

**Minutes of An Amherstburg Municipal Council Meeting Held
In Council Chambers On Monday, March 8, 2010 At 7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Hurst
Deputy Mayor Robert Bailey
Councillor Rick Fryer
Councillor Robert (Bob) Pillon
Councillor John Sutton
Councillor William (Bill) Wark
Councillor Rosa White

ALSO PRESENT:

Brenda Percy, Manager of Council & Leg. Services/Clerk
Carol Bendo, Human Resources Manager
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer
Antonietta Giofu, Environmental Services Engineer
David Carpenter, IT Manager
Ivano Fregonese, Supervisor of Budget Services
Anne Rota, Tourism Officer
Lou Zarlenga, Public Works Manager

ABSENT WITH NOTICE: Pamela Malott, Chief Administrative Officer

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

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

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Fryer seconded:

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

- 1. In-Camera Meeting held on February 22, 2010 at 6:30 PM;**
- 2. Public Council Meeting held on February 22, 2010 at 7:00 PM;**
- 3. Special Public Council Meeting regarding Kingsbridge - Draft Plan of Subdivision held on February 23, 2010 at 5:30 PM;**
- 4. Special In-Camera Meeting held on February 23, 2010 at 6:20 PM and**
- 5. Special Public Council Meeting regarding Sandwich at Crownridge - Proposed ZBA and OPA held on February 23, 2010 at 6:30 PM.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

DELEGATIONS

Delegation # 1

Mr. Richard Hubbell, AMHA Treasurer, Mr. Tony DiBartolomeo, AMHA President and Mr. Marc Renaud, AMHA Past President addressed Council regarding the Ice User Rates for the Amherstburg Recreation Complex.

Report # 1 brought forward after Delegation # 1

A report by Ron Dzombak regarding the ARC Ice User Rates.

Mr. Hubbell addressed Council regarding the proposed ice user rates and noted that AMHA has a number of concerns with the proposed rates. He noted that in order for AMHA to grow its program, it needs to be able to offer to an affordable rate to its families. AMHA's recommendation is that in the first year of operation of the new rink, the ice rate should be the average rate of the five rinks surveyed. AMHA proposed a primary youth ice rate at \$149.78 in the 2011 and 2012 season. There is a two year step up of 3% increase and a CPI increase beyond that time. Mr. Hubbell also noted that there is also concern for the mechanism on how rates would be set in future and that the rates would be based upon the revenue and operating expenses of the facility. By reviewing the rates based on revenue and operating expenses of the entire facility, it may result in AMHA having to subsidize other sports groups such as soccer or baseball. There is being competitive up front but it's the review of the rates at future date.

There was discussion with regard to ice user rates proposed by Administration and AMHA, impact of HST on those rates and phasing in of rates.

Councillor White moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

That the delegation by Messrs. Hubbell, DiBartolomeo and Renaud be received;

And further that the report by Pamela Malott and Ron Dzombak, dated March 3, 2010 regarding the Proposed Ice User Rates for the Town's New Recreation Complex Twin Pad Arena be referred back to Administration to work with the Association to come up with an agreeable ice user rate and that any increase be phased in over three years.

The Mayor clarified the intent of the motion is that the report be sent back to Administration who will initiate a meeting with AMHA and come up with a rate that is agreeable to Council and the Association and that this information be brought back to Council.

Councillor Fryer noted that the adult and seniors groups need to be involved in the discussions.

Councillor White reiterated that her intent is that Administration meet with the Association and that information would be brought back to Council and that those discussions address the AMHA request for stability.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Delegation # 2

The Amherstburg Minor Hockey Association presented the Town of Amherstburg with a \$100,000 donation towards the Inclusive Multi-Use Amherstburg Recreation Complex.

The AMHA, along with Mayor Wayne Hurst, presented Ken Grant with two plaques of appreciation for his time, commitment and continued dedication in the establishment of a new arena for the Town of Amherstburg.

Delegation # 3

Mr. Scott Cipkar addressed Council regarding the closure of child care centre on Cherrylawn. A copy of Mr. Cipkar's presentation is attached and forms an Addendum to these minutes.

There was discussion with regard to costs, subsidy, public consultation, information provided to County Council, vacancies and available resources.

Councillor White moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the delegation by Mr. Cipkar be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Failed

Councillor Wark moved, Councillor Fryer seconded:

That the Essex County Council be asked to consider undertaking an independent municipal daycare costing study.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Failed

Councillor White moved, Deputy Mayor Bailey seconded:

That the delegation by Scott Cipkar be received for information purposes.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Delegation # 4

Ms. Liz Cipkar addressed Council regarding the closure of municipal child care centre on Cherrylawn.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the delegation by Ms. Cipkar be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Delegation # 5

Ms. Shannon Porcellini addressed Council regarding public child care and the Amherstburg Child Care Centre.

Councillor Fryer noted his desire that the upcoming provincial budget continue to fund and allow funding to be directed to public daycares so that the County daycares can stay open with that funding.

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That correspondence be sent to Bruce Crozier, MPP asking that the provincial government reinvest in public daycare so that the county daycares can stay open with that funding.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the delegation by Ms. Porcellini be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Delegation #6

Ms. Patricia Strople addressed Council regarding child care.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the delegation by Ms. Strople be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That correspondence be forwarded to Windsor City Council requesting that Windsor City Council reconsider its position regarding the closure of All Municipal Early Learning and Child Care Centres.

Councillor Sutton noted that a letter was sent in January, 2010 and that this would be the second letter sent.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Councillor White directed that Administration undertake a survey to determine what the available resources are in the community with regard to child care. She clarified that Administration contact daycare facilities in the Town to determine the actual number of places for children and the services they provide.

Delegation #7

Mr. Wilf Fortowsky addressed Council regarding Ranta Marina and Windimere Development Questions about the Sewer Line. Mr. Fortowsky sought clarification of the capacity in the old Anderdon settling pond and if it would accommodate more and if not, would the Town pump sewage to the new treatment plant. He also questioned where the trunk sewer stops and the cost associated with it.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the delegation by Mr. Fortowsky be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation # 1

Mr. Larry Verbeke, President of the Essex County Federation of Agriculture, made a presentation to Council regarding the role of the ECFA. A copy of Mr. Verbeke's presentation is attached and forms an Addendum to these Minutes.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the presentation by Mr. Verbeke be received and that Council concur with the resolution put forth by Mr. Verbeke:

WHEREAS the successful Grains and Oil Seed Risk Management 3 year Pilot program, developed by farmers, is coming to an end March 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Agricultural Sustainability Coalition (OASC) has been formed with beef, veal, pork, horticulture and grains and oil seed farmers to develop a similar program for long term sustainability within each sector; and

WHEREAS the provincial government has supported the pilot project and the federal government has refused to support this provincial initiative;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Amherstburg send a letter to both the federal and provincial governments supporting farmers and agri-business in their need to develop a flexible Business Risk Management Program. This new program should enable individual commodity groups, working with these governments, to develop a template that meets the procedures cost of production.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Presentation # 2

Anne Rota, Tourism Officer, Steve Mickle, Malden Community and Cultural Center committee Chairperson and Dan and Nancy Kenny, Owners of Tredki Acres Berries and Pumpkin Farm made a presentation to Council regarding the Amherstburg Farmers' Market Initiative.

Report # 2 brought forward after Presentation # 2

A report by Carol Bendo regarding the Amherstburg Farmers' Market Initiative. Anne Rota explained the initiative, the membership and role of the committee, role of the Mr. & Mrs. Kenny and associated funding.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the presentation by Ms. Rota, Mr. Mickle, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenny regarding the Amherstburg Farmers' Market Initiative be received;

That Council receive the report by Carol Bendo dated February 4, 2010 regarding the Amherstburg Farmers' Market (AFM) initiative;

That Council direct Administration to proceed with the facilitation to develop the Amherstburg Farmers' Market with a private sector Market Operator who will plan, coordinate, and manage the Market at the Malden Center Community (MCC) and Cultural Center at 7860 County Rd. 20 in Malden Centre under a yearly renewable business license as per Bylaw # 2009-44.

And further that Administration ensure that the concept is within the guidelines of the CAF funding.

Councillor Pillon asked that Council be kept apprised of the matter as it moves along. Anne Rota advised that a minimum of three reports would be brought before Council by the Committee.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Presentation # 3

Ms. Janet Willoughby and Mr. Rennie Rota made a presentation to Council regarding the Municipal Tree Lighting Ceremony and River Lights Opening Weekend. Ms. Willoughby asked that the ceremony be moved from Thursday evening to Friday evening and explained the benefits to the change of date.

Report # 3 brought forward after Presentation # 3

A report by Carol Bendo regarding the Municipal Tree Lighting Ceremony and River Lights Opening Weekend.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the presentation by Ms. Willoughy and Mr. Rota be received;

That the report submitted by Carol Bendo dated February 24, 2010 regarding the Municipal Tree Lighting Ceremony and River Lights Opening Weekend be received;

And further that Council approve to move the day of Municipal Tree Lighting Ceremony to a Friday rather than a Thursday to coincide with the River Lights weekend opening.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Presentation # 4

Ms. Anne Rota, Ms. Jackie Hubbs and Mr. Dante Pagliaroli made a presentation to Council regarding "Powered by Community".

Report # 4 brought forward after Presentation # 4

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding "Powered By Community ~ Walk, Run, Bike, Enjoy it!".

Councillor Wark moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the presentation by Ms. Rota, Ms. Hubbs and Mr. Pagliaroli be received;

That the report submitted by Jackie Hubbs dated February 26, 2010 regarding the grand opening event for the new Gateways and Trail System on Sunday, June 13, 2010 called "Powered By Community ~ Walk, Run, Bike, Enjoy it!" be received;

And further that Council direct administration to proceed with the event as planned.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

Report # 5

A report by Pamela Malott regarding the Acquisition of Lands for Parkland - North Gateway Feature.

Councillor White moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the report by Pamela Malott, dated March 3, 2010 regarding the Acquisition of Lands for Parkland - North Gateway Feature be received;

That By-law 2010-25, being a bylaw to confirm the execution of an Offer of Purchase dated February 5th, 2010 between The Town of Amherstburg and Guinness UDV Canada Inc. (Diageo), be given three readings and finally passed and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute same;

That Council confirm the execution of the closing on the transfer of ownership of the lands;

That Council direct that the purchase be financed with the Amherstburg portion of the Community Adjustment Fund project;

And further that a Letter of Appreciation be forwarded to Diageo North America, Amherstburg Office, indicating the lands will be used for Municipal Purposes - Public Parkland North Gateway Feature and that lands will be enjoyed by many for generations to come.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report #6

A report by CAO Pamela Malott and Development Manager Nustadia Recreation Inc. regarding the January Amherstburg Recreation Complex Monthly Project Summary.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

That the report by Pamela Malott and Nustadia Recreation Inc. dated February 26, 2010 regarding the January Amherstburg Recreation Complex Monthly Project Summary Report be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 7

A report by Stephen Brown, Chief Building Official regarding a vehicle request.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the report by Stephen Brown, Chief Building Official dated February 20, 2010 regarding the Community Standards Officer truck request be received;

And further that Council instruct administration to prepare an RFP for the purchase of a new truck and turn over the existing truck to the Public Works Department for their use.

Councillor Fryer sought clarification as to whether the item was a budgeted item.

Councillor Sutton asked if there would be an impact on the tax rate. Paul Beneteau advised that it would be derived from the equipment reserve and would have no impact on the tax rate.

Councillor Fryer questioned if the recreation truck used for snow removal could be utilized in more ways. He asked that Administration report back.

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the matter be deferred until such time as Council receives information on the ability of use of the recreation truck.

Motion Carried

Report # 8

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding comments and questions to be considered when Council is addressing the Ministry of the Environment.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the report by Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services dated March 2, 2010 regarding comments and questions to be considered when Council is addressing the Ministry of the Environment be received.

Councillor Pillon asked that the Ministry also be asked about the inclusion of a decommissioning clause.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 9

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding the decision of the Ontario Municipal Board respecting the Official Plan for the Town of Amherstburg.

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the report by Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services dated March 3, 2010 regarding the decision of the Ontario Municipal Board respecting the Official Plan for the Town of Amherstburg, be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 10

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding the receipt of a site plan application for Lot 80 and Part Lot 81, Concession VII, Town of Amherstburg.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

That the report by Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services dated March 3, 2010 regarding the receipt of a site plan application for Lot 80 and Part Lot 81, Concession VII, Town of Amherstburg, be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 11

A report by Jackie Hubbs regarding the zoning by-law amendment at Sandwich and Crownridge.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the report by Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services, dated March 4, 2010 regarding the zoning by-law amendment at Sandwich and Crownridge, be received;

And further that By-law 2010-28 being a by-law to amend Comprehensive Zoning By-law 1999-52 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.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 12

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the projects assigned to the Public Works Special Projects Coordinator.

Councillor White moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga regarding the projects assigned to Elmer Schincariol.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 13

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS) Accreditation Program Systems Audit results, and award of limited scope - entire accreditation and accreditation agreement.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor White seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga dated March 1st, 2010 regarding the results of the Systems Audit performed by the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) on the Town of Amherstburg Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Operational Plan;

And further that Council receives the letter from the Director of the Canadian General Standards Board awarding the Amherstburg Public Works Department with a Limited Scope - Entire accreditation;

And further that Council enter into an agreement with the CGSB regarding the accreditation of the Operating Authority being the Amherstburg Public Works Department.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 14

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the Amherstburg Wastewater Plant Upgrade and Expansion and the minutes of the pre-construction and construction progress meetings.

Councillor White moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That Council receive the attached minutes of the pre-construction meeting and the first construction progress meeting dated February 4th, 2010 and February 17, 2010 respectively for the Amherstburg Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 15

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the status of the Nexen property renovations.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor White seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga regarding the status of the Nexen Property renovations.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 16

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding an update on the Essex Region Source Protection Committee.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Council receives the report from Lou Zarlenga dated March 4, 2010 regarding an update on the Essex Region Source Protection Committee.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 17

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the tree maintenance in Kings Navy Yard Park for 2010.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga regarding Kings Navy Yard Park Tree Maintenance for 2010.

That the report be referred to the Horticulture and Parks Committee for review and to report back to Council with its recommendation.

And further that Council be provided a copy of the Arborist report.

Councillor Fryer noted that he would like to see the Arborist's whole report for all the trees in the park.

Councillor Pillon noted that there be no action until such time as Council addresses same.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 18

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding signage in municipal parking lots and a request for signage at the Amherstburg Public Library.

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga regarding the installation of two hour parking signs at the Library Parking Lot on Sandwich St;

And further that Council accepts the recommendation to remain consistent with signage provided in other Municipal parking lots within the Town.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 19

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding the removal and replacement of trees on Richmond Street Boulevard.

Lou Zarlenga asked that the report be held in abeyance until such time as Administration provides further information for Council.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor White seconded:

That the report be deferred to Administration for further information.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 20

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding a flower bed request from the Girl Guides of Canada.

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga regarding a request from Ms. Michelle Wilson from the Girl Guides of Canada Trefoil to allow the Girl Guides to plant and maintain a flower bed at Toddy Jones Park.

And further that Council accept the recommendation of Administration to provide an area in Toddy Jones Park to accommodate a Girl Guides Flower Bed.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Report # 21

A report by Lou Zarlenga regarding surplus equipment at Public Works and the disposal of such by way of public auction.

Councillor Wark moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

That Council receive the report from Lou Zarlenga regarding surplus equipment in the Public Works Department.

And further that Council approve the disposal of designated surplus equipment by way of public auction.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

CONSENT REPORTS

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the following reports be received:

- 1. A report by Jackie Hubbs, Manager of Development Services dated March 3, 2010 regarding the decision of the Ontario Municipal Board respecting 31 Sandwich Street North, Amherstburg.**

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

CONSENT CORRESPONDENCE

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Fryer seconded:

That the items 1 through 8 and item 12 be received:

1. **Maple Syrup Festival - John R. Park Homestead Conservation Area - February 25, 2010;**
2. **25% Off Annual Pass to Point Pelee National Park - February 22, 2010;**
3. **Herb Gray Harmony and Champion Award Winners Announced - Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County - February 19, 2010;**
4. **FCM's 73rd Annual Conference and Municipal Expo - FCM - February 22, 2010;**
5. **Residential Wood Smoke - Canadian Clean Air Alliance - February 18, 2010;**
6. **Thank you for Grant - Amherstburg Community Services - February 23, 2010;**
7. **Order of Ontario - Call for Nominations - Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario - February 2010;**
8. **Windsor Property and Planning Conference Registration - February 2010;**
9. **Clean Water Testing Facility Motion - Town of LaSalle - March 1, 2010;**
10. **Rose Kelly Function- Plaque Dedication held on Saturday, April 24, 2010;**
11. **2010 Proposed Budget - ERCA - February 24, 2010 and**
12. **Signage for the Town of Amherstburg along Highway 401 in the Windsor Area - Ministry of Transportation - February 2, 2010**

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

That the resolution from the Town of LaSalle be received;

And further that Council concur with the Town of LaSalle's resolution with respect to a Clean Water Testing Facility.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Item 10 be received and that Council be authorized to attend the dinner and memoir, should any members of Council wish.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Pillon seconded:

That Item 11 be received and that Administration report back to Council on the proposed budget for ERCA as the budget is higher than the amount anticipated.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

CONSENT BUSINESS LICENSES

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor White seconded:

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

1. Hawker Peddler for Fred's Farm Fresh

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

Councillor Pillon asked that Administration report back on the licensing fee.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

CONSENT OTHER MINUTES

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the following minutes be received:

1. Meeting of the Amherstburg Committee on the Environment held on January 21, 2010 at 6:30 PM;
2. Meeting of the Committee of Adjustment held on November 24, 2009 at 7:30 AM;

3. Meeting of the Amherstburg Police Services Board held on January 19, 2010 at 4:30 PM and
4. Meeting of the Amherstburg Police Services Board held on January 20, 2010 at 4:30 PM.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence # 1 - Feedback on Organizational Responsibilities of Conservation Authorities - Official Opposition Critic, Natural Resources

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That the correspondence from the Official Opposition Critic, Natural Resources dated February 8, 2010 regarding feedback on Organizational Responsibilities of Conservation Authorities be received.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Correspondence # 2 - Earth Hour 2010 - Joseph Jones

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

That the correspondence from Joseph Jones dated February 26, 2010 regarding Earth Hour 2010 be received;

That all businesses and residences in the Town of Amherstburg be encouraged to participate in Earth Hour 2010 on Saturday, March 27, 2010 by "switching off the lights" at 8:30 PM for one hour;

That Administration be directed to place a notice on the Town of Amherstburg website and in the local paper regarding Earth Hour 2010;

And further that this motion be conveyed to Mr. Jones.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council reviewed the Unfinished Business Items List as of March 8, 2010.

Deputy Mayor Bailey asked that Item #7 be removed from the list as it has been addressed by Administration.

Councillor Wark sought an update on Item #9 being the countdown at the high school crosswalk.

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Pillon reported on the retirement party for Mickey Bertrand and encouraged Council to purchase tickets.

Councillor Pillon moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Council be authorized to attend the retirement function on Friday March 12, 2010, should any members of Council wish.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Notice of Motion regarding Wind Energy, presented by Councillor R. Fryer, was considered by Council:

Councillor Fryer moved, Councillor Sutton seconded:

Whereas several offshore wind turbines are proposed for the Essex-Windsor region on Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, and;

Whereas local municipalities should have a voice in matters that affect local watershed planning, and;

Whereas we are all concerned about the potential impact that offshore wind turbines might have on water quality, human health, along with animal and plant life;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That these concerns be forwarded to our MP and MPP, and to relevant ministries;

That all other municipalities in Essex County and Windsor and Pelee Island be asked to endorse this resolution;

That the County of Essex, together with Pelee Island, the City of Windsor, and the Essex Region Conservation Authority be asked to develop a joint regional position regarding offshore wind turbines proposed for the Essex-Windsor region.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

BY-LAWS

Confirmatory By-Law

Deputy Mayor Bailey moved, Councillor Fryer seconded:

That By-Law 2010- 26 being a By-Law to confirm all resolutions of the Municipal Council Meeting held on March 8, 2010 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.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried


ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Sutton moved, Councillor Wark seconded:

That Council rise and adjourn at 10:07 p.m.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried



MAYOR - WAYNE HURST



CLERK - BRENDA M. PERCY

Good Evening, Mayor Hurst, Members of Council.

I am before you tonight to express disappointment and frustration. The result of the vote at County Council on February 17th about study and public consultation with regard to the Amherstburg and Tecumseh child care centres was quite dissatisfying.

The decision by Mayor Hurst and Deputy Mayor Bailey to vote against further study and public consultation in this matter was counter to the spirit of the Mayor's remarks when I appeared before this Council on February 8th. In your remarks during that meeting, Mr. Mayor, you assured me that the issue would come back in front of county council, and ***that they will be studying the possibility of taking over the centres in Amherstburg and Tecumseh.*** I felt reassured that as our representative at county that you would support consultation with your own residents. You have since made it clear that you feel that consulting with your constituents is not required. After this study was done, there would have been ample opportunity to voice opposition to the County assuming operation if it was deemed unfeasible.

With regard to the decision making process undertaken for the vote at County Council, Mr. Mayor and Deputy Mayor, there are several questions that I want answered:

- **What information did you gather to suggest that no further study was warranted? Surely, more information was gathered than simply the report from the City of Windsor recommending the closures. We would like to see this information.**
- **What child care experts and organizations did you consult?**
- **Is it your policy not to consult with stakeholders, even when you are aware that there are groups and individuals interested in doing so?**

Mr. Mayor, you have mentioned on more than one occasion that you feel assured that all children will be looked after.

- **On what basis do you feel that you can make this assurance?**

- **Why have you not checked with affected parents to see if the care and services they require are even available within the town?**

I would also like to make clear that while I would prefer municipally-delivered care for my child, my concern about child care locally does not end there. The implementation of full-day, everyday kindergarten over the next few years, although a positive in itself, will lead to a massive disruption for child care providers of all types. All providers will feel the financial squeeze as 4-and 5-year olds are the cheapest to care for. Toddler and infant care is subsidized by the presence of high caregiver-to-child ratio school-aged children who will no longer be present.

- **Mr. Mayor, What actions are being undertaken or plan to be undertaken by the town to ensure the long-term viability of childcare operations across this municipality?**
- **What are the contingency plans to deal with possible short-notice or no-notice closures of privately-operated centres as the financial impact of these changes take hold?**

Further, I would like to discuss the future of the facility on Cherrylawn. The building, equipment and property are public assets. Parents and relatives of children who have attended that centre have participated in fundraising for the equipment. Parents and voters have every right to expect a public discussion regarding the future of these assets.

I have several direct requests for this council tonight.

- First, I request that this council put forth and support a Motion to send the Mayor and Deputy Mayor back to County Council to bring up and support a Motion to Reconsider the Motion pertaining to the public consultations and study of the County assuming operation of the Child Care Centres in Amherstburg and Tecumseh as soon as possible.

- Secondly, I request that this Council put forth and support a Motion in support of a public town meeting to address the concerns and challenges faced by parents and stakeholders of the Centre on Cherrylawn.
- Finally, I request that this Council put forth and support a motion committing to a fully public process with respect to any future proposal pertaining to the site at 236 Cherrylawn.

I do not believe that these are unreasonable requests. Any decisions made on this issue should be well-informed decisions. That is the basis for my requests. For convenience, I have the specific questions I have asked available for council.

Thank you.

Questions for Mayor and Deputy Mayor (and Council), Re: Child Care in Amherstburg

March 8, 2010

With regard to the decision making process undertaken for the vote at County Council, Mr. Mayor and Deputy Mayor, there are several questions that I want answered:

- **What information did you gather to suggest that no further study was warranted? Surely, more information was gathered than simply the report from the City of Windsor recommending the closures. We would like to see this information.**
- **What child care experts and organizations did you consult?**
- **Is it your policy not to consult with stakeholders, even when you are aware that there groups and individuals interested in doing so?**

Mr. Mayor, you have mentioned on more than one occasion that you feel assured that all children will be looked after.

- **On what basis do you feel that you can make this assurance?**
- **Why have you not checked with affected parents to see if the care and services they require are even available within the town?**
- **Mr. Mayor, What actions are being undertaken or plan to be undertaken by the town to ensure the long-term viability of childcare operations across this municipality?**
- **What are the contingency plans to deal with possible short-notice or no-notice closures of privately-operated centres as the financial impact of these changes take hold?**

I have several direct requests for this council tonight.

- First, I request that this council put forth and support a Motion to send the Mayor and Deputy Mayor back to County Council to bring up and support a Motion to Reconsider the Motion pertaining to the public consultations and study of the County assuming operation of the Child Care Centres in Amherstburg and Tecumseh as soon as possible.
- Secondly, I request that this Council put forth and support a Motion in support of a public town meeting to address the concerns and challenges faced by parents and stakeholders of the Centre on Cherrylawn.
- Finally, I request that this Council put forth and support a motion committing to a fully public process with respect to any future proposal pertaining to the site at 236 Cherrylawn.