

MINUTES
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL

March 2, 2011

Lambton County Council was in session in Committee Room #3, Wyoming, Ontario, at 2:15 p.m. on the above date. Warden in the Chair; Roll called; All members present except M. Bradley and D. Kirkland.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: Councillor Jim Burns declared a pecuniary interest with respect to motion # 17 of the In-Camera Committee P.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011.

In-Camera

#1: Foubister/MacDougall: That the Warden declare that County Council go in-camera to discuss a matter concerning litigation or potential litigation affecting the Municipality and matters subject to solicitor-client privilege, a matter concerning the proposed acquisition/disposition of land and personal matters about identifiable individuals (i.e. including employees) and labour relations.

Carried.

Open Session

The Warden declared that County Council go back into open session. Council then reconvened at 2:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. All members present except M. Bradley and D. Kirkland.

Rise and Report Motions of the In-Camera Session dated March 2, 2011

#2: Napper/McGugan: That Council rise and report.

Carried.

The County Clerk noted that there were no resolutions to report from the Closed Session meeting.

#3: McGugan/Napper: That Council adopt the report of the Closed Session meeting.

Carried.

Delegations

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: Councillor Jim Foubister declared a pecuniary interest with respect to the 2011 grant request from Pathways as a member of his family is involved with this organization.

#4: MacDougall/McGugan: That we invite the delegates within the Bar, to speak to County Council.

Carried.

Mr. Bruce Curtis, Manager, Community Planning & Development and Ms. Pearl Dougall, Municipal Advisor, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) spoke to County Council about the services MMAH can provide, and about the opportunities to work together to enhance the delivery of services.

Mr. Miles Vanni, Executive Director, Inn of the Good Shepherd and Ms. Kathy Wodzinski, Community Homelessness Initiative Network, spoke to County Council about the current uses of social services such as food banks and soup kitchens in the community and the impact of the economic crisis on the agencies.

Mr. Garry McDonald, President, and Ms. Debra Taylor, Chair, Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce, spoke to County Council as an interested community organization representing business across Lambton County, and presented some opinions, suggestions and views regarding County Council's draft 2011 Budget.

2011 Grant Requests

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: Councillor Jim Foubister absented himself from the meeting room during the presentation by representatives from Pathways due to his earlier declared pecuniary interest in this matter.

Ms. Jenny Greensmith, Executive Director and Mr. Barry Porter, President, Pathways, addressed County Council regarding the funding needs for 2011.

Councillor Foubister returned to the meeting room.

Mr. David Lavender, Treasurer, the Lawrence House Centre for the Arts, addressed County Council regarding the funding needs for 2011.

Mr. Jim Janzen, CEO and Mr. Mike Walters, VP of Financial Development, YMCA, addressed County Council regarding the funding needs for 2011.

#5: McCharles/McGugan: That the grant requests from Pathways, the Lawrence House Centre for the Arts and the YMCA be forwarded to the 2011 Budget process.

Carried.

Minutes

The Lambton County Council (Open Session) and (Closed Session) Minutes dated February 2, 2011 were presented.

#6: Burns/Boushy: That the Lambton County Council (Open Session) and (Closed Session) Minutes dated February 2, 2011 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Correspondence to Receive and File

3-10-11 A copy of a letter from Mr. Doug Reycraft, Chair, Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario (MEPCO), dated January 19, 2011, advising that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), through MEPCO, carries out legislative responsibilities as sponsor representative on behalf of municipal government employers. In 2010, MEPCO and other Plan Sponsors were also successful in obtaining amendments to the Pension Benefits Act that relieve OMERS Plan from solvency funding requirements (\$3 billion). The letter states that this is a practical step that will immediately improve the overall health of the Plan. The letter also states that without (County Council) support, it will be difficult to represent municipal government employer interests on pension matters, including the upcoming review of Bill 206 which devolved the governance of OMERS to the Plan's sponsors.

#7: MacDougall/Gillis: That Council support correspondence 3-10-11 and endorse the work of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario (MEPCO).

Carried.

3-11-11 A copy of a letter from Mayor Hazel McCallion, City of Mississauga, dated February 22, 2011 and addressed to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario, advising that the Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) has discussed the current arbitration process, and the impact on municipalities, and that the following resolution was passed:

Moved by Mayor Jeff Leahman
Seconded by Mayor Joe Fontana

"That Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) formally request Premier Dalton McGuinty to change the rules of arbitration to include principles of evaluation to include but not limited to the communities' ability to pay".

#8: McGugan/Case: That we support the resolution, as detailed in correspondence 3-11-11, from the Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario, formally requesting that Premier Dalton McGuinty change the rules of arbitration to include principles of evaluation to include, but not limited to, the communities' ability to pay.

Carried.

3-12-11 A copy of a report from Mayor Randy Hope, Municipality of Chatham-Kent regarding Brownfield Development Support, making the following recommendations:

"That the Province establish consistent grants and loans to those undertaking redevelopment of Brownfield sites and/or a matching program with municipal grants and loans to make redevelopment more financially feasible in smaller municipalities.

That the Province agree that Tax Assistance, as already permitted under Section 365.1 of the Ontario Municipal Act, be used to provide municipal and educational tax assistance to Brownfield sites in the form of a credit against the outstanding tax liability, i.e. tax arrears.

That the Province establish a consistent response from the MOE with regards to Risk Assessment and Record of Site Condition processes.

That the Province create legislation that protects municipalities from the liabilities associated with assuming the ownership of Brownfield sites.

That the Province develop different methods of ensuring that those who pollute sites can be held fiscally responsible for future liability and remediation costs resulting from their actions".

#9: McGugan/Gillis: That the County of Lambton support correspondence 3-12-11 from Mayor Randy Hope, Municipality of Chatham-Kent regarding Brownfield Development.

Carried.

3-13-11 A copy of an email from Ms. Susan Levesque to MPP Bob Bailey, Warden Steve Arnold and Deputy Warden Lonny Napper, dated February 13, 2011, expressing support in any motions that may be brought forward to stop the progression of the land based wind turbine industry. Ms. Levesque states that she, as do many others, does not support the advance of this damaging, inefficient and costly experiment. She also states that she has expressed her concerns to the Ontario Ombudsman, as well as the Environment Commissioner and that the gist of the reply from the Ombudsman was there is nothing that can be done from their office. This was received through verbal communication through that office. Ms. Levesque also states that the reply from the Environment Commissioner was also disappointing. Ms. Levesque also supplied copies of her correspondence to Mr. Marin, Ontario Ombudsman, Mr. Miller, Environment Commissioner, in addition to an email response received from Ms. Yazmin Shroff, Public Information & Outreach Officer, Environment Commissioner of Ontario.

#10: Foubister/McCharles: That Lambton County Council ask staff to correspond with Ms. Levesque to seek further clarification regarding the contents of correspondence 3-13-11.

Carried.

Items Not Requiring a Motion

The following item was presented to County Council for its information:

- a) General Managers' Update - Minutes dated February 11, 2011.

Committee Minutes

Mr. J. McCharles presented the Committee A.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011.

#11: Gillis/MacDougall: That the mover of motion #8, and the seconder of motion #10 of the Committee A.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011 be amended from Bilton to Weber.

Carried.

#12: Gillis/MacDougall: That the mover of motion #11 of the Committee A.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011 be amended from McCharles to Bradley.

Carried.

#13: McCharles/Gillis: That the Committee A.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011 be accepted as amended.

Carried.

Warden S. Arnold presented the Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees Minutes dated February 16, 2011.

#14: Burns/Boushy: That the Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees Minutes dated February 16, 2011 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Mr. T. Case presented the Committee P.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011.

#15: Case/Bilton: That the Committee P.M. minutes dated February 16, 2011 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Ms. Marlene Woods, the new Executive Director for Tourism Sarnia-Lambton, was introduced.

b) Councillor Jim Burns invited all Councillors to attend an up close and personal event with the Gallery's Curator on March 3, 2011.

By-Laws

#16: Boushy/Burns: That By-Laws #9 and #10 of 2011, as circulated, be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried.

#17: Burns/Case: That By-Laws #9 and #10 of 2011, as circulated, be taken as read a third time and finally passed.

Carried.

Adjournment

#18: Foubister/Davis-Dagg: That the Warden declare the meeting adjourned with the next meeting of County Council be to held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. for Budget deliberations.

Carried.

Time: 4:20 p.m.

Steve Arnold
Warden

Stéphane Thiffeault
County Clerk
General Manager, Corporate Services