

Minutes of an Amherstburg Municipal Council Meeting Held At 7:00 pm in Council Chambers on Monday, June 29, 2009

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Hurst
Deputy Mayor Robert Bailey
Councillor Rick Fryer
Councillor Robert (Bob) Pillon
Councillor Paul Renaud
Councillor John Sutton

ALSO PRESENT:

Pamela Malott, CAO/Clerk
Carol Bendo, Human Resources Manager
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer
David Carpenter, IT Manager
Kristina Pozar Di Paolo, Acting Deputy Clerk
Ivano Fregonese, Supervisor Budget Services
Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services
Richard Murray, Fire Chief
Anne Rota, Tourism and Special Events Facilitator
Lou Zarlenga, Public Works Manager

ABSENT WITH NOTICE: Councillor Rosa White (Personal)
Ron Dzombak, Manager of Recreational Services (Vacation)

1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wayne Hurst called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2 PRAYER

Deputy-Clerk, Kristina Pozar Di Paolo, said prayer.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were declared.

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor R. Pillon
Seconded by Councillor J. Sutton

That the minutes of the following Amherstburg Municipal Council meetings be adopted as circulated:

1. In-Camera meeting held on June 15, 2009 at 6:15 pm;
2. Council meeting held on June 15, 2009 at 7:00 pm and
3. In-Camera meeting held on June 16, 2009 at 4:00 pm.

Motion Carried

5 CHANGE TO PROCEDURAL BY-LAW

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That Council waive the rules of order to allow for a retirement appreciation presentation to occur prior to Delegations.

Motion Carried

Retirement Appreciation Presentation

Council showed their appreciation to Kevin Atkinson for his 33 years of service to the Town of Amherstburg with a presentation of a plaque and certificate.

Mayor Hurst made the following speech:

Kevin Atkinson has fulfilled many important and vital roles in the Town of Amherstburg Hydro and Water divisions. He was hired in October 1975 in the Township of Malden. He proved himself as a technician and became the Hydro Superintendent with the Hydro-Electric Commission and Essex Power Services Corporation. He then was awarded the position of Sewer and Watermain Inspector in March 2002 for the Town of Amherstburg and was promoted to Sewer and Watermain Superintendent where he completed his municipal career. During this time, Kevin contributed to the maintenance of these vital services and infrastructure improvements that residents rely on in their daily lives. His vast knowledge of equipment and systems was always valued and appreciated and contributed to his competency in decision making. He also implemented many standards and procedures that are essential in maintaining our water system to the high standards that exist today. Kevin serviced the Town of Amherstburg well and was a dedicated and valued employee. We wish him well in his retirement.

6 DELEGATIONS

Delegation #1

Mr. Bill Anderson, President of Essex County Wind Action Group addressed Council regarding the genGrowth Wind Project. Mr. Anderson spoke against the proposed genGrowth Wind Project. He stated his disappointment that no one has done studies on potential ill effects of the wind turbines. Ill effects of wind turbines have been found in Europe, Japan and Australia. Mr. Anderson stated that he heard that genGrowth has applied for a 300 metre setback and he urges Council to deny this and follow the provincial guidelines for setback minimums of 550 feet. Mr. Anderson's delegation is attached to and forms a part of these minutes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That the delegation by Mr. Bill Anderson be received.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Councillor R. Pilon clarified that he has not seen the request of a 300 metre setback and clarified that the reason the application has been accepted is in order for the process to continue and for the public to be able to offer their input during public sessions.

Councillor R. Fryer asked Jackie Hubbs if any documentation provides setback numbers. Manager of Development Services, Jackie Hubbs, stated that she will be examining the setbacks in detail in a planning report and that information will also be provided to Council.

Councillor Sutton asked Ms. Hubbs for an estimated expected time regarding a report on Bill 150. Ms. Hubbs stated that she plans to bring back a report to Council in July regarding Bill 150.

Delegation #2

The delegation by Ms. Louisa Bezaire regarding the Vicious Dog By-law was deferred to a future meeting when Ms. Bezaire is able to attend.

Delegation #3

Ms. Jeanette Jacobson addressed Council regarding Wind Turbine Setbacks. Ms. Jacobson stated that there are health issues associated with wind turbines being close to homes and that Council needs to give consideration to Dr. McMurtriys findings. Ms. Jacobson also stated that Council needs to follow the Official Plan guidelines of having 600 metre setbacks where wind turbines are concerned and not allow genGrowth setbacks of 300 metres. Ms. Jacobson's delegations is attached to and forms a part of these minutes.

Moved by Councillor R. Fryer
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the delegation by Ms. Jeanette Jacobsen be received.

Discussion:

Councillor J.Sutton asked for the Manager of Development Services, J. Hubbs to outline the process. Ms. Hubbs explained that under the Planning Act it is the responsibility of Council to recognize an application as complete. Once the application is deemed complete then the Town can proceed with the following: holding a public meeting; completing an extensive planning report; drafting zoning by-law and official plan amendments for Council review.

Councillor R. Pillon asked if the public meetings could be held after Labour Day as many individuals that may want to attend the public meeting may be away on vacation until then. Ms. Hubbs stated that she was planning to hold the public meeting in August but will defer to September if requested by Council.

Motion Carried

7 PRESENTATIONS

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That Council hear a presentation by Jackie Hubbs and Tony DeThomasis regarding Purdie Park Arboretum and further that Report # 8 be brought forward.

Motion Carried

Presentation # 1

Tony DeThomasis and Jackie Hubbs made a presentation to Council regarding the Purdie Park Arboretum.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the presentation by Tony DeThomasis, Roads and Parks Superintendent and Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services regarding Purdie Park Arboretum be received;

That the report by Tony DeThomasis and Jackie Hubbs, dated June 19, 2009 regarding Purdie Park Arboretum be received;

That Council support the development of Purdie Park as an Arboretum Park; being an area planted with many types of trees for study, display, and preservation;

And further that Council direct Administration to proceed to develop a work program to be brought back to Council for approval.

Discussion:

Mayor Hurst asked that a public consultation with residents regarding the Arboretum also be scheduled.

Motion Carried

Presentation # 2

Lou Zarlenga, Manager of Public Services and Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services made a presentation to Council regarding the CAF Applications.

Report # 2 was brought forward after Presentation #1

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. Pilon

That the presentation by Lou Zarlenga and Jackie Hubbs regarding CAF Applications be received;

And further that Council receive the following two projects that were submitted for funding by the Community Adjustment Fund:

- Urban Renewal Initiative
- New Administrative Centre

Discussion:

Mayor Hurst stated that we need to be mindful of the uniqueness of Amherstburg since we have such a large agricultural component and we should also consider a rural renewal project as well in the future.

Motion Carried

8 REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

Report #1

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the Drainage Report based on a request from Chris Bastien for replacement of an Access Bridge over the 7th Concession South Municipal Drain (Malden).

Moved by Councillor R. Pillon
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That the report by Lou Zarlenga, dated June 17, 2009 regarding the drainage report based on a request from Chris Bastien for replacement of an Access Bridge over the 7th Concession South Municipal Drain (Malden) be received;

And further that Council adopt the drainage report from Bruce D. Crozier, Engineering for the construction of a new access culvert pursuant to Section 78 of the Drainage Act.

Motion Carried

Report #3

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding a request by Rogers Wireless for a new access bridge over the Grant Municipal Drain.

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That the report by Lou Zarlenga, dated June 17, 2009 regarding a request by Rogers Wireless for a new access bridge over the Grant Municipal Drain be received;

And further that Council consider and adopt the drainage report dated May 25th, 2009 from N.J. Peralta Engineering Ltd. for the construction of a new access culvert pursuant to Section 78 of the Drainage Act.

Motion Carried

Report #4

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the Amherstburg Wastewater Plant Upgrade & Expansion Tender Results for the Pre-Selection of Bioreactor Air Blowers Systems.

Moved by Councillor R. Fryer
Seconded by Councillor J. Sutton

That the report by Lou Zarlenga, dated June 18, 2009 regarding the Amherstburg Wastewater Plant Upgrade & Expansion Tender Results for the Pre-Selection of Bioreactor Air Blowers Systems be received;

And further that Council accept the Consulting Engineer's recommendation to award a contract to the low tender being Turblex Inc. for the Bioreactor Air Blowers System to be used in the Upgrade and Expansion of the Amherstburg Wastewater Plant Project.

Motion Carried

Report #5

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the Murray Street Reconstruction and Financial Update was added as a Supplementary Item and provided at the Council Meeting. The report in its entirety is available on the Town of Amherstburg website or from the Clerk's office for viewing.

Moved by Councillor Renaud
Seconded by Councillor Sutton

That the report by Lou Zarlenga, dated June 25, 2009 regarding a progress update and financial considerations for Murray Street reconstruction from Dalhousie to Sandwich be received.

Motion Carried

Report #6

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the 2009 Tar & Chip Road Surface Maintenance Program.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the report by Lou Zarlenga dated June 25, 2009 regarding the 2009 Tar & Chip Road Surface Maintenance Program be received;

And further that Council approve the use of \$100,000 approved through the 2009 Capital Budget for the Tar and Chip program to repair identified existing roads.

Discussion:

Councillor R. Fryer asked where these roads fit in with respect to the road needs study and how these roads were chosen. Mr. Zarlenga stated that Tony DeThomasis completed an investigation of the roads and also received engineering advice and findings concluded that these roads need to be repaired.

Motion Carried

Report #7

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding Heritage Committee appointment.

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton
Seconded by Councillor R. Pillon

That the report by Jackie Hubbs dated June 19, 2009 regarding the Heritage Committee appointment be received;

And further that the applications by Carla Marano and Monica Bunde and their appointment to the Town of Amherstburg Heritage Committee be approved.

Motion Carried

Report #9

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding the Official Plan. A memo from Jean Monteith dated June 29, 2009 regarding an Update to the Official Plan Modifications was provided to Council at the meeting and is attached to and forms a part of these minutes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the report by Jackie Hubbs dated June 24, 2009 regarding the Official Plan be received;

That Council support the inclusion of the proposed modifications in the Official Plan adopted April 20, 2009 as outlined by Jean Monteith of Monteith Brown and Associates and recommended by Bill King, Director of Planning for the County of Essex and Jackie Hubbs Manager of Development Services for the Town of Amherstburg;

And further that Council request County Council approve the adopted Official Plan with modifications.

Motion Carried

Report #10

A report by Ron Dzombak regarding the request to Waive Fees - Contracting out of Amherstburg Malden Centre Ball Diamond Concession Stands.

Moved by Councillor R. Pillon

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailey

That the report by Ron Dzombak, dated June 22, 2009 regarding a request to waive fees for contracting out of Amherstburg Malden Centre Ball Diamond be received;

And further that Council direct Administration to re-advertise the RFP for Baseball Concession Stands for the 2009 baseball season waiving the \$150 monthly lease fee.

Motion Carried

Report #11

A Report by Carol Bendo regarding the Amherstburg's "Gone Car Crazy" Show event - Fee waiver for Toddy Jones Park & Road Closure request.

Moved by Councillor P. Renaud

Seconded by Councillor J. Sutton

That the report by Carol Bendo be received;

That the Town of Amherstburg waive the user fee for Toddy Jones Park;

And further that the request for the proposed road closure for Sunday, August 2, 2009 from 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. be approved.

Discussion:

Deputy Mayor Bailey asked if the road closure request was the same as in previous years. Councillor P. Renaud advised that the closure is the same except that Murray Street has been eliminated from the request this year. Councillor Renaud also advised that in previous years the closure request was to end at 4:30pm and that has been changed to 5:30pm this year as it normally takes until that time to award the plaques.

Councillor R. Fryer asked if the police and fire departments concur with the road closures. Councillor Renaud advised that the Committee is currently in discussions with fire and police to confirm the closures.

Mayor Hurst asked if the commercial businesses and residents in the area have been advised of the event and closures. Councillor Renaud stated that flyers will be handed out to all residents and establishments in early July.

Motion Carried

Report #12

Revised report by Carol Bendo regarding Town Advertising Page Tender Results.

Moved by Councillor R. Fryer
Seconded by Councillor J. Sutton

That the report by Carol Bendo dated June 23, 2009 regarding Town Advertising Page Tender Results Revised be received;

That Council award the advertising contract for a 52 week period to the Amherstburg Echo;

And further that the Town re-tender the contract upon the expiration of the 1 year period.

A recorded vote was requested and is listed below:

	<u>YEA</u>		<u>NAY</u>
Deputy Mayor Bailey	YEA		
Councillor R. Fryer	YEA		
Councillor R. Pillon			NAY
Councillor P. Renaud			NAY
Councillor J. Sutton	YEA		
Councillor R. White	-----	ABSENT	-----
Mayor W. Hurst	NAY		

Motion Lost

Moved by Councillor P. Renaud
Seconded by Councillor R. Pillon

That Council defer the topic of Town Advertising Page Tender Results due to the absence of Councillor R. White and resume discussions at a future meeting.

Motion Carried

9 CONSENT REPORTS

Consent Reports

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That the following reports be received;

1. A report from Paul Beneteau, Treasurer, with regard to the AMCTO Annual Meeting and Professional Development Institute held June 14-17 in Sault Ste. Marie;

Motion Carried

10 CONSENT CORRESPONDENCE

Consent Correspondence

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton

Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the following correspondence be received;

1. Speed Limit on Creek Road - Robin McLellan - June 17, 2009;
2. Feed-in Tarrif Contract posted for comment by Ontario Power-AMO-June 10, 2009;
3. NOTICE to Ontario Mayors-Government of Canada & Ontario-June 16, 2009;
4. Early Learning Advisor Report - AMO - June 16, 2009;
5. Notice to AMO 2009 Conference Delegates - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - June 15, 2009;
6. Letter of appreciation - Essex Region Children's Water Festival - June 15, 2009 and
7. Members' Advisory - update on infrastructure stimulus programs - FCM - June 17, 2009.

Motion Carried

11 CONSENT BUSINESS LICENSES

Consent Business Licenses

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton

Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That the following business licence applications be received and approved subject to compliance with By-Law 2009-44, all agencies and regulations;

- a) A taxi license application from Arthur Pattenden to operate as a taxi cab driver;
- b) A refreshment vehicle license application from Lorne Dupuis to operate a refreshment vehicle;

And further that the licence be issued by our licencing officer once the applicant has met all of the special conditions as listed in By-Law 2009-44.

Motion Carried

12 CONSENT OTHER MINUTES

Consent Other Minutes

Moved by Councillor P. Renaud

Seconded by Councillor R. Pillon

That the following minutes be received:

1. Meeting held May 12, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. by Amherstburg Parks Committee;
2. Meeting held May 13, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. by Amherstburg Traffic Committee;
3. Meeting held May 19, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. by Amherstburg Police Services Board;
4. Meeting held June 22, 2009 @ 2:30 p.m. by Amherstburg Multi-Use Recreation Complex Project Steering Committee.

Motion Carried

13 CORRESPONDENCE

Item #1 Speed Limit on Creek Road - Robin McLellan

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton

Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the correspondence from Robin McLellan be received;

And further that the correspondence be provided to the Traffic Committee for investigation, comments and report back to Council.

Motion Carried

14 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Unfinished Business items as of June 29, 2009.

Council discussed the Unfinished Business Item list as of June 29, 2009. The following business items were requested to be removed from the unfinished business item list:

20081027C Councillor R. Fryer stated that the Final Coating of Asphalt on Marsh Court, White Crescent & Pettypiece has been completed.

15 **NEW BUSINESS**
Life Preserver at Paddler's Cove

Councillor P. Renaud asked if a life preserver could be placed at Paddler's Cove. CAO Pamela Malott advised that the feasibility and need of one is currently being investigated with our insurance company.

Public Meeting Regarding Wind Turbines and genGrowth's Application

Moved by Councillor R. Pillon
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That Administration be directed to hold a public meeting regarding Wind Turbines and genGrowth's application after Labour Day.

Motion Carried

16 **BY-LAWS**

A by-law to appoint an Acting Chief Building Official.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor J. Sutton

That By-law **2009-50**, being a by-law to appoint Dave Atwood as Acting Chief Building Official be taken as having been read three times and finally passed and the Mayor and the Clerk be authorized to sign same and affix the Corporate Seal thereto.

Motion Carried

Confirmatory By-Law

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That **By-Law 2009- 49** being a By-Law to confirm all resolutions of the Municipal Council be taken as having been read a first, second and third time, be finally passed and the Mayor and the Clerk be authorized to sign same and affix the Corporate Seal thereto.

Motion Carried

17 NOTICE OF MOTION

No notices of motion were made.

18 ADJOURNMENT

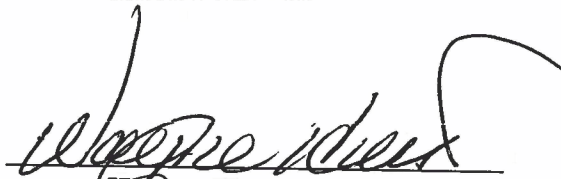
Adjournment

Moved by Councillor J. Sutton

Seconded by Councillor R. Pillon

That we rise and adjourn at 8:33 P.M.

Motion Carried



Wayne Hurst, Mayor



Pamela Malott, Clerk

ATTACHMENT

This is about due diligence. The province rushed into wind development and are now expecting the municipalities and rural resident to bear the consequences. Don't let that happen.

Amherstburg Council has not been informed of several pieces of information that should be considered before proceeding with Gengrowth's application for rezoning or for any other Industrial Wind project.

- 1) People in Chatham/Kent have formally filed complaints with their municipality with regards to the Kruger Industrial Wind Project in the Port Alma area. They are suffering a series of symptoms which include, severe sleep deprivation, ringing in the ears, and severe headaches.
- 2) Out of 585 turbines now installed in Ontario, 77 out of 100 people indicate through a community based self-survey that they are experiencing adverse health effects. Dr. McMurtry presented this info. To standing committee in April/09 on the GE
- 3) March, 2009, Dr. Michael Nissenbaum from the Northern Maine Medical Center presented his findings of a study he conducted, to the Maine Medical Association,. Dr. Nissenbaum interviewed 15 adults. The data, which he characterized as alarming, and residents are experiencing serious health problems related to shadow flicker and noise emissions from the turbines near their homes.
- 4) Queen's University is presently conducting a health survey on Wolfe Island which takes into account a 3 phase strategy. Before turbines are constructed, during construction, 1 week post commissioning. The results will not be available for another year and Ontario residents remain as test subjects while the wind industry continues to push for council's approval on these projects and confuse the public about research relating to AHE.
- 5) Ontario victims have formed a support group called Victims of Wind (VOW).
- 6) The proposed regs for the GEA have just recently been released. It is clear that the province now sees how the current noise guidelines and setbacks are INADEQUATE

Respectfully,
Bill and Maureen Anderson
7592 Concession 7, Amherstburg

June 29, 2009
DELEGATION # 1

Mayor, councillors, fellow taxpayers.

It is my understanding that this council has opened the door for turbines in Amherstburg.

GenGrowth's representative appeared last week and started the ball rolling. I would like to ask a few questions before this ball rolls over all of the homeowners out on the concessions. And I would like council to have the proper answers in hand before deciding anything.

Does GenGrowth now admit that there are health issues surrounding wind turbines that are located too close to the homes.

Does GenGrowth admit to this council and taxpayers that they were freely aware of the 600 metre setback, because it was part of the same by-law that allowed their test tower.

Why, knowing full well that they could not comply with the 600 metre set back chosen by this council, did they move forward anyway. By their own report there are a substantial numbers of houses inside the 600 metre set back.

Why has this council not shown any concern regarding the health study provided by me to council last year and why does this council now not give any consideration to Dr. McMurtury's findings.

Dr McMurtury clearly states that there are serious health issues involved, when turbines are erected too close to homes. (read)

GenGrowth has stated that health studies are not part of the environmental assessment, now in effect. Are they stating for the record they do not care if their turbines cause people to be ill.

GenGrowth promotes itself as being a caring company, in that vein are they prepared to post a substantial deposit of money with the town to cover any problems homeowners may have if council decides to erect the turbines under 600 metres.

If GenGrowth is not prepared to post this money, just exactly what is their plan of action to help any homeowners that may be effected by the turbines. And are they willing to put this plan of action in writing for the council and taxpayers before a decision is made on setbacks..

Is GenGrowth prepared to turn off turbines that disturb the home owners.

As a note to council to demonstrate just what type of company they are truly dealing with, in our response to MOE, regarding GenGrowth's study, which by the way our rebuttal weighed 3.75 lbs. we outlined that the bird studies were questionable, the noise studies were to be considered completely unreliable when compared to our own noise studies which have decibel readings at least 50% lower than GenGrowth's, no consideration given to the bat haemorrhage issue.

The pictures GenGrowth submitted were totally misleading showing perhaps 3, maybe 4 houses on the concessions, when in fact close to 200 will be effected. And also GenGrowth could not comply with the current set backs on at least two of their turbine locations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, if you will, GenGrowth came in the night, convinced one of our local farmers who, by the way was deeply in debt, held two phoney open houses and then submitted a questionable environmental study and they want you to believe they will do the right thing in the future. This is about money to them, nothing else. This should alert you as to what the people on the concessions will be dealing with when a problem arises. If it doesn't suit them GenGrowth will not help.

Even their friend Mr McGuinty suggested a 550 metre set back and yet they want you to cut your set back in half.

Even your administration people, have been demonstrating an extreme bias in favour of GenGrowth, helping them out for the past month or so but refusing to help us at all., GenGrowth hasn't paid a cent of tax in Amherstburg, so they are using our money to help them shove this through.

In closing if this council decides to alter the setback anywhere except increasing it from 600 metres to a proper 1000 or even 1700 metres, I believe this will go to Ontario Municipal board.

There is enough evidence in place now to show that turbines should be placed as far as possible from people's homes. If this council decides other wise it will be negligent in it duties to the existing homeowners and should be prepared to deal with the health issues when they are brought before you. Council, with respect, why is this necessary study even in debate.

Thank you.

2009 06 29
DELEGATION # 3

European Platform Against Windfarms

- Launch of NAWAG against wind farm development in the British countryside
- Brandenburg: Volkinitiative und Unterstützung
- in Nouvelle République, 7 juin - "J.-L. Buis, un Ruffecote à l'assaut des moulins géants"
- L'Européen, juin 2009 - "Le vent en poupe"
- All news articles
- © Petition for a minimum set back distance of 2 km

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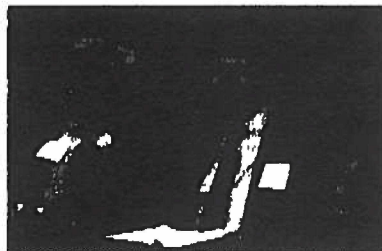
Ontario health survey exposes wind industry

Queen's Park, Toronto, April 22, 2009 - Former Dean of Medicine at the University of Western Ontario held a news conference on the steps of Queen's Park Legislature today. Planked by many victims, Dr. Robert McMurtry revealed the results of a health survey of the people now suffering many serious side effects while living near industrial wind turbines. The survey was conducted by Wind Concerns Ontario.

Of the 76 respondents in the community based self-survey, 53 people now living near different wind power plants reported that industrial wind turbines were having a significant negative impact on their lives.

The adverse effects range from headaches and sleep disturbance to tinnitus (ringing in the ear) and depression.

"If any drug had that many serious side effects it would be taken off the market or at least have warnings issued", says Carmen Krogh, retired Pharmacist and one of the conductors of the survey.



According to Dr. McMurtry's calculations, the average distance from the turbines is 780 meters although some are as close as the current Ministry of Environment recommended setback guideline of 400 meters while others are as near as 350 meters- a setback established by the Wind Industry when it originally got the go ahead for development in Ontario.

"Why should the bar be set so low for industrial wind turbines where so many side-effects are deemed unimportant?" Dr. McMurtry asks.

Another similar survey has been carried out by Britain's Dr. Amanda Harry. Dr. Harry's survey revealed many identical responses as the one by Wind Concerns Ontario.

Recent work by Dr. Michael Nissenbaum of Maine again found the same complaints.

One person in the survey replied that on a windy day "they (turbines) can sound like a jet is coming right at you...in the winter you can hear them pulsating right through the walls".

Another farmer says he had to move out of his home and returns only to feed the cattle. He is not the only one.

Members of Wind Concerns Ontario want to know why it is that they had to carry out their own survey to prove that there are real and serious issues surrounding wind installations in Ontario. It is clear from this survey that wind development must be stopped until an epidemiological health study has been completed by Public Health Office and the real dangers to human health from industrial wind turbines is exposed.

demands a

Dr. McMurtry and Wind Concerns Ontario demand an epidemiological study into the health impacts of industrial wind turbines before any further development of wind power in Ontario.

For more details on this survey go to www.windconcernsontario.org.

Dr. Robert McMurtry is also the founding assistant Deputy Minister of the Population and Public Health Branch of Health Canada.



Noise pollution

Ontario health survey exposes wind industry

Windmills a sound investment? - Is there an ill wind blowing in Stouffville County?

Project WINDFARM perception
Visual and acoustic impact of wind turbine farms on residents

Noise study by G.P. van den Berg
The sounds of high winds

Noise victims (videos)

Loss of property value

Danish homeowners in Sweden rebel against ill-sited wind farms.

Birds and bats

Open letter to the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)



Monteith♦Brown
planning consultants

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Memo

To: Bill king
From: Jean Monteith, BES, MCIP, RPP
CC: Jackie Hubbs
Date: June 29, 2009
Re: Official Plan Update Modifications

Further to our telephone conference call and the review and discussion of items raised in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing letter of May 29th and June 11, 2009 I have prepared what I believe to be a summary of agreed to modifications. I will start with the June 11, 2009 letter first:

1. The term green space system will be replaced with the term natural heritage system in Section 3.3.2(2)
2. Sections 2.23 and 2.24 will be modified to replace the word Wetland with Provincially Significant Wetlands.
3. Page 11 subsection (5) will replace the words "any adverse effects are minimized wherever possible" with "it is demonstrated there are no negative impacts on the features or their functions"
4. Section 2.10.4 renumbered 2.11 and all other sections renumbered accordingly. In addition the word "Woodlots" is added to the list of designations.
5. Section 3.2.2 is modified by replacing the words "a license to propagate and sell fish and transport fish" with an Aquaculture License"
6. Section 3.4.2 the definition of Negative Impact is added to read as follows "in regard to fish habitat, the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, except where it has been authorized under the Fisheries Act, using the guiding principle of no net loss of productive capacity and in regard to other natural heritage features and areas, the loss of the natural features or ecological functions for which an area is identified."

7. Section 3.6.3 subsection (8) is modified to remove the request for written response from the Ministry of Natural Resources.
8. Section 2.26 is modified by correcting the typo of fro to for.
9. Section 4.5.3 is modified by adding "vibration" to the list.
10. Section 2.24 (7) is modified by changing the wording to read " the site, if on prime agricultural lands (Class 1 to 3 according to the Canada Land Inventory classification system) shall be rehabilitated to its former agricultural use and substantially the same acreage and average soil capability for agriculture shall be restored."
11. Section 3.2.2(9) is modified by removing the requirement for a zoning by-law amendment.
12. Section 3.2.2(11) is modified by removing reference to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs and replacing it with "appropriate agricultural specialists".
13. A policy in line with Option C of the Application of MDS1 will be added to the Agricultural section as a new Subsection (23)
14. Section 2.2 will be modified by adding a section that both acknowledges that there is currently sufficient lands designated to accommodate the projected population for Amherstburg as well as acknowledging the role of the County of Essex and conformity to the County of Essex Official Plan.
15. Section 6.6 will be modified to acknowledge the County Official Plan update and that policies will be revised to be in conformity to the new County Official Plan once it has been prepared as part of Amherstburg's next five year review.

As way of explanation on a few of the other request the suggestion that the underlying designation technique be removed does nothing to improve the planning process or protect to any greater degree the natural features of the Town and seems to have only cookie cutter application. In all instances an EIS is going to occur and it will be the more appropriate tool to determine if, if any, changes are possible.

MNR's request that we some how single out a land use that is not even mentioned as permitted opens the can that then says if you do not mention it it must be permitted – golf courses are not mentioned and are not permitted and to change the section would weaken the plan.

All the comments on the solar farm seem useless given the Ministry's larger position.

For your files we have included the Minutes of Settlement for OPA 6.

The Interim Control Study is addressing some of the land use compatibility issues.

Other policies that were questions were as a result of OMB decisions that we have no intention of revisiting – poor wording or not.

The Institutional use so noted is a major High School.

Specialty Crop is being resolved at the County level and we will adjust once it is complete.

The reformatting of the Official plan in the Agricultural section weakens the document unnecessarily.

We continue to recognize mushroom farms and have every right to add conditions – no different than an MDS application.

We will not clutter the agricultural landscape with Rural Residential Zones. There are better ways to deal with this and Amherstburg's zoning by-law contains them.

The extractive uses in Amherstburg are not gravel pits but quarries so deep the shadows would never permit cropping. The other designation is brine extraction where no improvements have been made to the land – ever. Council has though these land uses through and wish them to remain.

On the issue of 6.1.2(9)(g) – You cannot have a minimum lot size of 40 hectares and then in an area were the farms even if they are 40 hectares may not be 40 hectares of lands designated Agriculture but may contain 10 hectares of Woodlot or Natural Environment. The lands that are not designated Agriculture do not have Agricultural policies and therefore a bridge is needed to link land in one ownership but in multiple designations. This is the bridge and must remain. The farmers who saved the trees should not now be punished because of new provincial policies.