

VILLAGE OF POINT EDWARD MINUTES

Council Meeting –April 28, 2009

6:00 p.m. – Council Chambers, Point Edward Municipal Office
135 Kendall Street, Point Edward, Ontario

Council Members Present:

Mayor Kirkland
Councillor Hand

Deputy Mayor Robson
Councillor Churchill

Councillor MacKenzie

Staff Present:

CAO Cramp

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

PLANNING

Nil.

DELEGATIONS

Melanie Murray, President; Stephanie Purdy, Secretary – Point Edward Early Learning Centre Inc.; Gord Bryant, Financial Consultant

Re: Point Edward Early Learning Centre.

Also Present from the Centre: Cathy Eyre, Executive Director; Caroline Martin, Supervisor; Juli Pearson, Board Director.

Resolution #1

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT Melanie Murray, Stephanie Purdy and Gord Bryant, be invited within the bar.

CARRIED.

Ms. Purdy provided a brief history of the early learning centre. It began as a two day per week program but has been expanded to a full week program. It has been operating in the Village for the past 40 years. There is a 6 hr. limitation per child for the full day program as a result of Ministry mandates. Their present location in the former church does not have large enough windows to increase the number of hours per child. They have always maintained that there is no better place to be and to raise family. The Village adds to the experiences of the children as it is unique. It is a key to the Village. The licensing presently restricts the program to 20 toddler/pre-school children. They would like to be in a position to increase the number to 52. The waiting list grew by six children during the previous week. There are 75 families serviced with approximately ½ of them living in the Village. In the present leased former church, the employees have done a fantastic job given the limitations of the space. The building is deteriorating and the Board has exhausted all other possibilities in the Point. Ken Dick from the County of Lambton originally proposed the idea of a new building on the school property with County of Lambton funding through the Best Start program. This would be a great location for the program and even better for those enrolled in the ‘before’ and ‘after’ program in which 39 are presently enrolled. The vision is to replicate programs and services consistent with the Best Start Hub initiative of the demonstration sites in Sarnia-Lambton and Chatham-Kent.

Mr. Bryant provided an overview of the Financial Feasibility Study. Their request is for the Village of Point Edward to provide a \$1 million interest-free loan for repayment over 30 years.

Deputy Mayor Robson asked if the School Board has agreed to provide the property for the building. Ms. Murray advised that the Board representative has been very supportive and feels that this would be a win/win for the community. They are waiting for formal plans prior to any further action being taken.

Deputy Mayor Robson indicated that the Board is removing a DDS classroom and teacher at Bridgeview Public School. She asked if there will be closure of the school in the future. Ms. Murray indicated that she raised the issue of school closure. It is expected that this will solidify Bridgeview's position and she was told that it is not at risk at this time.

Councillor MacKenzie advised that there would be a need for a 4-party agreement – County of Lambton, School Board, Village and the Early Learning Centre. It is recommended that all four parties get together. He also asked if the \$600,000 from the County would still be available.

Mayor Kirkland advised that he and CAO Cramp had met with County officials. They were supportive of the preliminary concept but they are meeting with the Early Learning Centre to review the detailed Business Plan and Financial Feasibility Study prior to any decisions being made.

Councillor MacKenzie asked if there would be costs to be paid to the School Board for the use of their property. Mr. Bryant indicated that there is a precedent set for establishing rent in the London area. This will be discussed further with the School Board.

Mr. Bryant noted that there is an urgency to have the project move forward as their present lease expires on August 1, 2010.

Councillor Hand asked who would determine the lease amount. Mr. Bryant advised that the land could not be purchased from the School Board. They would have to work out a reasonable lease arrangement. Based on the other precedent, it may be based on a 5 yr. average of a federal treasury bill with the rate being established every 5 years.

They are looking at Option #3, which is Part Best Start Hub at an estimated cost of \$1.42 million at this time. There would be a tender process. The playground and equipment is estimated at \$222,425.

Councillor MacKenzie asked about the size. The plan is for a 7,500 sq. ft. building that would incorporate all room required for the learning centre and would include two meeting rooms, a gym, community area, offices for counselors and a reception area.

Mr. Bryant commented that they have minimized the estimated revenue and maximized the expenses to ensure that the feasibility study is considering a worse case scenario. A loss for the first six months is projected after which a surplus is expected. After sixteen months, all operating deficits would be covered.

Mayor Kirkland asked the repayment period being suggested for the interest-free loan. Mr. Bryant advised that the request is for 30 years but that it would be repaid earlier if possible.

Mr. Bryant asked about property taxes. He was advised that MPAC would make the determination on the assessment. The County by-law should be reviewed to determine if it falls within an exemption category.

Councillor MacKenzie asked about their formal Board structure and membership. Ms. Murray advised that there is a Board of Directors and they are governed by their by-laws. Councillor MacKenzie asked if it would be possible to have Council representation on the Board or as a liaison. Ms. Murray responded that they had no issue with that as it would provide a reporting system.

Councillor MacKenzie asked about their staffing. It was indicated that they presently employ Cathy Eyre, Executive Director; Caroline Martin, Supervisor, a part-time employee and a summer student. The new building would offer them with other opportunities that could be considered including a 24/7 operation.

Councillor Hand suggested that quarterly or regular updates to Council may be something that could also be considered.

Councillor Hand asked if there would be problems that may arise from other day care providers in the Village. Ms. Murray indicated that they are the only licensed non-profit organization in the Village. Their connection to the School would help secure its long term viability and there are funds available through the Best Start Hub initiative.

Deputy Mayor Robson asked what would happen if Bridgeview closed. It would be expected that they would deal with the property based on their policy for the sale of public land. Any agreement that is entered into with the other parties would have to be considered. Mr. Bryant advised that they would be asking for a lease with a minimum time period to equal their mortgage period.

It was noted that the Hub would have two entrances – one to the child care centre and one to the ‘Hub’ portion.

Councillor MacKenzie congratulated those involved with planning and organizing their studies and plan. It was very professional and excellent work. It has come a long way from when it was first discussed.

Councillor MacKenzie suggested that there is a need for the 4-party meeting to include the Early Learning Centre; Village for interest-free loan; School Board for the land; and the County of Lambton for a commitment on the Best Start Hub funding.

Councillor MacKenzie asked if the tenders exceeded their estimates on the building, what would be done. Is there any back-up position? Mr. Bryant responded that there would be a Project Manager, Architect and Construction Company involved in the design and tendering process, all of whom have a lot of experience in this type of building. If it happened, they would look at options and alternatives that may be available.

Resolution #2

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Business Plan and Financial Feasibility Study for the expansion and relocation of the Point Edward Early Learning Centre be received for further review; and further that the Point Edward Early Learning Centre Inc. and the Village Finance Committee move forward to meet with the County of Lambton and the School Board.

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Regular Council meeting of March 24 2009.

Resolution #3

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 24, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

2. Special Council meeting of April 9, 2009.

Resolution #4

Moved by Councillor Hand

Seconded by Councillor Churchill

THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting of April 9, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

3. Regular Council meeting of April 14, 2009.

Resolution #5

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Regular Council meeting of April 14, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor MacKenzie advised that it has been agreed to place the boulder and memorial plaque in recognition of the heroic deeds of Captain Robert Earl Campbell south of the Bridges on the triangular portion of land, as per the original request.

Councillor MacKenzie advised that the storage shed behind the Bluewater Anglers building should be completed in two to three weeks.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. General Operations: Total Revenues for the month of March 2009.

Resolution #6

Moved by Councillor Churchill

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Total Revenues for the month of March, 2009 for General Operations in the amount of \$208,352.58, be approved.

CARRIED.

General Operations: Total Expenditures for the month of March 2009.

Resolution #7

Moved by Councillor Churchill

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Total Expenditures for the month of March, 2009 for General Operations in the amount of \$1,112,107.84, be approved.

CARRIED.

2. Water/WWTP Total Revenues for the month of March 2009.

Resolution #8

Moved by Councillor Churchill

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Total Revenues for the month of March, 2009 for the Water/WWTP Departments in the amount of \$131,118.03, be approved.

CARRIED.

Water/WWTP Total Expenditures for the month of March 2009.

Resolution #9

Moved by Councillor Churchill

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Total Expenditures for the month of March, 2009 for the Water/WWTP Departments in the amount of \$72,037.89, be approved.

CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Police Services Board meeting minutes of March 10, 2009.

Resolution #10

Moved by Mayor Kirkland

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Police Services Board meeting minutes of March 10, 2009, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

2. Blue Water Bridge Draft Technical Liaison Committee meeting minutes of March 19, 2009.

Resolution #11

Moved by Councillor Hand

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Blue Water Bridge Draft Technical Liaison Committee meeting minutes of March 19, 2009, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

3. Water/Waste Water Treatment Plant Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009.

Resolution #12

Moved by Councillor Hand

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Water/Waste Water Treatment Plant Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

4. Finance Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009.

Resolution #13

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Finance Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

5. Parks Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009.

Resolution #14

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Parks Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

6. Public Works Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009.

Resolution #15

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Public Works Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

7. Fire Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009.

Resolution #16

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT the Fire Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009, be adopted.

CARRIED.

8. Arena/Community Hall Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009

Resolution #17

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT the Arena/Community Hall Committee meeting minutes of April 14, 2009, be adopted.
CARRIED.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

1. News Release from the County of Lambton Office of the County Warden re: Inquest Concludes.

Resolution #18

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the News Release from the County of Lambton Office of the County Warden re: Inquest Concludes, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

2. Point Edward Building Permits Issued for 2009 updated April 23, 2009.

Resolution #19

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT the Point Edward Building Permits Issued for 2009 updated April 23, 2009, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

3. Point Edward Plumbing Permits Issued for 2009 summary for the month of March 2009.

Resolution #20

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Point Edward Plumbing Permits Issued for 2009 summary for the month of March 2009, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

4. Minutes from Tourism Sarnia-Lambton meeting of February 12, 2009.

Resolution #21

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Minutes from Tourism Sarnia-Lambton meeting of February 12, 2009, be received and filed.
CARRIED.

5. Point Edward O.P.P. Police Services Board Report April 14, 2009.

Resolution #22

Moved by Councillor Hand

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Point Edward O.P.P. Police Services Board Report April 14, 2009, be received and filed.
CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS (COUNCIL ACTION)

1. Letter from Clean Harbours re: Environmental Assessment to Develop Additional Waste Disposal.

Resolution #23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Letter from Clean Harbours re: Environmental Assessment to Develop Additional Waste Disposal, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

2. Letter from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Taxation of the Blue Water International Bridge.

Resolution #24

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT a letter be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Jim Watson to request a meeting to discuss the taxation of the Blue Water bridges.

CARRIED.

3. Letter from Wendy Blacklock re: requesting permission for use of the Pergola.

Resolution #25

Moved by Councillor Hand

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the request by Wendy Blacklock for permission to use the Waterfront Park pergola for her wedding, be approved subject to the standard conditions.

CARRIED.

4. Letter from Bridgeview Public School re: requesting temporary street closure.

Resolution #26

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the letter from Bridgeview Public School to request the temporary street closure for their Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart Day on Wednesday, May 13, 2009, be approved.

CARRIED.

5. Letter from the Alzheimer Society re: requesting use of the Waterfront Park.

Resolution #27

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the request from the Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton to use the Waterfront Park for a barbeque on Sunday, September 20, 2009 and to waive the park rental fees, be denied.

CARRIED.

6. Letter from the Polaris Institute re: Bottled Water alternatives.

Resolution #28

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the letter from Polaris Institute regarding bottled water alternatives, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

7. Letter from FCM re: Open Letter to Municipal Councils – Update on Federal Infrastructure Funding: from Minister John Baird and FCM President Jean Perrault.

Resolution #29

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT the Letter from FCM re: Open Letter to Municipal Councils – Update on Federal Infrastructure Funding: from Minister John Baird and FCM President Jean Perrault, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

8. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Budget Confirms Offsets for the Cost of PST/GST Harmonization and Anticipated Infrastructure Stimulus Investment.

Resolution #30

Moved by Councillor Churchill

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Budget Confirms Offsets for the Cost of PST/GST Harmonization and Anticipated Infrastructure Stimulus Investment, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

9. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: AMO Position on Bill 150, Green Energy and Green Economy Act.

Resolution #31

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Alert Member Communication from AMO re: AMO Position on Bill 150, Green Energy and Green Economy Act, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

10. Resolution from The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan requesting support re: Volunteer Firefighters Inclusion of Presumptive Legislation Regulation.

Resolution #32

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Village of Point Edward Council support the resolution from the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan to support the inclusion of volunteer firefighters in the presumptive legislation regulation.

CARRIED.

11. Resolution from The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands requesting support re: Removal of local land use planning controls for renewable energy facilities.

Resolution #33

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Councillor Churchill

THAT the Resolution from The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands requesting support re: Removal of local land use planning controls for renewable energy facilities, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

12. Resolution from The Town of Lakeshore re: Imposing a Restriction Window on In Line Municipal Drain Construction from March 15 to June 20 Throughout the Province.

Resolution #34

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Councillor Churchill

THAT the Village of Point Edward Council support the resolution from the Town of Lakeshore to request the Conservation Authorities, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Ontario to review each municipal drain project in a timely fashion and properly determine the appropriateness of applying the Ministry of Natural Resources fish spawning restriction window and the regulations contained within applicable Federal and Provincial Acts.

CARRIED.

13. Resolution from Tay Valley Township requesting support re: pan fish regulation.

Resolution #35

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Resolution from Tay Valley Township requesting support re: pan fish regulation, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVE AND FILE – LISTED

Listed as of April 23, 2009

1. Memo from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Long-Standing Service Awards.
2. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Province Announces Poverty Measures: new Housing Funding and Increase to Provincially Funded Ontario Child Benefit.
3. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Approval of the Used Tires Program Plan.
4. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Reminder: Federal Gas Tax Award Deadline May 15, 2009.
5. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Federal Gas Tax Funding Reaches Maturity for Municipalities.
6. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Energy Minister Extends Deadline for Public Sector Regulated Price Plan Edibility.
7. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Committee Hearings on the Green Energy Act.
8. FYI Member Communication from AMO re: Invitation to Consult – Great Lakes Vision, Goals and Strategies.
9. AMO fax re: MIDAS – The Municipal Information & Data Analysis System.
10. AMO re: registration form for Diverse City
11. LAS Communication re: Interval Meter Program Now available.
12. LAS E-mail re: LAS Audit – Report Results Coming soon.
13. LAS fax re: The Energy Management Tool.
14. FCM E-mail re: ACT Grand Deadline.

15. Alert Member Communication from AMO re: Energy Minister Extends Deadline for Public Sector Regulated Price Plan Eligibility.
16. Letter from Nestle Waters Canada re: environmental stewardship and health benefits associated with bottled water.
17. Letter from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration re: Lincoln M. Alexander Award 2009 call for nominations.
18. Letter from EPCOR re: Federal Government announces billions in new funding for municipal infrastructure.
19. Letter from Clearford Industries Inc. re: Government announces billions in new funding for municipal infrastructure.
20. Letter from the Greenbelt Foundation re: Greenbelt book attached.
21. MEOA – Municipal Equipment & Operations Association re: Spring Meeting Agenda.
22. OSUM – 56TH Annual OSUM Conference.
23. Newsletter from Source Water Protection dated January 2009.

Resolution #36

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Councillor Churchill

THAT the Communications – Receive and File – Listed, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Arena Improvements – Open House.

The Open House to review and discuss the Point Edward Arena Renovation plans is scheduled for May 11, 2009 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Municipal Office.

2. Grant applications.

Resolution #37

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT the following grant applications be completed and submitted for funding:

- Stimulus Fund – Bayview Storm Station upgrades; Alfred Street (from Michigan Ave. to Village boundary); and Kendall Street;
- Building Canada Fund – Venetian Blvd. (from Exmouth Street to Livingston Street);
- Recreational Fund – Point Edward Arena Renovations.

CARRIED.

3. OLG Point Edward

The OLG Point Edward celebration events are scheduled for May 1, 2009.

4. Coyotes

Resolution #38

Moved by Councillor Churchill

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the information received from the Ministry of Natural Resources relating to coyotes, be received and filed; and further that resident concerns be addressed in consultation with the Ministry.

CARRIED.

5. Human Trafficking

The information from Wilma McNeill regarding Human Trafficking was received.

6. H1N1 Influenza

The information from the County of Lambton Health Services Department on the H1N1 Influenza was received.

BY-LAWS

1. By-law No. 19 of 2009 being a By-law to Confirm the Resolutions of Point Edward Council which were Adopted up to and Including April 28, 2009.

Resolution #39

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Hand

THAT By-law No. 19 of 2009 being a By-law to Confirm the Resolutions of Point Edward Council which were Adopted up to and Including April 28, 2009, be given a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 28th day of April, 2009.

CARRIED.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS

Deputy Mayor Robson

Deputy Mayor Robson advised of the following upcoming events:

May 6 – McHappy Day;

May 14 – CrimeStoppers – Jail and Bail

May 1 – 20th Anniversary of the Strangway Centre

Councillor MacKenzie

The property at 25/27/29 Livingston has not been graded and restored following the demolition of two houses. Action is required to ensure that the property is cleaned up.

Two of the business signs need to be re-installed on the post on Front Street.

Councillor Hand

Councillor Hand reported a call that had been received from a concerned resident regarding a coyote on Bengarvie Street.

Councillor Hand reported a repair requirement for a walkway light.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #40

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Council Meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m. until the May 11, 2009 call of the Chair or at such time as a Special Committee meeting is held to discuss legal matters, property matters or personnel matters.

CARRIED.

Mayor Dick Kirkland

C.A.O./Clerk Peggy Cramp