to Provincial funding:
Guido VanBoven Lot 1, Con 8 amount \$12,700.00

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

Moved by P. Gilliland
Motion #47: That By-law #11 of 2010 being a by-law to establish procedures for the conduct of the 2010 Municipal Election such as vote by mail and electronic vote tabulators 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 S. Miller
Motion #48: That By-law Number 12 of 2010, being a by-law to authorize Ontario General Energy to construct, use and operate works required for the transmission of gas along certain roads in the Township, having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Council Meeting Minutes
Of February 25, 2010

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #49: That By-law Number 13 of 2010, being a by-law to authorize execution of this Municipal Funding Agreement for the Transfer of federal Gas Tax Revenues under the New Deal for Cities and Communities between the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and 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

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion #50: That By-law Number 14 of 2010, being a by-law to authorize the purchase of real property known as 100 Emily Street, 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

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #51: That By-law Number 15 of 2010, being a by-law to impose special drainage rates upon land for which funds are borrowed under the Tile Drainage Act, having been given the necessary three readings, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, the Corporate seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Council was advised of a need for a Drainage Committee meeting on March 30th at 7pm. Mayor Arnold also advised of an invitation received from the SOS group regarding a public forum to discuss rural health care particularly as it might affect the Sydenham Campus to be hosted on March 4th between 3 and 630pm.

Hearing no further business is was;

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

That the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK