

**Minutes of a Town of Amherstburg Public Meeting held Monday
October 2nd, 2007 at Town of Amherstburg Board Room,
271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, Ontario**

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Hurst
Deputy Mayor Robert Bailey
Councillor Rick Fryer
Councillor John Sutton
Councillor Rosa White
Councillor Paul Renaud

ABSENT:

Councillor Robert (Bob) Pillon

ALSO PRESENT:

Parks Committee Members

Gord Freeman
Ria Smith
Casey Overgaauw
Bill Wark

Ross Douthart, Arborist
Paul Hertel, Landscape Architect

Administration

Frank Pizzuto, Chief Administrative Officer
Lou Zarlenga, Manager of Public Services
Tony DeThomasis, Roads and Parks Superintendent
Pamela Malott, Clerk

Meeting convened at 3:30 p.m. in Board Room Town Hall.

The following was discussed:

1. Introductions of Parks Committee Members and Staff were done by Mayor Hurst.
2. The Arborist, Ross Douthart, introduced himself and included an employment biography as a certified arborist. Years ago he worked for the City of Windsor and has been involved in many communities with tree issues. These municipalities need an arborist.
3. Gord Freeman asked Ross if he saw any pictures of the trees before they were removed. Ross responded that he did see an overview and gave his opinion based on what was there and what it was planted next to.
4. Gord Freeman commented that if proper pruning had been completed then problems would not have arisen. Ross responded that pruning does need to be addressed and that he was asked to look at the feasibility of replacing the trees that needed to be replaced. Frank Pizzuto reiterated that the Arborist's mandate was clear, comments received were regarding trees that needed to be replaced and he did his job on what was asked of him.
5. Comment was made that a concern was the grouping of evergreens and if selective removal had occurred then we would not have had this problem.
6. The Parks Committee's report of September 19th responded to Ross' report. Ross did not review this report.
7. Paul Renaud commented that we know that the trees are not there and we need to decide where we are going from here. There are issues with clusters and we need to get the Park in order for many future years. We need to get a list and go into

9. Casey commented that he understood that this meeting was to discuss where trees were to be planted.
10. Gord Freeman asked if Ross could get a copy of the Parks Committee report to review.

Meeting moved to King's Navy Yard Park at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda was to walk through the park and then go atop the Salmoni Building. Mayor Hurst stated that this is an opportunity to review Ross' report. Ria Smith wanted to know what going up to the Salmoni Building has to do with the park. Ross responded that the overall view from atop the building is valuable and it will also be able to answer the question as to what is the value of the view of the river.

The following comments and observations were made:

1. A common remark was for a lot of pruning to be done throughout the park, along with the tree canopy in certain areas.
2. Maple tree, Behind the Echo, needs to have branch removed to determine whether the tree has a virus. Northwest corner, behind the Echo, pruning of three Maple trees to raise the canopy.
3. Three evergreen trees to be removed and replaced with one larger evergreen tree behind the Echo.
4. Replacement of flower bed in triangle in Northwest area of the Park.
5. Shade tree to be planted near the Gazebo, 40' Northeast of Pole #10 and 85' north of the Gazebo.
6. Planting of 3rd flowering pear tree on the west side of the Park near the path, directly behind the Echo 15' Northeast of Pole #12.
7. Garbage bin to be removed if not being used off of South end of the roadway. Remove spruce tree to Northwest of the Dumpster.
8. Pruning of three Scotch pine trees to raise the canopy 2'-3' located to the East of the dumpster.
9. Two oak trees at the end of Murray Street to be relocated elsewhere in the park Northeast of Post #25.
10. Pine grove area needs canopy raised North of Post #23.
11. For the Southwest Corner of Park where six evergreen trees were removed, the Arborist suggested replacement with an ornamental tree or planter. Parks Committee felt that two locust trees could be planted in this area.
12. At the South end of the Park, comments were made about pruning the hedge at a lower height which may not be practical. Situation with evergreen trees and hedge planted too close together. Lou Zarlenga to discuss this further with the Arborist. It may be possible to remove the hedge and replace it with other vegetation.
13. Raise the canopy of evergreen trees and remove branches that interfere with Pathway located at the South and Eastern side of the park.

At the end of the walk through the Park, Council members and some members of the Parks Committee viewed the Park Area from the rooftop patio of the Salmoni Condominium to obtain a perspective of the Park from a higher vantage point.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.