

# **Minutes Of Amherstburg Municipal Council Special Meeting Held Monday, July 28, 2008 at 5:40 P.M. in Council Chambers**

## **PRESENT:**

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

## **ALSO PRESENT:**

Pam Malott, Chief Administrative Officer/Town Clerk  
Carol Bendo, Manager Human Resources  
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer  
Ron Dzombak, Manager of Recreational Services

Lou Zarlenga, Public Works Manager  
Kevin Atkinson, Water and Wastewater Superintendent  
Tony DeThomasis, Roads and Parks Superintendent  
Dwayne Grondin, PW Inspector/Drainage Superintendent  
Randy Riediger, Fleet Maintenance Technician  
Corrie Gabriele, Public Works Office Manager  
Antonietta Giofu, Environmental Services Engineer

## **BOXING CLUB**

### **REPRESENTATIVES:**

Joe LeBlanc  
Pat Palumbo

## **TOWN SUPPLIER**

### **REPRESENTATIVES:**

Kevin Grant (Grant's Pest Control)  
Cindy Grant (Grant's Excavating)  
Serge Desrochers (D&D Excavating)  
Mary Ann Desrochers (D&D Excavating)  
Bruno Orsi (Two-Way Automotive)

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hurst called the meeting to order at 5:55 P.M.

## **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were declared.

### **ITEM # 1 – Discussions with Boxing Club**

A discussion with Boxing Club representatives took place.

Ron Dzombak stated that Council gave prior approval, in principle, to have the Boxing Club use the Kinsmen Scout Hall. As of July 2, 2008 the keys to the Scout Hall have been provided to the Boxing Club representatives.

Pamela Malott updated the group with respect to operating expenses. The average cost of utilities for the year is \$5,500 - \$5,800.

Mayor Hurst commented that Council wants to be certain that the group is a non-profit organization that is established only for the training of individuals as it pertains to boxing. Joe LeBlanc assured the Mayor and Council that the Boxing Club is solely a non-profit organization. .

Councillor Pillon stated that he received a call from a resident believing that the Boxing Club would have an unfair advantage and be taking business away from Total Fitness. He asked Mr. LeBlanc if any wage is being paid and if any money is being made. Mr. LeBlanc advised that they would not be taking away any business from fitness clubs as his mandate has been the same for the last 20 years – to work with youth in training for the sport of boxing. He does not do this for a fee he trains the youth for free.

Councillor White asked if the \$5,500 utility cost included air conditioning. Ron Dzombak replied that yes the cost does include air conditioning in the building. Mr. LeBlanc replied that the club will probably not use the air conditioner at all since it is best for training purposes and for competition training if it is hot in the club. He also stated that the Club will be open only 2 hours per day as an after school program for the youth so that the utility costs would be minimal.

Councillor White asked if there would be any charge to the user. Mr. LeBlanc replied that the fee for the last 15 years has been \$55 per user and that this fee is forwarded to Boxing Ontario. He stated that since there are no other fees he has not been able to take the youth to Tournaments and his board has been tossing around the idea of charging a nominal fee to the users in order to raise the funds for tournaments and to also make the youth and their parents more accountable to ensuring that the youth attend their training sessions on a regular basis, however no decision has been made yet.

Councillor Renaud stated that the Boxing Club is a good service for the kids in Town and compared it to the Skate Park which the Town maintains but does not charge a fee for.

Mayor Hurst reiterated that the lease should include the following: utility charge being the responsibility of the Boxing Club, indicate that the Club is a non-profit organization and no other exercising will occur other than that indicated for Boxing training.

Moved by R. Fryer  
Seconded by R. White

That the Boxing Club have access to the Scout Hall as of July 28, 2008 upon signing the lease agreement.

**Motion Carried**

**ITEM # 2 – Discussions with Town Suppliers**

**Mr. Bruno Orsi of Two-Way Automotive addressed Council**

Mr. Orsi stated that the issue with respect to procurement is number one price. The three things for any business to offer are price, service and quality. He believes that anybody in business cannot give all three things at the same time and still be in business. He stated that if the Town wants something that's economical then quality or service will suffer. He would like the business to stay in Town and if there is an issue with pricing or anything then the merchants of the Town should be advised. He cannot understand why the Town purchases items and services from out of Town companies such as Grainger or Windsor Factory. He is not saying that they are bad merchants but just that they are merchants from out of Town and Council should keep them out of Town. He states he has done a lot of business with the Town for the last 25 years except for the last 2 -3 ½ and does not understand what has changed during this time.

*Discussion:*

R. Pillon asked if Two-Way Automotive sells everything that the Town needs. Mr. Orsi stated that he does not sell everything that Grainger or Windsor Factory does but he believes that there are enough businesses in Town that could supply the Town with everything that is needed. The Town may need to go to different suppliers in Town but the Town should still be able to obtain all their products here.

**Ms. MaryAnn DesRochers of D& D Excavating addressed Council**

Mrs. DesRochers is concerned about the tendering of work. She does not understand why tenders are being allowed to be faxed into Town offices by out of County Businesses when the mandate is that all tenders are to be sent to the Town in sealed envelopes. She would like an explanation of how some work is tendered and how some work is simply given out.

Mrs. DesRochers is also concerned by losing on tenders for as little as \$3. D&D is always being asked to donate their time for their work but not give them the tenders.

She objects to the hourly rate because although D&D does charge a higher hourly rate their total fee would be lower than other companies since her husband is an efficient and quick worker and he is able to get the job done faster. Mrs. DesRochers would also like to be assured that the local merchants are on top of the call list for doing the work. She supplied Council with a copy of the type of work that D&D is able to do for the Town and this is attached to and forms a part of these minutes.

### **Report #1**

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding examples of the Procurement Policy Procedures. This report provides a description of the Departmental processes to procure goods and services in compliance with the Town's Procurement Policy.

Mr. Zarlenga advised those present of the following regarding the procurement policy:

- Planned events and emergency events are dealt with differently. A tender takes a minimum of 2-3 weeks and in emergencies we do not have this time available.
- The public works department has a list of suppliers along with their hourly rates and the suppliers are called and the job is given on a first come first serve basis. Rule of Thumb is to contact local contractors first, however .
- Over the last 2-3 years the procurement policy has been established and we are following the guidelines as set out in the policy.
- Unfortunately we are not self sufficient as a municipality and there are only out of town businesses that are able to do some of the work.

### **Mr. Kevin Grant of Grant's Pest Control addressed Council**

Kevin stated that he is in his 29<sup>th</sup> season. He thought that the meeting which was held a few years back should have addressed the concern of using local vendors first and that it should not be an issue. He believes that Council should stick with the community and hire the community merchants. The merchants do a lot of things for the community with respect to special events and emergency work and should always be considered first in receiving the Town jobs. He believes that anything under \$5,000 should not even be tendered out but rather be given automatically to the Town merchants.

### **Discussion:**

Deputy Mayor Bailey stated that the Town is obligated to obtain pricing from qualified vendors. Qualified vendors may or may not be local companies. It is important that there is a level playing field among vendors during this process. In a tendering situation Council and the Town cannot be in a situation where we are favouring local vendors as we would be opening up ourselves to litigation.

Councillor Pillon stated that Council needs to be diligent in the tendering process; however he believes that our local companies should be given the best opportunity possible.

Councillor Fryer stated that our policy needs to be followed, however the discretion is up to public works for jobs ranging from \$0-\$5,000 and feels that locals should be given the business if pricing is within a few dollars difference. However, vendors need to keep in mind that they may be out pricing themselves if the difference is consistently more than that.

Mayor Hurst stated that Council has listened to all of the suppliers' concerns and this procurement policy will be revisited and Council will respond back.

Moved by R. Fryer  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Bailey

That the report by Lou Zarlenga, dated July 23, 2008 regarding the Town of Amherstburg Procurement Policy be received and further that all comments made by the supplier be received as presented.

**Motion Carried**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

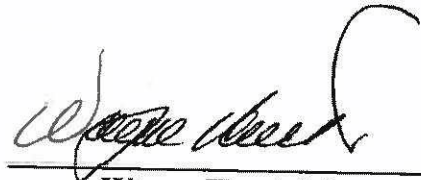
No unfinished business items were discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business items were discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by J. Sutton  
Seconded by R. Fryer



Wayne Hurst, Mayor



Pamela Malott, Clerk

That we rise and adjourn at 6:38 P.M. and reconvene for the public meeting at 7:00 P.M.



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