

MINUTES

County of Lambton
Meeting for the Committee "Lambton County Council"
on
Wednesday May 3, 2006 12:30 PM
Council Chambers
Chair: Jim Burns

Orders of the Day:

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest
Rise and Report motions of the In-Camera
Session
Delegations
Monthly Staff Presentation Re: Activities and
Issues
Minutes of Council (Open Session) and (Closed
Session)
Correspondence
Reports to Council
Reports to Council (not requiring a motion)
Committee Reports
Other Business
Notice of By-Laws
Adjournment

Lambton County Council was in session in the Council Chambers, Wyoming, Ontario, at 12:30 p.m. on the above date. Warden in the Chair; Roll called; All members present.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: None.

In-Camera

#1: Kirkland/Perry: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera to discuss a matter concerning labour relations and a matter concerning the proposed or pending acquisition/disposition of land by the Municipality.

Carried.

Open Session

The Warden declared that County Council go back into open session.

Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session

#2: Boushy/McManaman: That Council rise and report.

Carried.

Ms. L. Ross noted that a resolution was passed at the Closed Session meeting of May 3, 2006 as follows:

a) From the Corporate and Community Services Committee Minutes dated April 19, 2006:

Memorandum dated April 7, 2006 Regarding the Tentative Settlement CUPE 2557

#24: Arnold/J. Murray: That the Committee recommend to County Council that Council ratify the tentative agreement reached on April 6, 2006 with the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 2557.

Carried.

#3: Boushy/McManaman: That Council adopt the report from the Closed Session meeting.

Carried.

Delegations

#4: Foubister/McGugan: That we invite Mr. Gary Ruckle, Front Line Manager, Hydro One Networks, within the Bar, to speak to County Council to review the electricity services to the County and work programs for the coming year.

Carried.

#5: Murray/MacDougall: That we invite Mr. Ted Zatylny, Project Leader, New Resident Attraction and Retention, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership, to speak to County Council regarding immigration.

Carried.

#6: Case/MacDougall: That we invite Ms. Natalie Mehra and Ms. Dale Lane from the Sarnia Lambton Plebiscite Project, within the Bar, to speak to County Council regarding the upcoming plebiscite vote in Sarnia-Lambton.

Carried.

Monthly Staff Presentation Re: Activities and Issues

#7: Bradley/Jamieson: That we invite Mr. Glen Millar, Manager, Public Works, within the Bar, to present an overview of the Public Works Department's operations.

Carried.

Minutes of Council (Open Session) and (Closed Session)

The Lambton County Council (OPEN SESSION) and (CLOSED SESSION) minutes dated March 31, 2006 as well as the County Council 2006 Budget Minutes dated Friday, March 31, 2006 were presented.

#8: Arnold/Bradley: That this days' minutes be adopted as amended by changing "Davidson, Patricia" to "Napper, Lonny", in the 2006 Budget Minutes dated Friday, March 31, 2006, Recorded Vote of motion #11.

Carried.

Correspondence

5-2-06 A letter from Mr. John Gerresten, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, dated February 22, 2006, informing the County that at the annual OGRA/ROMA Conference, Premier Dalton McGuinty announced the government's plan to propose legislative changes to the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. If passed, the changes would extend the term of office for Municipal Councils and school boards to four (4) years from three (3), with a view to strengthening local government.

5-3-06 A memorandum from the City of Kingston, dated February 24, 2006, advising of its resolution to request Corrections Canada to reconsider the February 8, 2006 placement in the Portsmouth Community Correctional Centre of a long time sex and violence related offender. The City of Kingston is also requesting to petition the Federal Minister of Justice, the Honourable Vic Toews, M.P., to review the application of long-term supervision orders, with a view to updating the system to deal more effectively with current realities in the criminal justice system, especially as it applies to community correctional facilities and public safety.

5-4-06 A memorandum from the County of Grey, dated March 8, 2006, advising of its resolution regarding the \$3 billion Provincial/Municipal fiscal gap which currently exists, in terms of a shortfall for Municipalities. The County of Grey is requesting support of its resolution to urge the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (A.M.O.) and the Provincial Government, to develop a plan to begin to address this Municipal financial crisis by contributing to Municipalities starting in 2006, a Provincial commitment to Ontario's Municipalities \$600 million per year for the next five (5) years. This commitment will begin to address the serious financial crisis facing Ontario Municipalities. The County of Grey is also urging the Government of Ontario to attend the A.M.O. Conference with an announcement confirming this commitment and a process to unroll this funding to Municipalities.

5-5-06 A letter from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, dated March 8, 2006, updating Council on its campaign to stop plant and post office closures. Over 800 Municipalities have passed resolutions calling on the Minister responsible for Canada Post and the Federal Government to instruct Canada Post Corporation to: 1. stop the closure of the mail sorting plant in Quebec City and proposed closures elsewhere; 2. maintain, expand and improve the public postal network; and, 3. consult with the public, postal unions and other major stakeholders to develop a uniform and democratic process for making changes to Canada Post's network. The CUPW is encouraging the County to write to the new Minister Lawrence Cannon, stating the County's support for public post offices.

5-6-06 Letters from Warden Jim Burns dated March 16, 2006, addressed to Mr. Bev Shipley, M.P., Lambton-Kent- Middlesex Riding and Mrs. Patricia Davidson, M.P., Sarnia-Lambton Riding, expressing Council's ongoing support for agriculture. The agricultural sector is struggling with higher fuel and energy costs, record low commodity prices, global markets and heavily subsidized competitors from the United States and abroad. Their struggle is affecting the very health of our community including our towns, townships and local schools. The producers require stable and long-term financial support from senior levels of government in order to compete fairly.

5-10-06 A memorandum from the Customs Excise Union (CEUDA), dated March 2006, updating Municipalities on the Canadian Border Patrol. The Conservative Government has acknowledged that having no form of Canadian pre-emptive or dissuasive patrols between border points of entry is illogical. CEUDA is requesting the County's support to have the Government of Canada give to the Canada Border Services Agency, the first response mandate to patrol the border between points of entry, working in partnership with the RCMP and other police forces.

5-13-06 A resolution from the Town of Caledon, dated March 21, 2006, concerning the income crisis on Ontario's farms. The Town is requesting endorsement of its resolution to request that the governments of Ontario and Canada commit to: a) immediate and sufficient funding for long term programs and deliver of funding over the next three years, until the next Agricultural Policy Framework can be designed and implemented to provide a satisfactory standard of living for Ontario farmers and their families; b) flexibility in the delivery of assistance to farmers that works for farmers and, as such, will preserve programs like supply management systems that have already proven to work for farmers, consumers, Federal and Provincial Governments; and, c) a commitment to build on and improve the five Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) pillars for long term growth and development.

5-14-06 A letter from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, dated March 28, 2006 advising of its response to the final report released by the Ontario Ombudsman in reference to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) practices and processes related to property assessment in Ontario. Debbie Zimmerman, Chair of MPAC's Board of Directors, said that in the past two years, with the Board's direction, MPAC has focused through its business plans on four key areas - product quality, service delivery, productivity and communications. Further response on the Ombudsman's report will be made once the final report is reviewed by the full Board of Directors.

5-35-06 A letter from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, dated April 11, 2006, updating on the changes MPAC is planning as part of its response to the Report of the Ombudsman of Ontario concerning MPAC's practices and processes related to property assessment in Ontario. Debbie Zimmerman, Chair, Board of Directors, advises that the Ombudsman made twenty-two (22) recommendations. Since 2004, MPAC has worked on and can implement seventeen (17) recommendations as soon as possible. Two (2) recommendations are the responsibility of the Provincial Government and are beyond MPAC's control. Three (3) recommendations have significant resource, technology and cost implications and require further review before they can be implemented. MPAC's detailed response to the twenty-two (22) recommendations, is posted on its website at www.mpac.ca.

5-36-06 A Press Release from the County of Middlesex and the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, dated April 13, 2006, announcing that Mr. Doug Reycraft, Mayor of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, is running for the position of President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (A.M.O.).

#9: Bradley/McManaman: That the above correspondence items be received and filed.

Carried.

Reports to Council

C.A.O. Report

Memorandum dated April 26, 2006 Regarding Goals and Objectives of the C.A.O.

#10: Ivey/Case: That those Councillors that are interested, meet with the Warden, Deputy Warden, C.A.O. and two (2) Committee Chairs, to discuss the C.A.O. goals and objectives and that a report be prepared which then comes back to County Council for its consideration.

Carried.

Memorandum dated April 26, 2006 Regarding Immigration

#11: Bradley/Murray: That the County support the direct funding to Municipalities of new resident attraction programmes.

Carried.

Reports to Council (not requiring a motion)

The following items were presented for County Council's information:

- a) Land Division Committee Minutes dated March 14, 2006;
- b) General Managers' Updates - Minutes dated February 7, 14, 28, March 7, 14 and 21, 2006; and,
- c) Tourism Sarnia-Lambton - Board of Directors Minutes dated January 12, February 9 and March 9, 2006.

Committee Reports

Mr. Wm. Bilton presented the Infrastructure and Development/Social and Health Services Committee minutes dated April 19, 2006.

Re: Motion #20 - Part C, Item 7 - Memorandum dated April 7, 2006 Regarding the Sarnia Landfill Site - Landfill Gas (LFG) Utilization Feasibility Study and Potential Projects

Councillor Steve Arnold spoke to the issue and requested a separate vote on the motion.

#12: Bradley/Dedecker: That we table motion #20 of the Infrastructure and Development/Social and Health Services Committee minutes dated April 19, 2006, to allow staff to bring back a further report on the matter.

Carried.

#13: Bilton/Jamieson: That this day's minutes be adopted as amended (motions #1 to #25).

Carried.

Mr. G. Perry presented the Corporate and Community Services Committee minutes dated April 19, 2006.

Councillor Steve Arnold requested a separate vote on motion #35 of the Corporate and Community Services Committee dated April 19, 2006 regarding Item 3 - Hard Capping. The motion carried.

#14: Perry/McManaman: That this day's minutes be adopted as presented (motions #1 to #22 and #25 to #36).

Carried.

Other Business

Memorandum dated April 25, 2006 Regarding the Conflict of Interest Seminar

#15: Bradley/Murray: That the Conflict of Interest Seminar be deferred until a new Council is elected, and that it then be as part of the Councillors' orientation session.

Carried.

Warden Jim Burns spoke to County Council regarding the Core Services Reports which were distributed to Council.

Councillor Steve Arnold spoke regarding a course titled "Managing in a Union Environment". Staff were congratulated for their professionalism.

Notice of By-Laws

#16: Arnold/Bilton: That By-Laws #18 to #23 of 2006, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#17: MacDougall/McGugan: That By-Laws #18 to #23 of 2006, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

The Warden declared the meeting adjourned.

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Jim Burns
Warden

Linda Ross
Solicitor/Clerk,
General Manager, Corporate Services