

VILLAGE OF POINT EDWARD MINUTES

Council Meeting – September 13, 2005

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

Council Members Present:

Mayor Kirkland Deputy Mayor Robson
Councillor MacKenzie Councillor Bourrie

Staff Present:

CAO Cramp

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

DELEGATIONS

Cathy Eyre re: Update on Point Edward Nursery School/Day Care

Resolution #1

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT Council invite Cathy Eyre within the bar to provide an update on the Point Edward Nursery School/Day Care.

CARRIED.

Ms. Eyre advised Council that they have spent the year at the Church and the program has expanded. A grant was received for the window expansion. However, Ministry personnel suggest that the money not be spent on a leased building. The direction at this time is for day cares to be placed in public schools. As a result, they have not spent the money. Ms. Eyre has been in contact with Mr. Houghton, Principal of the Bridgeview Public School and they are 100% behind them. However, there is no room in the school. They have considered various classrooms but it would require changes to the school's existing programs, such as the resource centre. They are now leaning towards a portable. The Government's new initiative for Early Learning Centers is referred to as the "Best Start" program. There is one rural site to be chosen. Ms. Eyre asked Council for their direction, support and ideas as to where they should locate. The need is here. There are 27 children enrolled with 20 of them being from Point Edward. There are ten in the 'before' and 'after' school program, which is up from four.

Deputy Mayor Robson asked if the Board of Education would be involved with the changes. Ms. Eyre responded that they may finance the portable and the Nursery School may have to pay additional rent. Deputy Mayor Robson asked if the Ministry will approve the portable and she was advised that they would. Ms. Eyre noted that there is a kitchen and washroom facility together with two separate classrooms in the portable. Deputy Mayor Robson also noted that water and sewage connection would have to be considered.

Councillor Bourrie commented that he has heard that Bridgeview Public School is on a short list for closure. Will that create a problem? Will the equipment that the Village purchased for the Nursery School at the church be used. Ms. Eyre advised that it would go with them.

Deputy Mayor Robson noted that a letter has been received regarding the Bridgeview Public School. She has talked to Mr. Houghton and they feel that this program will be an enhancement to the school. The meetings that are scheduled are to discuss meeting the needs with declining enrollment.

Councillor Bourrie asked about the use of the kindergarten room since there is a smaller enrollment at the school. Ms. Eyre did not feel it would satisfy their space requirements.

Councillor MacKenzie commented that it is too practical to think it could work. He noted that the school has to be completely on board with it. When it happens, who picks up the tab. Ms. Eyre advised that they would pay a rental fee for the portable but that any assistance would be appreciated.

Councillor MacKenzie asked if they could use the funds that they have already received from the government toward the portable. She has been advised that this would be acceptable.

Ms. Eyre submitted a report that provides various options together with information on each option. She mentioned that a Porta-pak (adding a whole wing on to the school) would be their preference if they were chosen as the 'hub' school but if not, it would not likely be affordable.

Mayor Kirkland asked if she has talked to the County of Lambton. He would provide more contact information for her.

Ms. Eyre noted that the Superintendent of schools has been very impressed and helpful. Mayor Kirkland noted that he would hate to see portables but if that is what is needed, he would support it. It will strengthen the position of the school.

Councillor Bourrie commented that it is a great idea. He noted that spending money on a leased property was a concern that Council had expressed at the donation meetings. He noted that it should not be a problem to tie into the water or sewage.

Deputy Mayor Robson noted that they should ensure that anything that is brought into the school or portable remains the property of the Nursery School. She also advised that she supported the program that is being suggested and feels that it would be great if it were part of the school program.

Councillor MacKenzie asked if there would be any Union problems. Ms. Eyre advised that it is not likely because although they are on site, the program is theirs.

Mayor Kirkland reiterated that it was a great time to provide this information because Council will be going to the School Board meetings.

Caroline Martin commented that the portable would be owned by the company supplier and they would rent it from the company. It would be made the way they want it. They then lease the land or school property. The company maintains it.

Councillor Bourrie advised that he would rather put money into something like this, especially if it helps to keep the school open.

Ms. Eyre advised that she would keep in touch.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

1. Letter from Jack Rand, Chair, Point Edward Police Services Board re: recommendation to apply for grant towards an additional police officer for the Village

Resolution #2

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the grant be applied for an additional officer but that this resolution does not give the authority to hire an additional officer until such time as it is returned to Council for approval; and further that no commitment will be given to proceed with hiring unless federal funds become available.

CARRIED.

Resolution #3

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT Council supports a letter being forwarded to the federal government to request funding for the additional costs involved in policing the Bridge.

CARRIED.

2. Letter from Jack Rand, Chair, Point Edward Police Services Board re: recommended changes to the Noise By-law and establishment of Set Fines

Resolution #4

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the proposed Noise By-law be reviewed; and that it be rewritten for the next Council meeting.

CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS (COUNCIL ACTION)

1. Letter from the Canadian Cancer Society dated August 11, 2005 requesting approval for their walk through the Village of Point Edward re: "Taking Steps Against Breast Cancer"

Resolution #5

Moved by Councillor Bourrie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT Council approve the walk through the Village of Point Edward as requested by the Canadian Cancer Society subject to notification of the Point Edward OPP and the Fire Department and providing that a map of the route to be taken is submitted; and further that no markings be placed on the walkways or roads.

CARRIED.

2. Letter from Lambton Kent District School Board dated August 31, 2005 re: Community Consultation Meetings relating to Bridgeview Public School

Resolution #6

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT Mayor Kirkland sit on the Committee regarding community consultation relating to Bridgeview Public School.

CARRIED.

3. E-mail from Alex Jongsma dated September 1, 2005 expressing concern with the gating of the Front Street access to west Highway 402.

Resolution #7

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT a meeting be set up to further discuss the situation at the Front Street access ramp.

CARRIED.

4. Letter from Mayor Bradley dated September 2, 2005 re: closing of westbound access to Highway 402

Resolution #8

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the letter from Mayor Bradley regarding the closing of the westbound access to Highway 402, be received and filed.

CARRIED.

5. E-mail from Michael Lawley, Tourism Sarnia-Lambton re: recommendation to County of Lambton for single source funding for Tourism Sarnia-Lambton

Resolution #9

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Village of Point Edward Council recommend to County Council that there be a single source funding for Tourism Sarnia-Lambton and that the proposed letter be forwarded to the County.

CARRIED.

6. Letter from Jean and Rick Hopwood re: Quonset hut built on property owned by B. Sullivan

Resolution #10

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT Council support the letter received from Jean and Rick Hopwood; and that a copy of the letter be forwarded to Brian Sullivan providing Mr. & Mrs. Hopwood approve; and further that Council encourage the Committee of Adjustment to add conditions to their decision in the future to deal with situations like this.

CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Change in policy for 2006 Donations – draft letter to organizations

Resolution #11

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the draft letter be forwarded to all of the organizations who applied for a donation in 2006 indicating that no funding would be available for the year 2006, with the exception of the following organizations: Bridgeview Public School; Canada Day Committee; 2nd Point Edward Scouting Group; Bluewater Anglers; Point Edward Nursery School; Point Edward Minor Athletic Association; and Point Edward Figure Skating Club.

CARRIED.

2. COMRIF Applications

Resolution #12

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT consideration be given to the submission of any COMRIF applications that may be successful; and further that the C.A.O. decide if the previous application should be resubmitted.

CARRIED.

3. Design of Buildings

Resolution #13

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Village's planning documents be amended to deal with the design of accessory buildings to avoid an unsightly accessory building such as a Quonset hut being built again in the Village.

CARRIED.

4. Replacement of Hydrants

Councillor Bourrie advised Council that a hydrant will be replaced at Holmes Foundry and another one will be replaced across from the Holiday Inn, which will be part of the contingency for the ongoing work being carried out by the Bridge Authority on the Village's behalf.

BY-LAWS

1. By-law Number 27 of 2005, being a By-law to enter into Agreements with the Bluewater Bridge Authority – Discharge to storm and sanitary sewers

Resolution #14

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT By-law Number 27 of 2005, being a By-law to enter into Agreements with the Bluewater Bridge Authority – Discharge to storm and sanitary sewers, be given a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 13th day of September, 2005.

CARRIED.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS

Mayor Kirkland – discussion re: use of Huron Apts. as a Hospice

Mayor Kirkland advised Council that he does not want to deal with this matter until such time as the palliative care issue is settled because he is fully supportive of the continuation of the palliative care unit. However, in the event it is not saved, consideration should be given to a hospice being established at the Huron Apartments.

Councillor MacKenzie thanked all of the staff members including the volunteer firefighters for their assistance through the renovations being made at the Municipal Office.

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO AN 'IN CAMERA' SESSION

Resolution #15

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Village of Point Edward Council adjourn to an In Camera session, at 8:07 pm. to deal with personnel, legal and property acquisition issues.

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION TO RECONVENE TO REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION

Resolution #16

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT Council reconvene to regular Council Session, at 9 p.m.

CARRIED.

REPORT OF THE CLOSED SESSION MEETING OF COUNCIL

Resolution #17

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

That Council rise and report.

CARRIED.

Resolution #18

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT Council hire Alice Stephens to work in the Arena Canteen on a part-time basis.

CARRIED.

Resolution #19

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT due to sickness and a retirement of an Arena employee, a posting and an ad be placed for a permanent full-time employee to be hired for the General Labourer position.

CARRIED.

Resolution #20

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT Council hire Jennifer Sefton as a permanent full-time receptionist/receivables clerk.

CARRIED.

Resolution #21

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Village of Point Edward Council approve the payment of matching funds in the amount of \$700,000 to a grant provided through the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for erosion control and walkway between the Casino property and the Blue Water Bridge property subject to land acquisition.

Recorded Vote: Mayor Kirkland – Yea
Deputy Mayor Robson – Yea
Councillor MacKenzie – Yea
Councillor Bourrie – Yea

CARRIED.

Resolution #22

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor Bourrie

THAT a land use study be undertaken for all lands south of the Bluewater Bridge Authority, excluding the Casino, but including the spit lands lying between the St. Clair River and the Winter Harbour, it being noted that the study shall consider such matters as the possible realignment of Michigan Avenue and the nature and intensity of any development on all lands within the Study area;

AND FURTHER THAT the attached Interim Control By-law which purports to limit land use to existing uses on all lands south of the Bluewater Bridge Authority, excluding the Casino, but including the spit lands lying between the St. Clair River and the Winter Harbour pending the completion of the study noted in Clause 1 of the Agreement, be approved.

Recorded Vote: Mayor Kirkland – Yea
Deputy Mayor Robson – Yea
Councillor MacKenzie – Yea
Councillor Bourrie – Yea

CARRIED

Resolution #23

Moved by Councillor Bourrie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT By-law 29 of 2005, being a By-law to establish interim control provisions for the Village of Point Edward restricting land use to existing uses on all lands within the defined area, be given a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 13th day of September, 2005.

Recorded Vote: Mayor Kirkland – Yea
Deputy Mayor Robson – Yea
Councillor MacKenzie – Yea
Councillor Bourrie – Yea

CARRIED.

Resolution #24

Moved by Councillor Bourrie

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT the Village of Point Edward retain Richard Zelinka, Zelinka Priamo Ltd. as its planner to carry out the land use study for all lands south of the Bluewater Bridge Authority, excluding the Casino, but including the spit lands lying between the St. Clair River and the Winter Harbour.

Recorded Vote: Mayor Kirkland – Yea
Deputy Mayor Robson – Yea
Councillor MacKenzie – Yea
Councillor Bourrie – Yea

CARRIED

Resolution #25

Moved by Councillor Bourrie

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Robson

THAT the Village of Point Edward begin the expropriation process to acquire a parcel of land 50 feet in width of flat usable land along the edge of the St. Clair River, adjacent to lands owned by Cantaleigh Investments Ltd., north of the lands owned by the Ontario Lottery Corporation, west of Venetian Boulevard and south of Bluewater Bridge Authority property;

AND FURTHER THAT the Village of Point Edward retain an Ontario Land Surveyor to prepare a Reference Plan of the lands to be expropriated.

Recorded Vote: Mayor Kirkland – Yea
Deputy Mayor Robson – Yea
Councillor MacKenzie – Yea
Councillor Bourrie – Yea

CARRIED.

By-Law Number 28 of 2005, being a By-law to Confirm the Resolutions of Point Edward Council which were adopted up to and including September 13th, 2005.

Resolution #26

Moved by Deputy Mayor Robson

Seconded by Councillor MacKenzie

THAT By-Law Number 28 of 2005, being a By-law to Confirm the Resolutions of Point Edward Council which were adopted up to and including September 13th, 2005, be given a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 13th day of September, 2005.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #27

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie

Seconded by Councillor Bourrie

THAT the Council Meeting be adjourned at 9:07 p.m. until the September 27, 2005 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

CAO/Clerk Peggy Cramp