

**MINUTES**  
**LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL**

**June 3, 2009**

Lambton County Council was in session in the Council Chambers, Wyoming, Ontario, at 11:30 a.m. on the above date. Warden in the Chair; Roll called; All members present except J. Foubister, C. Jamieson and G. Perry.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: None.

In-Camera

#1: MacDougall/McGugan: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera to discuss a matter concerning the acquisition/disposition of land by the Municipality, a matter concerning labour relations and employee negotiations, a matter subject to solicitor-client privilege and a matter concerning litigation or pending litigation.

Carried.

Open Session

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

Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session dated May 6, 2009

#2: Minielly/MacDougall: That Council rise and report.

Carried.

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that there were no resolutions to report from the Closed Session meeting.

#3: Minielly/MacDougall: That Council adopt the report of the Closed Session meeting.

Carried.

Delegations

#4: Gillis/Boushy: That we invite Wilma McNeill and Vera Lawlor, Sarnia Lambton Committee Against the Trafficking of Women and Children, within the Bar, to speak to County Council regarding the issue of trafficking of women and children.

Carried.

Minutes

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) and (Closed Session) minutes dated May 6, 2009 were presented.

#5: Arnold/Napper: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) and (Closed Session) minutes dated May 6, 2009 be accepted as amended, by reflecting in the Open Session minutes the fact that Council also directed staff to pay an additional sum of \$500.00 towards the cost of transportation via bus, to the protest at Queen's Park concerning protecting our local hospitals.

Carried.

#### Correspondence

6-8-09 A letter from the Town of Ingersoll, dated April 29, 2009, requesting support of its resolution asking the Government of Ontario to act immediately to include volunteer and part-time Firefighters with the same Presumption W.S.I.B. coverage afforded to full-time Firefighters.

#6: McGugan/Arnold: That we support correspondence 6-8-09 from the Town of Ingersoll, to ask the Government of Ontario to act immediately to include volunteer and part-time Firefighters with the same Presumption W.S.I.B. coverage afforded to full-time Firefighters.

Carried.

#### Correspondence to Receive and File

6-6-09 An Economic Development Task Force Update from the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), dated May 5, 2009, advising that AMO has established a Task Force to foster local economic development opportunities. The Task Force is designed to encourage collaboration and information-sharing with other orders of government and stakeholders at a provincial level. The Task Force has recently reviewed several papers and positions regarding economic development in Ontario.

6-7-09 A resolution from the City of Cornwall, dated May 7, 2009, requesting support to send an appeal to the Provincial Government to exempt items related to the rental of recreation facilities and registration fees for minor sports, to ensure that all youth are able to afford to participate.

6-10-09 A letter from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, dated May 2009, advising that nominations for the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship are now being accepted. The Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship honours Ontarians, who through exceptional, long-term efforts, have made outstanding contributions to life in their communities. Nominations must be received by August 17, 2009.

#7: Kirkland/Gilliland: That the above correspondence items be received and filed.

Carried.

### Correspondence from Member Municipalities

6-12-09 A copy of a letter from Todd Case, Mayor of the Township of Warwick to Premier Dalton McGuinty, dated May 26, 2009, advising that the Honourable Donna Cansfield, Minister of Transportation, confirmed in her letter of October 5th, 2007 that the Government of Ontario committed to fund the proposed interchange improvements at County Road #79 - Exit Ramp #44 to Provincial Highway 402 West. To date, the Ministry of Transportation has not secured the land for the construction to take place; however, all other aspects have been completed and the rest of the project commenced this week. Warwick Township Council has followed the process of this Provincial commitment and no progress has been made by the Ministry to achieve this critical change to Exit 44 on the 402. The Township is requesting the Premier to ensure that the Minister of Transportation will accommodate the request and fulfill the Province's commitments. (Also refer to the letter dated May 15, 2009 to Premier McGuinty from Warden Jim Burns concerning this issue.)

Councillor Todd Case spoke to correspondence 6-12-09. Councillor Case stated that the Minister continues to refuse to meet with Municipal representatives regarding Exit 44 on Highway 402. This matter is a safety issue.

#8: Bilton/Bradley: That correspondence 6-12-09 be received and filed.

Carried.

### Items Not Requiring a Motion

The following items were presented to County Council for its information:

- a) Land Division Committee Minutes dated May 5, 2009; and,
- b) General Managers' Updates - Minutes dated April 7, 21, 28 and May 4 and 12, 2009.

### Reports Requiring a Motion

#### **CAO**

#### Report dated June 3, 2009 Regarding Appointments to the Research Park Board

#9: McGugan/McCharles: That the following appointments be approved to the Board for the County of Lambton Community Development Corporation for the terms set out below:

- a) Mr. Jack Pasternak (until May 31, 2011); and,
- b) Mr. Don McCabe (until May 31, 2010).

Carried.

In-Camera Report dated June 3, 2009 Regarding the 2009 CAO Goals and Objectives

It was noted that the in-camera report concerning the 2009 CAO Goals and Objectives was moved to open session for consideration.

#10: MacDougall/McCharles: That Council approve the Goals and Objectives as developed by the subcommittee and staff for 2009.

Carried.

Committee Minutes

Mrs. B. MacDougall presented the Committee A.M. minutes dated May 20, 2009.

#11: MacDougall/Kirkland: That the Committee A.M. minutes dated May 20, 2009 be adopted as presented.

Carried.

Mrs. B. MacDougall presented the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees dated May 20, 2009.

#12: MacDougall/Gillis: That the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting of the Standing Committee dated May 20, 2009 be adopted as presented.

Carried.

Mr. P. Gilliland presented the Committee P.M. minutes dated May 20, 2009.

#13: Gilliland/Napper: That the Committee P.M. minutes dated May 20, 2009 be adopted as presented.

Carried.

Notice of Motion

Councillor Steve Arnold distributed to Councillors a Notice of Motion concerning enhancements to the Employment Insurance System.

#14: Arnold/Bradley:

**WHEREAS** a healthy Employment Insurance System is the most powerful of all economic stabilizers, in the recession of the early 80's and 90's, EI prevented deeper, longer downturns and reduced the shock of job and DGP losses; and,

**WHEREAS** we have entered this new economic crisis with a much weaker EI system, providing only half of the coverage it did in the last recession, approximately one third of the unemployed receive EI at any given time because fewer workers qualify and benefit weeks are reduced; and,

**WHEREAS** the Federal Government stopped contributing to EI and diverted EI premiums to other spending (\$54 Billion between 1994 and 2007); and,

**WHEREAS** even the U.S. Government has shown leadership through major improvements in the duration of EI benefits and a universal top-up as part of a stimulus package to deal with the crisis; and,

**WHEREAS** there will be a negative fiscal impact on all Municipalities if residents are unable to access EI benefits or otherwise maintain incomes during this economic downturn, due to the increased reliance on locally provided social programs;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the County of Lambton call upon the Government of Canada to introduce the following enhancements to the Employment Insurance System:

1. 360 hours to qualify for EI benefits in all regions of Canada.
2. Increase benefit duration to at least 50 weeks in all regions.
3. Provide an additional year of "Special Extension" benefits if national unemployment exceeds 6.5% from Federal general revenues.
4. Extend EI Part 1 benefits while a worker is in approved training.
5. Increase benefits to at least 60% of normal earnings, using the workers 12 best weeks.
6. Suspend the allocation of severance pay.
7. Eliminate the 2 week waiting period.

Carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Don McGugan spoke to County Council regarding the Agriculture Innovation Awards. There were five (5) winners from Lambton County at the recent regional award competitions. Rural Lambton is both innovative and a leader.

The Township of Brooke-Alvinston has been successful in achieving a designation of a "youth friendly community" as part of the 2008 "Play Works Youth Friendly Community Recognition Program". The Municipality is only one (1) in the eleven (11) in the Province to receive the designation this year.

Councillor Anne Marie Gillis spoke to County Council concerning LHINs and inquired whether any further steps are being considered for public input.

Councillor Bev MacDougall spoke regarding a showing and awards show by student artists in the community.

### By-Laws

#15: Kirkland/MacDougall: That By-Laws #26 to #29 of 2009, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#16: MacDougall/Kirkland: That By-Laws #26 to #29 of 2009, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

### Adjournment

#17: MacDougall/Bilton:

- a) That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned.
- b) That the next meeting of County Council be held on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 with the In-Camera Session to commence at 1:00 p.m.

Carried.

Time: 2:50 p.m.

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Jim Burns  
Warden

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Ronald G. Van Horne  
Chief Administrative Officer