

**Minutes Of An Amherstburg Municipal Council Meeting Held
On Tuesday, October 13, 2009 At 7:00 p.m.**

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:

Pamela Malott, CAO
Brenda Percy, Manager of Council & Leg. Services/Clerk
Carol Bendo, Human Resources Manager
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer
Dave Carpenter, Manager of IT
Ron Dzombak, Manager of Recreational Services
Ivano Fregonese, Supervisor Budget Services
Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services
Jen Ibrahim, Visitor Information Centre Manager
Richard Murray, Fire Chief
Anne Rota, Tourism and Special Events Facilitator
Lou Zarlenga, Public Works Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hurst called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER

Manager of Council and Legislative Services, Brenda Percy, said prayer.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. White

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

1. In-Camera meeting held on September 28, 2009 at 4:00 PM;
2. Public meeting held on September 28, 2009 at 7:00 PM;
3. Special public meeting held on September 29, 2009 at 9:20 AM;
4. Special public meeting held on September 30, 2009 at 9:20 AM;
5. In-Camera meeting held on October 1, 2009 at 8:02 AM and
6. Special public meeting held on October 1, 2009 at 8:00 AM.

Motion Carried

The Mayor noted that the presentation of the flag to Mr. Peter Rindlish Bacher would be deferred to a future date when he is able to attend.

DELEGATIONS

The Mayor reported that the Marina does not form part of the park.

Delegation # 1

Mr. Ron Sutherland and Ms. Lynn Matthews of Ranta Marina Boaters Association addressed Council regarding their lease of K. Walter Ranta Marina. A copy of Mr. Sutherland's speech forms part of the Addendum to these minutes. Mr. Sutherland submitted a petition, which was accepted by the Clerk.

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

That Town of Amherstburg enter into a lease agreement with the Ranta Marina Boaters Association for the 2010 season with the understanding that should the Ranta Marina be sold the lease would become null and void.

And further that said agreement be reviewed by the Town solicitor.

Councillor R. Fryer requested a recorded vote.

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

Motion Carried

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

That the delegation by Mr. Ron Sutherland and Ms. Lynn Matthews be received.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Councillor Pillon suggested that the motion was premature. Passing the motion would not allow the other delegations to speak. The Mayor advised that the motion was on the floor and must be dealt with. The mover and seconder of the motion would have to withdraw the motion on the floor to allow the rest of the delegations to continue. The motion is in order.

Councillor R. Fryer referred to the term "null and void" within the motion. He noted that Mr. Sutherland has advised that he has met with the developer who has indicated he wants to work with them. The Town should work with both parties so that boaters know that they have a place to put their boats next season.

Councillor J. Sutton explained that the motion includes the term "should" the sale occur. He noted that it has been the practice of Council to award this lease on a one-year term.

Councillor Pillon noted that that Amherstburg is marketing itself as a tourism destination and questioned how the Town could promote itself without a municipal dock for visitors. He felt that it is detrimental that the marina be kept as there is only one municipal boat launch left. Councillor Pillon noted that he would like to see the conditions of the sale and until such time, the matter must be deferred.

Councillor R. Fryer spoke to the deficit of the marina that exists. He noted that there is a difference between a deficit and a debt. These individuals using the marina are users just as an arena has users. He felt that the Town cannot tell residents that they no longer have access to the water. Councillor R. Fryer noted that there is no line item in the budget for the marina, unlike the arena and parks.

Delegation # 2

Ms. Lisa Scott addressed Council regarding the sale of the Ranta Marina from an employee's point of view. A copy of Ms. Scott's speech forms part of the Addendum to these minutes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. White

That the delegation by Lisa Scott be received.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Councillor R. Fryer asked when Council would receive the conditions of the sale. CAO Pam Malott advised that the final version of the offer has been received, which includes a provision for access to the Ranta Marina parkland. The parkland is not affected in any way by this sale.

Delegation # 3

Mr. Reg Major addressed Council regarding the Sale of the Walter K. Ranta Marina, Park Property and Safety Issues of Structures on Property. A copy of Mr. Major's speech forms part of the Addendum to these minutes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. White

That the delegation by Reg Major be received.

Motion Carried

Report # 1 was brought forward after Delegation # 3

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. White

That the report by Pamela Malott dated October 7, 2009 regarding the Disposition of Ranta Marina be received;

That further to the direction given to Administration at the In-Camera Meeting of Council on September 28th to accept the Offer to Purchase Ranta Marina from Robert Delicata in Trust;

That Council confirm in public session to accept the Offer to Purchase Ranta Marina from Rob Delicata, In Trust; subject to conditions which have been reviewed by the Town Solicitor;

And further that Council confirms that the sale is for lands known as property roll number 3729-460-000-27505 comprised of 13.29 acres and does not include any of the Town owned Parkland adjacent to the Marina property.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Deputy Mayor Bailey provided a history of the property and noted that the deficit of the marina has continued over time and would be an extraordinary burden to taxpayers to have to recover this amount from the general tax levy. In an extreme case, to recover this amount in one year would result in an 8 to 9% tax increase on the property taxes. The Ranta Marina Boaters Association has done an admirable job in operating the marina by taking many of the operational matters off the hands of Town and improving occupancy; however, the funds generated still do not match the expenses incurred. Deputy Mayor Bailey indicated that the marina is not a key service to the Town due to the limited number of Amherstburg residents who are lodging boats at the marina. He did recognize that the boat launch is used by many local residents and Council will need to address the need for a public boat launch. Council is voting on accepting an offer to purchase with several conditions attached, which include studies to be done and rezoning applications to be filed. Deputy Mayor Bailey felt that this is best method of clearing up deficit.

Councillor R. Pillon commented on core service and what defines a core service. He felt that the marina is a core service. The question of how many residents rent in the marina should have been how many residents use the boat launch. Not everyone has a boat however, the marina attracts visitors. He felt by selling the marina, there is a loss of something viable to the community.

Councillor Fryer noted that to recoup the entire debt of \$985,000 it would be a burden but Council could start small by budgeting. The Boaters Association is showing a surplus that could be put aside and utilized for dredging in the future. He referred to the elimination of the marina and the creation of an arena. Councillor R. Fryer noted that the amount will still have to be recovered in some way and questioned selling the acreage for two buildable lots. Any other municipality is buying up waterfront property and yet the Town of Amherstburg is selling its marina.

Councillor J. Sutton noted it is the actions of previous Councils that have brought the current Council to this point. He noted that there are several inaccuracies that have been noted. Councillor J. Sutton indicated that Council did try to curb the debt by employing the services of the Boaters Association. The Association did a great job but the debt continues to grow. Even if running at full capacity, it would not generate enough revenue to break even or provide for future capital costs. He felt that the Town must run like a

business and take into consideration the economy and look to ways to alleviate the tax burden. Council needs to ensure that there is unfettered access to the park and the water. This will be addressed as Council moves through the process. Council retains rights in terms of what conditions are put into future agreements. Councillor J. Sutton felt that to be fair to all ratepayers, Council must look to ways to alleviate a tax burden and increase the tax base.

Councillor R. White expressed her reason for supporting the motion. She noted that the report provided is clear and contains the facts of the matter. Councillor R. White complimented the Boaters Association on the work done but noted that there is a discrepancy in the amount of funds claimed to be generated.

Councillor R. Pillon requested a recorded vote.

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

Motion Carried

Delegation # 4

Mr. Neil Stewart addressed Council regarding the Alma St. Cul-de-Sac changes from the Spencer and Associates Plan. A copy of Mr. Stewart's speech forms part of the Addendum to these minutes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. Pillon

That the delegation by Neil Stewart be received.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Lou Zarlenga, Manager, Public Works responded to the questions raised in Mr. Stewart's delegation.

In response to a question from Councillor J. Sutton, Lou Zarlenga advised the work would be done in two weeks.

In response to a question from Councillor R. Pillon, Lou Zarlenga confirmed that the all appropriate agencies were consulted on the downsizing of the cul-de-sac.

Councillor R. Pillon asked if parking was permitted in the Cul-de-Sac as it would be difficult for Mr. Stewart to gain access to his driveway. Lou Zarlenga advised that 'no parking' signs could be arranged.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation # 1

Mr. Dave Carpenter, Manager of IT, made a presentation to Council regarding Remote Access Software.

Report # 2 brought forward after Presentation # 1

A report by Dave Carpenter regarding Remote Access Software.

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

That the presentation by Dave Carpenter be received;

That the report by Dave Carpenter dated September 29, 2009 regarding Remote Access Software be received;

And further that Council consider remote application access and deployment software solution Infrastructure for inclusion into the 2010 capital budget.

Discussion:

Councillor J. Sutton asked that Dave Carpenter bring examples of other municipalities using the software and how those communities make it work.

Presentation # 2

Anne Rota, Tourism Officer, and Jen Ibrahim, Visitor Information Centre Manager, will make a presentation to Council regarding the Olympic Torch Relay Celebration.

Report # 3 brought forward after Presentation # 2

A report by Anne Rota regarding the Olympic Torch Relay Celebration.

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

That the presentation by Anne Rota and Jen Ibrahim be received;

That the report by Anne Rota dated September 18, 2009 regarding the Olympic Torch Relay Celebration be received;

And further that Council support the program set forth to commemorate the Olympic Torch Relay leading up to and the day of December 23, 2009 in the Town of Amherstburg.

Motion Carried

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

Report # 4

A report from Paul Beneteau, Treasurer, with respect to Tax Write-Offs and Assessment Changes.

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

That the report from Paul Beneteau, Treasurer, dated September 30, 2009 regarding property tax write-offs and changes in assessment be received;

That Council approve the write-offs and changes in assessment;

And further that By-law 2009-70, being a by-law to strike taxes from the tax roll and to adjust assessment values on properties be read a first, second and third time, and be finally passed, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the same and affix the corporate seal thereto.

Motion Carried

Report # 5

A report by Carol Bendo regarding Community Grant Request.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor P. Renaud

That the report by Carol Bendo dated October 2, 2009 regarding Community Grant Requests be received;

And further that the grant submissions be deferred to the 2010 budget deliberations.

Motion Carried

Report # 6

A report by Lory Bratt regarding a transfer of easement for encroachment Helios Solar Star.

Moved by Councillor R. Fryer
Seconded by Councillor R. White

That the report by Lory Bratt dated October 2, 2009 regarding a transfer of easement be received;

And further that By-law 2009-73 being a bylaw to provide for the transfer of easement for encroachment be taken as having been read three times and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and affix the Corporate Seal thereto.

Motion Carried

Report # 7

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding the request for a heritage plaque by Mr. and Mrs. Morency.

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

That the report by Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services, dated October 7, 2009 regarding the request for a heritage plaque by Mr. and Mrs. Morency be received;

And further that Council direct administration to proceed with the preparation of the plaque and enter into a cost share for the price of the plaque to a maximum of \$175.

Motion Carried

Report # 8

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the tender results for the Street Light Maintenance Program.

Moved by Councillor R. Pillon
Seconded by Councillor R. White

That the report from Lou Zarlenga dated October 7, 2009 regarding the tender results for the Street Light Maintenance Program be received;

And further that Council not accept or award the Street Light Maintenance Tender to either of the two bidders being Langley Utilities or Essex Power Services and to revise and retender according to the needs of the Town.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Councillor R. Fryer asked how long the contract was for. Lou Zarlenga advised that it was for one year period and can be renewed up to two additional years, subject to Council's approval.

Report # 9

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the tender results for the 2009 Automatic Radio Water Meter Reading Program.

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

That the report from Lou Zarlenga dated October 5, 2009 regarding the results for the 2009 Automatic Radio Water Meter Reading Program tender;

And further that Council award the contract to the low tenderer, being Corix Water Products.

Motion Carried

CONSENT CORRESPONDENCE

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

That the correspondence items be received as presented, save and except items 2 and 11.

1. Dollars to Sense Program dated September 30, 2009 from the Natural Resources Canada;
2. October is Child Abuse Month dated September 21, 2009 from the Children's Aid Society;
3. Thank-you Letter dated September 23, 2009 from the Amherstburg Food & Fellowship Mission;
4. Thank-you Letter dated September 29, 2009 from Shores of Erie International Wine Festival;
5. Local Government Week October 18th-24th dated October 5, 2009 from AMCTO;
6. Heart & Soul Gala November 13th, dated October 6, 2009 from Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital;
7. Veteran Appreciation Days Planning Guide and Toolkit dated October 6, 2009 from Historica-Dominion Institute;
8. Green Energy Regulations Strongly Reflect AMO Input dated September 28, 2009 from AMO;
9. AMO's Message to the Province Accessibility and Municipalities at Risk with Initial Proposed Built Environment Standard dated September 28, 2009 from AMO;
10. Toronto Bank Towers Decision - Divisional Court dated October 6, 2009 from MPAC and
11. Southwest Zone Vacancy Board of Directors dated October 5, 2009 from Ontario Good Roads Association.

Motion Carried

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

That Councillor R. Pillon be nominated to fill the Southwest Zone Vacancy Board of Directors for Ontario Good Roads Association in accordance with the correspondence dated October 5, 2009 from Ontario Good Roads Association.

Motion Carried

CONSENT OTHER MINUTES

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

That the minutes of the following meetings be received:

1. Meeting held by the Amherstburg Recreation Committee on June 2, 2009 at 7:00pm;
2. Meeting held by the Tourism and Special Events Committee on June 3, 2009 at 9:30am;
3. Meeting held by the Amherstburg Police Services Board on July 21, 2009 at 4:30pm and
4. Meeting held by the Amherstburg Heritage Committee on August 20, 2009 at 5:30pm.

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence # 1 Ontario's South Coast Tourism Region - Norfolk County

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor R. White

That the correspondence from Norfolk County dated September 11, 2009 be received;

And further that Council direct the communication to the Tourism Windsor Transition Board for consideration and to present a unified position from our region as the Board maps out the future Tourism direction for our region.

Motion Carried

Correspondence # 2 - Paving the East Section of Northside Road from 8th Concession to Walker Road

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

That the correspondence from Walter and Gisela Tendick dated October 4, 2009 regarding Paving of the East Section of Northside Road be received;

That Council defer the item to 2010 Budget deliberations;

NOTICE OF MOTION


There were no notices of motion.

ADJOURNMENT


Moved by Councillor R. White
Seconded by Councillor R. Fryer

That Council rise and adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Motion Carried



Wayne Hurst, Mayor



Brenda Percy, Clerk

And further that Council direct Public Works to advise Council where Northside Road falls in priority within the Roads Needs Study during 2010 Budget deliberations.

Motion Carried

Discussion:

Councillor R. Pillon asked that Administration arrange for a road tour for Council to review the roads needs within the Town of Amherstburg.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council discussed the unfinished business items list as of October 13, 2009.

Councillor R. White asked for an update on the TODS Signage. She also asked about directional signage on Highway 401 to the Town of Amherstburg. Carol Bendo advised that she would report back to Council on the matter.

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor R. Fryer sought an update on when the Public Works afternoon shift starts and if those employees could be utilized to do an inventory of functioning lighting in the Town.

20091013A: Mayor Hurst asked that Administration review the feasibility of residents paying their water bills in instalments and report back to Council.

BY-LAWS

Confirmatory By-Law

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

That **By-Law 2009-75** 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

October 13, 2009
Delegation # 1
Page 1 of 1

Good evening and thank you for accepting my request to speak tonight regarding the disposition of K. Walter Ranta Marina. The Ranta Marina Boaters Association have once again completed a successful year of operation. We of the association do object to the sale of the Marina, because our belief is that the marina was a project that involved the Federal Gov't/ Anderdon Township and Walter Ranta in the donation of land and monies, coupled with countless hours of work to complete the project with the intention that it remain a park/marina to be enjoyed by the public and to that end we are not in favour of private development.

When the government funds projects such as our marina, do later councils have the right to put the property up for private sales? I would think not. The marina was funded by them for the benefit of the citizens of the tri-communities of Anderdon, Amherstburg and Malden and not for the purpose of an individual making a profitable business venture for himself.

We have over 600 petitions that prove there are more than just the boaters in this community that want the marina "SAVED". The Amherstburg Firedepartment utilize Ranta Marina for their traing excersize, where will they go now?

We met with the potentail buyers last Friday and as their plans for the marina are unconfirmed at this time, they have expressed wanting to maintain a good relationship with RMBA and there is a strong opportunity for a mutually beneficaid relationship moving forward. They have asked us to lease the marina again with the intent of forming a long term business relationship.

I therefore this eveining submit to council our request that our lease be extended for the 2010 season and at the date of transfer taking place the lease be then assigned to the new owners. I have been informed that the town's solicitor has confirmed there would be no issue with the lease being limited to the period the Town would own the land.

I thank you again and ask that our request be granted.

Ron Sutherland
President, RMBA

Mayor Hurst & Town Councilor's -I stand before you in total disbelief that you are selling Amherstburg's Marina. I have worked at Ranta Marina since 1994.I have worked for two of the Town's manager's and now for the Ranta Marina Boater's Association. I was there when we had a full house and never enough parking for the ramp users. I was also there for the lean times when we had less than half of the wells filled. I have also been there to watch the Association turn Ranta Marina around. In the last two years with the joint effort of the Ranta Marina Boater's Association and the staff of K.Walter Ranta Marina. We have managed to fill seventy two boat wells, six short of being three quarters full. Our ramp has increased to the point of rampers parking on the grass, because we were so busy. The year 2010 is our 25th Anniversary. What a sad year that could be for the taxpayers of Amherstburg.Other towns are reclaiming their waterfront and Amherstburg is selling off ours .Not only are

you selling the Marina but you have included in the sale, the roadway into the Marina, cutting off access to the park for the public .I ask this council to reconsider selling K.Walter Ranta Marina and Park. Once you have rung the bell there is no un-ringing it. As a resident of Fraserville, I know that only too well .Because of the sale of part of Balaclavia Street we have been cut off from the rest of town. Once it's sold its gone forever. Please we the staff and users of K.Walter Ranta Marina and Park are asking you not to ring that bell. And in closing I would like to apologize to Walter Ranta and Liisa Ranta Chappus.WE THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG HAVE FAILED YOU AND FOR THAT I AM TRULY SO

Mrs. Lisa Scott

Delegation #3
Page 1 of 1

Report to Council from Reg Major, Oct 13, 2009

Let me begin with a couple of lines from our mayor on the Town of Amherstburg's website: On behalf of Town Council I would like to welcome you to Amherstburg, Ontario, where the only thing we ever look is the water! He continues there is so much to see and do in Amherstburg, so bring the family and stay for a few days, whether you prefer staying aboard your boat at one of our marinas, etc etc.
Which marina are you referring to, Mr. Mayor.

We are here tonight to protest the sale of Ranta Marina, and the very notion of this Council's apparent willingness to ignore the Ranta family's legacy of forever having the marina remain public property is an extreme breach of trust. How can future citizens donate land and/or money for the public good still be confident that the Town of Amherstburg will abide by what is specified in their will? The lack of transparency and the method in which the majority of this Council conducts it's, excuse me, OUR business is troubling and the residents deserve a lot better from our elected officials and administration.

I have here a public meeting agenda that was issued long after business hours on Sept. 30/09 for an 8 AM meeting on Thursday, October 1/09. Item # 2 on the agenda was the disposition of Ranta Marina. I would like to know exactly how you can, with any honesty whatsoever, claim that you are holding a public meeting when not a single member of the public knows you're holding it. To this day, that meeting is not on the website calendar. Mr. Mayor & Council, I submit to you that had Mr. Sutherland and I not attended that meeting, this evening would be a waste of time, because the deal would already be done.

Administration has outwardly misled Ranta Association representatives on this matter. It was implied that if the marina was sold, it would be to a buyer that continued it as a marina. Just last week, your administration told us that absolutely no part of the park was included in the deal. Sorry, but I'm not believing that at all. But it makes one wonder how a member of the administration can discuss items discussed in camera, when our own Councillors are prohibited from doing so under the Municipal Act.

I must say, the surprised look on your faces when you saw Ranta representatives at your 'public meeting' was priceless. So you know, Council immediately went in camera and came up with a motion to defer until this evening? Why? Did the impact of selling out 71 boating families and over 800 ramp users and their families make you blush? Yes, that's about 2000 + voters. That's an election, which is just over 12 months away.

The Hon. Gene Whelan sent each of you a letter regarding this sale so I will not read it except for one point from a document filled with great points. Quote; "I do not know how any member of the Amherstburg Council can make an honest decision to sell this property and at the same time call it "surplus". The Ranta Marina fills a need". Unquote. That one small statement screams at the foolishness of your actions with a deafening roar.

There is a list of questionable things this Council has done, and I do suggest that a forensic audit of every financial agreement that this Council has approved is in order.

Do not re-zone the marina or any part of the park land, do not sell this marina. It's not yours to sell. It's ours. I thank you for your time.

INTRODUCTION

My name is Neil Stewart, I live at 42 Alma Street I am one of three residents of the north side of Alma Street, the others being Tim D'Hetre and Marion Shenker. The south side of the street is the side yard of Remo and Joanne Mancini of Laird Avenue.

My reason for being here tonight is to question:

1. Why was the cul-de-sac at the end of the Alma Street changed reducing the diameter from approximately 60' to 47' and moved 16' in an easterly direction away from the river on September 21 2009. A change from the Spencer and Associates Plan which had been designed to accommodate safety and service vehicles to turn around and exit the street, thus going against the advice of the Fire Department (Public Works were more than happy to quote the Fire Department on safety concerns when they wanted to close Richmond Street from Dalhousie to Water Street and extend Water Street through the Kings Navy Yard Park to Murray Street even though the Fire Department's input was never sought on this issue.) By moving the centre where the radius of the cul-de-sac was struck from, a grading problem was encountered. The grade on the southwest corner of the cul-de-sac had to be lowered by 2' to prevent water from running down the Mancini's driveway and into their backyard. I might add that this driveway is illegal according to the decision of the OMB dated July 12, 1990 giving the Mancini's permission to build their home with a 1.5 metre side yard variance, stipulating that access be off Laird Avenue only and access from Alma Street be closed off. All these changes from the

original Spencer Plan being made the same day that Mayor Hurst at the Public Meeting on the 21 September stated that all plans were "etched in stone" and would not be changed. I know the real reason why these changes were made I just want to know the official reason.

2. When was it decided to reconstruct Alma Street? it is not itemized in the 2009 budget? Where is the funding coming from for this project as it is not part of the Urban Renewal Project?
3. When was it decided to do all the extra landscaping and stonescapes? Where is the funding coming from for this?
4. We have a resident 89 years old who hasn't been able to access her driveway or garage for the better part of 7 weeks. We have sidewalks half finished, we have a street graded ready to be paved, when is the work on the section of Alma Street from Laird Avenue to the river to be completed so that the three residents of this street can access their homes. The excessive landscaping work goes on unabated on the south side of Alma Street - one has to question what is more important.
5. When the work is completed I would like to invite all residents of Amherstburg, especially the ones in Anderdon and Malden to see how their hard earned property tax dollars are being spent. Thousands of dollars were spent in this same area in the summer of 2008 on landscaping and paving, just in time for a high profile wedding. When questioned Mr. Lou Zarlenga said it was for the beautification of Alma Street which I might add 14 months later has been torn up only to be changed and done again. We have

October 31, 2009
Delegation #4
Page 3 of 3

money in the budget for excessive landscaping, unnecessary stamped concrete sidewalks. The Town of Amherstburg can find funding for wasteful projects like these but the students of General Amherst will have to wait 6 months for funding to safely cross Sandwich Street - again where do our priorities lie.

Finally with millions of taxpayers dollars coming into town in the form of Federal grants we would like to think that these are being spent wisely but on past performance I have my doubts. We have seen work done over two and three times, homes filled with raw sewage, rumoured law suits, paving and sidewalks being completed only to be dug up weeks later for street lights to be installed (Dalhousie Street, Richmond to Pickering as an example) this can only be the tip of the iceberg. I have little confidence in this administration, we have a CAO and a Manager of Public Services and a council who are forced into making decisions against their better judgment by outside interference. If they do vote their conscience they are treated with condescension by Mayor Hurst.