



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ST. CLAIR

COUNCIL MINUTES

SESSION #11

Electronic Meeting due to COVID-19
May 19, 2020
6:00 p.m.

A Regular Meeting of Council was held Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with the following people participating via video conference:

	S. Arnold	Mayor
	S. Miller	Deputy Mayor
	R. Atkins	Councillor
	P. Brown	Councillor
	T. Kingston	Councillor
	B. Myers	Councillor
Staff:	J. Rodey	CAO
	J. Baranek	Clerk
Regrets:	J. De Gurse	Councillor

AGENDA:

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 Regular Council Meeting - Session #9 – May 4, 2020
5. **CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS**
 - 5.1 Dock Complaint – 2811 St. Clair Parkway
 - 5.2 Moore Presbyterian Foundation – Funding Request for Seniors' Centre at Thompson Gardens
 - 5.3 Sombra Sports & recreation Committee – Request to Defer Repayment – Multipurpose Sports Pad
 - 5.4 Concerns – Fatal Accidents at Intersection of Petrolia Line and Kimball Road
6. **INFORMATION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Township of Kerns – Thank You
 - 6.2 County of Lambton – Traffic Concern – Mandaumin Road and Bentpath Line

- 6.3 Building Permits Report – March 2020
- 6.4 Bear Creek Cemetery – Thank You

6.5 CN Rail – Right of Way Vegetation Control

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES AND STAFF**

7.1 Clerk's Report – Electronic Meeting for Planning Act Applications

7.2 Deputy Clerk's Report – NEW Information – Xplornet Communications Inc. – Proposed Communications Tower – 1622 Baby Road, Wilkesport

7.3 Treasurer's Report – May 1 Tax Penalty Relief Due to Financial Hardship – Individual Case Basis

7.4 Director of Engineering's Report – Paddock Green Ltd. – Phase 18B Acceptance

8. **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

9. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

9.1 Regular Council Meeting – Monday, June 1, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

9.2 Regular Council Meeting - Tuesday, June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

At the appointed time of 6:00 p.m., Mayor Arnold declared the meeting to order and thanked residents for their continued patience with COVID-19 and continued exercising of social distancing and other measures to prevent the spread of the virus. Mayor Arnold also thanked the frontline workers, the grocery store workers and Township staff and Council for their continued cooperation and efforts during this difficult time.

2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None declared.

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by T. Kingston

Motion 1 Be it resolved that the restrictions on capital projects approved for 2020 be lifted and projects may commence beginning on May 25, 2020.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 2 Be it resolved that the owner of 578 Bentinck be authorized to access his rear yard by using the Township Park subject to him entering into an agreement that requires the executor to repair any damage and to supply a damage deposit at the discretion of Township staff.

CARRIED

Moved by B. Myers

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion 3 Be it resolved that an easement be offered to the owner of 179 Smith Line to facilitate the installation of a waterline, and recognition of an existing private power line across a portion of the Sombra Lagoon property, subject to the

location and width of the easement being approved by Council, and that all costs be the responsibility of the owner.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion 4 Be it resolved the letter submitted by Cheryl Boswell related to seasonal rates for Township campgrounds be received and filed.

CARRIED

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 5 Be it resolved that the Amendments to Permit the Opening of Some Outdoor Recreational Amenities memorandum submitted by the Honorable David Williams be Tabled for consideration at the June 1 meeting.

TABLED

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 6 Be it resolved that the Minutes from Regular Council - Session #9 held May 4, 2020 be received and accepted as printed.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 7 Be it resolved that the Minutes from Special Council Meeting - Session #10 held May 15, 2020 be received and accepted as printed.

CARRIED

5. **CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS**

Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by R. Atkins

Motion 8 Be it resolved that Council accept the following items of correspondence as per Council's direction:

5.1 Dock Complaint – 2811 St. Clair Parkway

5.2 Moore Presbyterian Foundation – Funding Request

5.3 Sombra Sports & Recreation Committee – Request to Defer
Repayment

5.4 Fatal Accidents at Petrolia Line and Kimball Road

CARRIED

5.1 Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by B. Myers

Motion 9 Be it resolved that the complaint received related to a dock addition at 2811 St. Clair Parkway be referred to staff for investigation.

CARRIED

5.2 Moved by T. Kingston

Seconded by S. Miller

Motion 10 Be it resolved that the request submitted by the Moore Presbyterian Foundation for their annual grant in the amount of \$16,869 be approved.

CARRIED

5.3 Moved by B. Myers

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 11 Be it resolved that the request submitted by Sombra Sports and Recreation Committee to defer their loan repayment to 2021 due to inability to host fundraising events as a result of COVID-19 be approved.

CARRIED

5.4 Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 12 Be it resolved that the letter of concern submitted by Joeleen Degurse-MacDonald related to safety concerns due to speeding traffic at the intersection of Kimball Road and Petrolia Line be endorsed by the Township and submitted to the County of Lambton for consideration.

CARRIED

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by R. Atkins

Motion 13 Be it resolved that Council accept the following items of information as per Council's direction:

- 6.1 Township of Kerns – Thank You
- 6.2 Lambton County – Stop Sign Notice – Mandaumin Road & Bentpath Line
- 6.3 Building Permits – March 2020
- 6.4 Bear Creek Cemetery – Thank You
- 6.5 CN – Annual Vegetation Management Program

CARRIED

7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES AND STAFF

7.1 Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by R. Atkins

Motion 14 Be it resolved that the *Electronic Meetings for Planning Act Applications* report as submitted by the Clerk – Jeff Baranek be received and that Council authorize the use of electronic meetings for Planning Act Applications for the duration of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CARRIED

7.2 Moved by R. Atkins

Seconded by B. Myers

Motion 15 Be it resolved that the *NEW Information – Xplornet Communications Inc. – Proposed New Communication Tower – 1622 Baby Road, Wilkesport* report as submitted by Acting Coordinator of Planning/Deputy Clerk – Caroline DeSchutter be received as information.

CARRIED

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by R. Atkins

Motion 16 Be it resolved that consideration to proceed with the installation of the Xplornet Communication tower in Wilkesport be deferred until after all the comments are received following the conclusion of the public comment period on June 9, 2020.

CARRIED

7.3 Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 17 Be it resolved that the *May 1 Tax Penalty Relief Due to Financial Hardship* report as submitted by Treasurer – Charles Quenneville be received as information and that the following recommendations be approved:

1. to allow ratepayers who have incurred a financial hardship due to COVID-19 to submit an explanation letter or email to the Treasurer and CAO for approval to authorize waiving of the May 1, 2020 tax penalty on the individual's properties and;
2. that any returned NSF cheque or pre-authorized payment not be charged the NSF fee of \$25 for April, 2020 for both taxes and water.

CARRIED

7.4 Moved by B. Myers

Seconded by T. Kingston

Motion 18 Be it resolved that the *Paddock Green Ltd. – Phase 18B Acceptance* report as submitted by Director of Engineering – Paul daSilva be received as information and that the Township of St. Clair accepts the development work performed at the Paddock Green Subdivision – Phase 18B and that the 2-year maintenance period be in force until December 6, 2021.

CARRIED

10. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Deputy Mayor Miller

Deputy Mayor Miller recently participated in the electronic County Council and Committee meetings; the electronic St. Clair Region Conservation Authority meeting and the Special Meeting of Council on May 15, 2020.

Councillor Brown

Councillor Brown participated in the electronic St. Clair Region Conservation Authority meeting and some recent drive-by birthday celebrations.

Moved by P. Brown

Seconded by T. Kingston

Motion 19 Be it resolved that, since the COVID-19 pandemic will have significant impacts on the 2020 Budget, the approved positions of Field Planner and HR Manager not be filled until 2021.

DEFEATED

Councillor Atkins

Councillor Atkins received a letter of concern related to the re-installation of docks at the boat launch at the Sombra gravel yard and asked staff for an update.

Councillor Atkins noted that the Port Lambton 200th Anniversary team has cancelled many events due to COVID-19 however, they are still delivering sunflower seeds for planting. Councillor Atkins concluded her report by asking people on behalf of the Port Lambton COVID Volunteer group to decorate their front lawns with blue ribbons and Canadian flags to honour front line workers during this pandemic.

Councillor Myers

Councillor Myers received confirmation that the Heritage St. Clair Committee is able to meet electronically throughout the pandemic.

Councillor Kingston

Councillor Kingston thanked staff for their continued hard work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and noted that Kailyn Shepley, the Curator for the Sombra Museum, is putting on a video presentation related to the Spanish Flu on May 28, 2020.

Mayor Arnold

Mayor Arnold participated in a number of electronic meetings and was an expert witness in a federal internet study where he echoed his previously noted sentiments that the Township requires more access to high speed internet. Mayor Arnold was thankful for the successful SWIFT project set to bring fibre optic internet to some parts of the Township and for other companies who continue to develop strategies to service the underserved areas.

Mayor Arnold closed his report by acknowledging the tough times and thanked the public for their continued efforts to flatten the curve, and staff for their continued hard work throughout the pandemic.

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Moved by R. Atkins

Seconded by P. Brown

Motion 20 Be it resolved that the following upcoming meetings remain scheduled:

- 9.1 Regular Council Meeting – Monday, June 1, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
- 9.2 Regular Council Meeting – Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no other business to conduct, it was thereby moved:

Moved by S. Miller

Seconded by B. Myers

Motion 21 Be it resolved that the meeting do hereby adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Clerk – Jeff Baranek


Mayor – Steve Arnold

