

**ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MINUTES
SESSION # 26**

St. Clair Civic Centre
Council Chambers
February 17, 2015
5:00 pm

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 |
| | T. Kingston | Councillor |
| | D. Randell | “ |
| | J. Agar | “ |
| | J. DeGurse | “ |
| | S. Miller | “ |
| Staff: | J. Rodey | CAO |
| | J. Baranek | Clerk/ Deputy CAO |

**TOWNSHIP OF ST. CLAIR
COUNCIL AGENDA**

St. Clair Township Civic Centre
February 17, 2015
5:00 p.m.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Minutes:

Regular Council – Session #25 – February 2, 2015
The Sombra Museum Board Committee Meetings – January 30, 2015
Moore Museum Advisory Committee Minutes – February 4, 2015

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEPUTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Lambton 4H Association – Donation request
- b) MTO – Default Speed Limit
- c) 510 Broadway Street Order Status
- d) 497 Courtright Line

INFORMATION:

- 1) Rover Pipeline Project
- 2) Seward OMB Hearing
- 3) OPA 19 – Notice of Decision
- 4) OPP – Reporting Transparency
- 5) OPG – Thunder Bay – Biomass Conversion
- 6) Township of Evanturel – OPP Billing Model
- 7) Sergeant Flesher and Constable Todd Monaghan Retirement Open House

Council Meeting
February 17, 2015

- 8) Road Swap – Plank Rd. for Hill St.
- 9) John Dobson – letter of concern
- 10) Village of Merrickville-Wolford – IWT Resolution

DRAINS:

By-law #7 of 2015, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$12,087.82 less \$2320.28 OMAFRA grant for a total of \$9767.54 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed there and finally passed.

By-law #8 of 2015, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$12,573.11 less \$2751.74 OMAFRA grant for a total of \$9821.37 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed there and finally passed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

PROPERTY STANDARDS/BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- Property Standards Update February 9, 2015
- Property Standards Update Report, February 11, 2015

DEPUTY CLERK/COORDINATOR OF PLANNING:

- Information Only: Planning/Development Summary
- James St. (Wilkesport) Road Allowance

CLERK'S REPORT:

- Website RFP
- In-Camera - Personnel

CAO'S REPORT:

MOTIONS:

- Recommendations from February 17, 2015 – Finance & Administration and Public Works & Operations Committees

BY-LAWS:

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Regular Council – Monday, March 2, 2015 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Council Meeting
February 17, 2015

- Committee of the Whole – Monday, March 16, 2015 ~ 3:00 p.m.
- Regular Council – Monday, March 16, 2015 ~ 5:00 p.m. after Committee of the Whole
- Regular Council – Monday, April 6, 2015 ~ 6:30 p.m.

In Camera

- Property & Personnel

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and asked members of Council to declare any possible conflicts of interest at the appropriate time.

None declared.

ADOPT MINUTES:

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #1 That the Minutes from the Council meeting held Session #25 – February 2, 2015 be received and accepted as printed.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #2 That the Minutes from the Sombra Museum Board Committee meeting held on January 30, 2015 be received as printed.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #3 That the Minutes from the Moore Museum Advisory Committee Meeting held on February 4, 2015 be received as printed.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

Moved by J. Degurse

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #4 That the request for donation in the amount of \$100 made by the Lambton 4H Association be referred to budget deliberations on March 5, 2015.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #5 That the Township be of the opinion that the default speed limit for un-posted roads in Ontario set at 50kph is satisfactory and does not need to be reviewed.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #6 That the Building Inspector be directed to issue an Order to Comply with a deadline of March 31, 2015 for the property at 510 Broadway Street in Port Lambton to bring a non-compliant garage into compliance.

CARRIED

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #7 That staff be directed to investigate a zoning non-compliance complaint related to 497 Courtright Line and bring a report back for Council's consideration.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #8 That Council accept the following items of correspondence as per Council's direction:

Council Meeting
February 17, 2015

- a) Lambton 4H Association – Donation request
- b) MTO – Default Speed Limit
- c) 510 Broadway Street Order Status
- d) 497 Courtright Line

CARRIED

INFORMATION:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #9 That the following items of information be dealt with as per Council's instructions for items identified as agenda items 1) thru 10):

- 1) Rover Pipeline Project
- 2) Seward OMB Hearing
- 3) OPA 19 – Notice of Decision
- 4) OPP – Reporting Transparency
- 5) OPG – Thunder Bay – Biomass Conversion
- 6) Township of Evanturel – OPP Billing Model
- 7) Sergeant Flesher and Constable Todd Monaghan Retirement Open House
- 8) Road Swap – Plank Rd. for Hill St.
- 9) John Dobson – letter of concern
- 10) Village of Merrickville-Wolford – IWT Resolution

CARRIED

Seeing he was in attendance, Mayor Arnold welcomed John Dobson, author of the letter under information item 9, to discuss the need for the purchase of two new aerial fire trucks, a rescue/command vehicle and a drone.

John Dobson thanked the Mayor and Council and informed them that he had concerns with the purchase of all the fire protection equipment. He indicated that he had expressed his concern at the candidates' night in 2014 and that was with the purchase of a single truck, now he questions the need for a second new truck while continuing to use the existing aerial unit.

Among his concerns identified, were the liability the Township is taking on, the intricate training requirements and annual operating and maintenance costs. He continued by stating that assessing the cost to industry could have an overall negative impact as they are responsible for a high percentage of our general tax assessment. His final concern was the cost of a drone but, he did acknowledge its potential usefulness and was not against its purchase. He indicated that there are cheaper options that can perform as effectively.

Mayor Arnold informed Mr. Dobson that the cost of the equipment will be assessed to industry via an upcoming by-law with the balance being taken from an existing life-cycle costing reserve. More and more every year, the Township is becoming first responders to local industry where before we were only used in stand-by capacity, therefore, the need for this equipment is forever intensifying. Mayor Arnold also identified many examples of heavy industry unique to this municipality in the local geographic area. The reason that two aerial units are required is to attack an emergency from multiple directions to ensure safety of local residents and first responders.

Mayor Arnold continued by stating the importance of purchasing a drone that is intrinsically safe in the event of an industrial emergency. Further, the drone will have the ability to track fire fighters at all times throughout an event. Further, the drone will have the ability to track lost children, or those suffering from a incapacitating disability, in crop fields or wooded areas.

To conclude, Mayor Arnold informed Mr. Dobson that since 2007 the overall industrial assessment for the township has decreased in the area of 20% with the breaks being distributed widely. The Township tax rate is among the lowest out of any municipality our local industry deals with so the impact of the by-law on industry will be negligible.

DRAINS:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #10 That By-law #7 of 2015, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$12,087.82 less \$2320.28 OMAFRA grant for a total of \$9767.54 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township be given the necessary readings and be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto and finally passed.

CARRIED

Moved by D. Randell

Seconded by J. DeGurse

Motion #11 By-law #8 of 2015, being a by-law to raise the sum of \$12,573.11 less \$2751.74 OMAFRA grant for a total of \$9821.37 being money expended out of the General Funds of the Township of St. Clair for the maintenance to various drains in the Township 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:

PROPERTY STANDARDS/BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Moved by J. Agar

Seconded by P. Gilliland

Motion #12 That the Property Standards Officer be directed to provide in writing an additional 7 days to provide proof of registration or remove the trailer and further, that the Property Standards Officer be directed to tow the trailer following the 7 days at 527 Belmont Avenue if it remains.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by J. Agar

Motion #13 That the Property Standards Officer be directed to await engineer reports at 357 Murray St. and further, be directed to take no further action as it relates to requests from property owner &/or their solicitors.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by J. DeGurse

Motion #14 That the Property Standards Officer be directed to provide an additional deadline to April 30th in writing for 1962 Plank Road and further, be directed to report back to Council with a resolution after that deadline.

CARRIED

Moved by J. DeGurse

Seconded by T. Kingston

Motion #15 That the Property Standards Officer be directed to re-inspect the property at 1204 White Line after the April 30th and further, be directed to report back to Council with a resolution after that deadline.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by J. DeGurse

Motion #16 That the Property Standards Officer be directed to provide in writing a new deadline of March 6, 2015 to receive the Structural Engineer's reports for 357 Murray St. and further, be directed to report back to Council with recommendations as a result of the information contained in the report.

CARRIED

DEPUTY CLERK/COORDINATOR OF PLANNING:

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by J. DeGurse

Motion #17 That the report of Carlie McClemens – Deputy Clerk dated February 11, 2015, with regard to the Planning/Development Summary be received as information.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by T. Kingston

Motion #18 That it be recommended to Council that the report of Carlie McClemens – Deputy Clerk dated February 9, 2015, with regard to the Follow Up to Request to Permanently Close a Portion of James St. (Wilkesport) Road Allowance be received as information and staff be directed to work with the ZGC Civil Group to re-zone the property to accommodate its current use as a contractor’s yard and after which, declare the portion of the road in question to be surplus and offer it to them for purchase for the value of all associated legal costs while undertaking the Township surplus property procedure.

CARRIED

CLERK’S REPORT:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by T. Kingston

Motion #19 That the draft RFP for the Township website submitted by the Clerk be received as information and that it be referred to capital budget deliberations on March 5, 2015.

CARRIED

MOTIONS:

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion #20 That the recommendations from the February 17, 2015 – Finance & Administration and Public Works & Operations Committee meetings be received.

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS:

Councillor Miller:

Councillor Miller recently attended a Port Lambton Hall Board meeting at which it was determined that they will host a fundraising dance on March 21, 2015 where local band ‘84 Special’ will provide live entertainment.

Councillor DeGurse:

Councillor Degurse informed Council that Chair of the Thompson Gardens liaison committee, Ron Skreptak, has moved into the complex and wondered if the Chair could be a resident. He will check with the committee’s Terms of Reference and report back to Council whether or not a new Chair will be required.

Mayor Arnold:

Mayor Arnold recently attended the Lambton Farm Safety Meeting and represented Council at a local neighbourhood meeting for a proposed aggregate recycling yard at 497 Courtright Line that has been appealed to the OMB.

Finally, Mayor Arnold informed Council that he attended the Sustainability Conference in London last week where many innovative concepts were introduced. He will produce a summary of its content.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

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- Regular Council – Monday, March 16, 2015 ~ 5:00 p.m. after Committee of the Whole
- Regular Council – Monday, April 6, 2015 ~ 6:30 p.m.

IN-CAMERA:

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #21 That the meeting enter into an in-camera session to discuss legal and personnel matters at 5:40 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor Arnold declared the meeting back into open session at 6:00 p.m..

Moved by P. Gilliland

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #22 That staff be directed to produce a by-law and employment contract to offer to Kerry Bedard for the enforcement of the noise by-law for the duration of the current term of Council.

CARRIED

Seeing as there was no further business to discuss, Mayor Arnold called for a motion to adjourn.

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by D. Randell

Motion #23 That the meeting of Council hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK