

Minutes of a Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at 8 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Hurst
Councillor Robert Bailey
Councillor Gord Freeman
Councillor Carl Gibb
Councillor Paul Renaud
Councillor Rosa White

ABSENT

Deputy Mayor Anthony Leardi (with prior notice)

ALSO PRESENT

Hilary Payne, CAO
David Mailloux, Clerk
See attached list from Boat Club

A meeting was held to deal with matters relating to the Town owned ramp at the foot of Gore Street.

Mr. George Smit, President of the AMA Boat Club reviewed a prepared statement with Council - see attached.

Also reviewed was a letter from Doug Decker that was written in 1998 and appeared in the local media.

Items or comments made during the meeting included the following:

- keys that are being used now cannot be duplicated
- Boat Club looking into a key system where the key cannot be retrieved until gate is locked
- visual inspections have shown that gate is often not locked
- Mr. Smit - for 30 years Club has not started locking gate until May holiday weekend
- Mayor asked if Club could start locking gate now - Mr. Smit responded "yes"
- G. Freeman asked if Club has restrictions on size of boat - Response: No
- R. White re: parking of trailer in business area - affecting business negatively
- boaters could use Ranta Marina Ramp
- Mr. Smit & Mr. Jerry Barrette attended a meeting re: use of Ranta Ramp when it was being developed. Did not agree with location of ramp - have to pass by all docked boats in canal - slow process - much fishing is done in Lake Erie
- C. Gibb has a problem with boaters going on private property
- R. Bailey also has problem with boaters going on private property - concerned about letter from Vucinic Insurance Broker
- Mr. Smit contacted Insurance companies - Hotel Industry rates have risen 3% each year for last 3 years
- R. Bailey concerned about pedestrian being hit by trailers, etc.
- Grace Vucinic - people on their property are not their customers - that is insurance concern. Boaters need to see pictures provided. About 3 years ago they sent a letter to Town asking that Town would pick up insurance costs - no response. Their concern is that they may not be getting insurance. Far more people than 85 using ramp. Has been problems.
- Doug Decker suggested that the Club attempt to restrict use to our members
- Jim Martin - backing up from Dalhousie has problems - traffic & pedestrians
- Jim Martin - who decides who is a customer at Duffy's?
- Jim Martin - free parking after hours behind Post Office
- Grace Vucinic - both sides of ramps are private property. The boats when leaving Gore St. are using something that does not belong to them - no respect for the fact that it is private property
- G. Freeman - new keys should help

- G. Freeman - boaters should not go on private property - can mark boundary of Gore Street
- Kent Wigle - Duffy's should put poles along the boundary of Gore Street - leave room for customers to enter or exit
- Tim Pontini - questioned if it is mainly liability concerns? Grace explained and referred to an incident when a truck went into water and caused an extremely potential liability problem for Duffy's - liability is a very great issue.
- Gord Bailey - noticed many other people using property - bicycles, etc. Maybe should fence off property
- Paul Renaud - suggested that the Club get the gate locked soon. Mr. Smit stated it would be soon if we use the Medico keys. Would need more time to investigate the new system where the gate needs to be locked before the key is retrieved
- Grace asked what the criteria is to obtain a key - response was that the person be an Amherstburg taxpayer, however, basically if people state that they are from the community they can get a key.
- Doug Decker asked if there was a chance of obtaining some off road parking

Action to be taken

The Club will issue new medico keys (non duplicable) and issue a letter to members to lock the gate and refrain from using private property.

A report will be forthcoming from the Club in approximately 6 months.

Mayor Hurst thanked everyone for attending.

MAYOR

CLERK

April 13, 2004 8:00 p.m.

Meeting

April 13/04
8 PM.

NAME

ADDRESS

Mike Go
Zarko Vesovic
David Beaman

123 P.W. Drive
A/Burg
56 LINDSEY AVE
ADDRESS PLANT, VA

Tom [unclear]
Dora Bailey
Kent Wigle
Dan King

144 Mulling St. Aub.
1828 Erie Ave A/Burg.
223 Alma A/Burg
57 North St.
1267 Front Rd.

Jim Martin
Dorothy Smit
Kelly Williams.
PATRICK PILLON
Marcel Lanthier

9 Jones Crk
151 Fort A/Burg.
1653 Front Rn South A/Burg
4201 4th Conc Rd North A/Burg.
269 KEMPT ST

Tri-Community Boat Club
April 13, 2004

Mr. Mayor ..and council.

I hope in this meeting we can alleviate some concerns regarding the Ramp at the foot of Gore Street.

We want to be pro-active . This is I believe the only sports venue that has never cost the taxpayer of Amherstburg a cent. It is totally funded by the users

Regarding Grace Zec's first concern

We will be purchasing a new lock that will not allow you to remove the key without having the lock and the gate together. So our 85 current members will not be leaving the gate open. We will be giving a letter to each of our members when they purchase their key, outlining Duffy's concerns.

Regarding Grace Zec's second concern

She states "This is becoming a place where you can launch a boat quick and fast"
also She states "their property is congested on a regular basis"

Which is it ???

Also Grace has problems with boaters "Taking up parking spaces on Dalhousie Street from Gore to Murray street" I didn't know Duffy's owned the street. Our members live and pay taxes in greater Amherstburg.

"This situation has been going on for ages" said councillor Carl Gibb.

We were not aware of the "ongoing problems at the town boat launch". And "unruly people" who use the ramp and "there have been many altercations."

As far aw we know there are NO police reports of any problems in 30 years

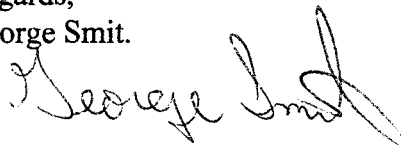
We have never been called by the police or Duffy's.

Regarding the fence they want to erect , We don't think it is necessary , but it is their property , if they want.!!

Regarding the Closure of the ramp, Most of our members are fishermen , they fish in the lake going to Ranta's would add considerable time and expense to their travel to the fishing sites, Also the boaters in wells at Ranta's are not happy with the small boat traffic now because of the location of the ramp there.

We would like to thank Mayor Hurst and some council for waiting to hear "our side " before commenting in the town papers.

Regards,
George Smit.



Letter to the Editor: Amherstburg Echo in 1997

Who Voted for this?

Boat trailer parking
BY-LAW 2335

I have been boating for about 30 years. I use to put my boat in the water at the coal dock. There was a nice ramp there and parking for about 30 cars with trailers and 25 other cars. A lot of towns people fished there also.

But the town decided they needed another park.

The town gave us use of the end of Gore street, It needed a lot of work so we spent about \$15,000.00 of our own money and installed 2 new ramps and a center dock.

I then started parking my trailer in the old BOB-LO ferry dock lot,

But the town decided they needed more park.

I then started parking in the old Lake View Tavern lot,

But the town decided they needed more park.

The town fathers created the parking problem in down town Amherstburg , and are punishing us for there mistakes.

I hope that they that they will look at what they have done and CORRECT IT!!!

When I payed for my trailer licence it didn't say I couldn't park within 5 blocks of the boat ramp. Stupid Eh!!

I really do feel guilty sometimes parking in front of some peoples houses,

I wouldn't want it, but we DO need somewhere to park our trailers close to the ramp.

On a similar topic ..

If they dug up the Navy Yard and put in docks they would have all the money spending tourist the town could handle .. Think about it!!! And they wouldn't take many parking spots.

The only people that go to the Nave Yard now, except on special occasions, buy an ice cream cone and leave , there is no parking for tourists at the Navy Yard.

SEA YA!!

Doug Decker