



**County
of Huron**

Committee of the Whole



Minutes - April 18, 2006

GODERICH, ONTARIO

Goderich, Ontario
April 18, 2006

The COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE met in the Court House at 9:00 a.m. with all members present except Councillor P. Klopp.

1. Minutes

Moved by J. Bezaire

Seconded by N. Rintoul

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of March 14, 2006 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment Request for Refund

Request from the Executors of the Estate of Marten Steenstra to refund a fee for an Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment for Lot 37, Concession 12, West Ward (Goderich Township), and Municipality of Central Huron.

The February Planning, Agriculture and Public Works report dealt with this item and it was amended at the March 2, 2006 County Council Session. The Procedural By-law No. 20, 2005, Part 14 (2) states: "Any standing rule or order of the Council may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present".

Mr. Bill Steenstra was in attendance to address the committee and distributed the attached materials. Mr. Steenstra's main concern is that he feels the family was not notified properly in writing and informed the committee that the family's intent was always to sever the property.

The Chair raised the question "that the Steenstra decision be suspended to reconsider the request for a \$1,000 reduction in the County of Huron OPA and Zoning fee".

Moved by J. Bezaire

Seconded by B. Dowson

That the matter of the Steenstra decision be suspended to reconsider the request for a \$1,000 reduction in the County of Huron OPA and Zoning fee.

CARRIED BY 2/3 VOTE

There was a lengthy discussion on the process of this OPA and Rezoning application with the Director of the Planning and Development Department answering questions of the committee.

Moved by B. MacLellan

Seconded by E. Connelly

That the County of Huron portion of \$2,675 for the OPA and Zoning fee be reduced by \$1,000 for the Estate of Marten Steenstra.

Councillor B. Dykstra requested a Recorded Vote.

RECORDED VOTE

YEAS: Van Diepenbeek, Urlin, Fergusson, Rintoul,
Connelly, Bezaire, Morley, Seili,
Layton, Dykstra, Kelly, = 11

NAYS: Rognvaldson, MacLellan, Oke,
Dowson, Scott, Shewfelt, = 6

ABSENT: Klopp = 1

MOTION CARRIED

3. Tiger Dunlop Tomb

Mr. Ed Cunningham requested a delegation to address the committee regarding the Tiger Dunlop Tomb. A photographic package was submitted which included: an estimate from Claude Guay, stone mason and additional items suggested to be scheduled for future improvements. (*Available in the Clerks' office upon request.*) Mr. Cunningham requested that the County of Huron review the funding for this project and consider doing the repairs immediately.

The February Cultural Services and Seniors report dealt with this item and it was discussed and adopted at the March 2, 2006 County Council Session. The Procedural By-law No. 20, 2005, Part 14 (2) states: "Any standing rule or order of the Council may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present".

Moved by B. MacLellan

Seconded by J. Seili

That the matter of the Dunlop Tomb be suspended to reconsider the request for immediate repairs.

CARRIED BY 2/3 VOTE

A lengthy discussion ensued with the Director of Cultural Services answering questions of the committee.

Moved by B. Van Diepenbeek

Seconded by D. Shewfelt

That staff be directed to proceed with renovations to the Dunlop Tomb and that \$9,000 from the Reserve for Contingencies be added to the existing \$1,000 budget for 2006 for a total available budget of \$10,000.

CARRIED

Moved by B. MacLellan

Seconded by D. Kelly

That a letter be sent to the Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC) to advise them of the County's \$10,000 repairs required for their leased area and further that ORC be requested to pay 50% of the renovation costs or waive the \$100 annual lease fee.

CARRIED

4. 2006 Budget and Additional Land Ambulance Funding

D. Carey, Treasurer, submitted the attached report (Appendix A) dated March 14, 2006 for the information of committee and Council. Nancy Rennick, Deputy Treasurer, presented the report.

The Treasurer is seeking guidance from the committee as to the handling of the announcement that the County will be receiving an additional \$600,166 in the form of an operating grant for land ambulance services.

There are two options available:

- 1) Do nothing and put the funds into reserve and utilize to minimize any levy increase for 2007.
- 2) Recognize the additional funding as revenue for 2006 and reduce the 2006 Council Approved Budget accordingly.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

Moved by D. Shewfelt

Seconded by D. Kelly

That Option number two be utilized to recognize the additional Provincial Funding of \$600,166 as revenue for 2006 and adjust the 2006 Council Approved Budget accordingly.

Councillor D. Shewfelt requested a Recorded Vote.

RECORDED VOTE

YEAS: Kelly, Bezaire, Seili, Oke, Morley,
Fergusson, Shewfelt, Connelly,
Layton, Scott, Urlin, Van Diepenbeek,
Rognvaldson, Dowson = 14

NAYS: MacLellan, Rintoul, Dykstra = 3

ABSENT: Klopp = 1

MOTION CARRIED

**Moved by D. Shewfelt
Seconded by M. Scott**

That the decision to adopt the 2006 Budget be suspended to reconsider adjusting the County levy requirements.

CARRIED BY 2/3 VOTE

**Moved by D. Shewfelt
Seconded by J. Fergusson**

That 2006 Operating Budget include the \$600,166 in ambulance funding.

CARRIED

5. 2006 Tax Rates and Ranges of Fairness

D. Carey, Treasurer, submitted the attached report (Appendix B) dated March 14, 2006 for the information of committee and Council. Nancy Rennick, Deputy Treasurer, presented the report and answered questions of the committee.

1. It is recommended that the transition ratios for 2006 tax purposes remain at the same level as 2005 and at the top of the ranges of fairness as follows:

Residential	1.0
Multi-residential	1.1
Commercial	1.1
Industrial	1.1
Pipelines	0.7
Farmlands	0.25
Managed Forests	0.25

2. It is further recommended that a by-law be enacted to set the County tax rates for 2006 as follows:

Residential	0.00610682
Multi-residential	0.00671751
Farmlands	0.00152671
Commercial	0.00671751
Industrial	0.00671751
Pipelines	0.00427478
Managed Forests	0.00152671

3. It is further recommended that the following be adopted to establish a maximum increase threshold as the greater of:
 - i. 10% of the previous year's annualized capped classes; and
 - ii. 5% of the previous year's annualized CVA tax eligible property; and
 - iii. imposing a threshold adjustment for capped properties where the required billing adjustment (credit only) is within \$250 of the properties' CVA tax; in this instance, no capping credit would be applied, and the affected property would be billed at its full CVA tax level;

and that the necessary by-law be passed stating that the above paragraph applies to the calculation of the amount of taxes for municipal and school purposes payable in respect of the property in the commercial, industrial and multi-residential classes for 2006.

4. It is further recommended that the necessary by-law be passed stating the County will impose an 80% threshold on the tax level for eligible new construction for 2006.

Moved by D. Shewfelt

Seconded by D. Kelly

That the recommendations be approved and the necessary by-laws be passed.

CARRIED

It was noted that staff would make revisions to recommendation number 2 in the Treasurer's report to reflect the motion passed to include the ambulance funding in the 2006 Operating Budget.

6. Human Resources - Policies and Procedures

Richard Hulley, Director of Human Resources, presented the attached report (Appendix C).

a) Other Holidays

It is recommended that Policy No. 3.2 "Other Holidays" be approved.

Moved by J. Bezaire

Seconded by B. Dowson

That Policy No. 3.2 "Other Holidays" be approved.

CARRIED

b) Jury and Witness Duty

It is recommended that Policy No. 3.8 "Jury and Witness Duty" be approved.

Moved by M. Scott

Seconded by K. Oke

That Policy No. 3.8 "Jury and Witness Duty" be approved.

CARRIED

7. WSIB Schedule 2

Darcy Michaud, Health and Safety Manager, presented the report (Appendix D) which outlines the details of the savings to the County and the process and methods used for Schedule 2.

It was noted that this is a good news report and that the County and staff should be proud of this accomplishment. The Health and Safety Manger hopes to include more focus on prevention, rewards, and incentive building in the future contingent on budget availability.

Moved by D. Shewfelt

Seconded by D. Kelly

That the report be received.

CARRIED

8. Epilepsy, Huron-Perth-Bruce

The attached correspondence from Caroline Simons, Executive Director, Epilepsy, Huron-Perth-Bruce was received March 29, 2006. The Board of Directors is requesting a further one year lease with the County of Huron for the office at the Jacob Memorial Building. The CAO requested direction on this matter.

The committee discussed whether the County of Huron needed to utilize this space in the near future and also discussed the possibility of revising the lease to phase in a rental increase to realize full cost recovery. A discussion ensued.

Moved by B. MacLellan

Seconded by E. Connelly

That the correspondence be received and that Huron-Perth-Bruce Epilepsy lease be extended to June 30, 2007; and further that a letter be sent advising them that the County is conducting a capacity needs study and that it may affect their current lease conditions in future.

CARRIED

9. Correspondence Attached – For Information

- a) AMO – Member Communication – Alert / For Your Information
 - Omers Bill 206, Status of Supplemental Plans
 - Update on Proposed Amendment to Municipal Council Term
 - Municipal Act Reform, Update
 - Municipalities/DSSABs Receive Additional Funding for Land Ambulance Services
 - 2000 Provincial Budget Offers No Real Plan for Municipalities (*Package available in Clerks office on request.*)
 - 2006 Energy Matters Conference, Announcements and Synopsis
- b) Ministry of Natural Resources, Hon. David Ramsay, Minister, correspondence received March 6, 2006 regarding the GeoSmart program.
- c) OGRA/ROMA Combined Conference, newsletter dated March 2, 2006 regarding “Conference Sessions now on-line”, www.ogra.org.
- d) Notice of Decision, Official Plan Amendment, Township of North Huron.
- e) Frank Cowan Company, News & Views, February 2006. *Package available in Clerks office on request.*
- f) Ontario Provincial Police, 2006 Business Plan, Huron Detachment, received March 2, 2006. (*Package available in Clerks office on request.*)
- g) 2006 Census (*Package available in Clerks office on request.*)

- h) Minutes of the annual meeting of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority dated February 16, 2006. (*Package available in Clerks office on request.*)
- i) Correspondence received from County of Huron, Director of Planning, Scott Tousaw dated March 21, 2006 regarding County investigations of the long-term potential of the Wingham Landfill site.
- j) MPAC, Debbie Zimmerman, Chair, MPAC Board of Directors correspondence received March 28, 2006 regarding Ontario Ombudsman's report.
- k) Ottawa Office, Paul Steckle, M.P. Huron-Bruce, regarding Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition.
- l) Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman, Minister, regarding grant funding adjustment of \$600,166.
- m) Ministry of Transportation, George Hesketh, Resources Management, received payment of \$2,537,120 for Improving Roads and Bridges Budget Initiative.
- n) Ministry of Community and Social Services, Peter Steckenreiter, Regional Director, regarding internal strategic directions document "Thriving Communities". (*Available in Clerks office on request.*)
- o) Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, Media Releases (*Available in Clerks office on request.*)
 - Conservationist of the Year to be honoured on March 16
 - Volunteers sought to 'spruce up' Hay Swamp
 - Old Ausable Channel Public Meeting to discuss long-term management strategy
 - Students research sustainable practices in groundbreaking learning experience
 - Huron County Clean Water Project to fund water protection projects
 - Column series: Conservation's Pioneers
 - Students research sustainable practices in groundbreaking learning experience
- p) Press Release April 13, 2006, Middlesex County, re: Reyecraft a Candidate for AMO President.

q) Resolutions

- Municipality of Durham Region re: Removal of Barriers to Family Physicians.
- City of Kingston re: request for Corrections Canada to reconsider placement of long-time sex and violence related offender at Portsmouth Community Correctional Centre and to review application of long-term supervision orders.
- City of Owen Sound re: Municipal Financial Crisis.

Moved by D. Shewfelt
Seconded by J. Seili
That this document be endorsed.

CARRIED

- Township of King re: supportive of current efforts of the Ontario Farmland Trust.
- County of Grey re: Municipal Financial Crisis.
- County of Brant re: Report of the Expert Panel on Water and Wastewater Strategy.
- Township of Malahide re: availability of doctors in Ontario.
- City of Kawartha Lakes re: proposed Clean Water Act.

Moved by B. Dykstra
Seconded by J. Bezaire
That this document be endorsed.

CARRIED

- Town of Caledon re: income crisis on Ontario's farms.

Moved by J. Bezaire
Seconded by B. Dykstra
That this document be endorsed.

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION

10. Accounts and Financial Statements

Accounts for March 2006 were reviewed.

Members of Council	\$8,754.61
Corporate	\$1,325,677.37

Financial statements for the period ending February 28, 2006 were reviewed.

	REVENUE		EXPENDITURES		COUNTY CONTRIBUTION	
	Actual	Prorated	Actual	Prorated	Actual	Prorated
Council			48,006	59,741	48,006	59,741
General Gov't	6,086,038	6,157,184	1,458,476	1,395,322	(4,627,562)	(4,761,862)

Moved by B. MacLellan
Seconded by D. Layton
That the accounts and financial statements be received.

CARRIED

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

12. Adjournment

Moved by J. Seili
Seconded by E. Connelly
That the meeting adjourn at 11:38 a.m. and be declared a full day meeting for those in attendance for more than two and half hours.

CARRIED

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Chair

3. Tiger Dunlop Tomb

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