

**THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH
COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL**

MARCH 21ST, 2005

7:00 p.m. The meeting convened with His Worship, Mayor Jeff Kohler, presiding.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Mayor J. Kohler
Alderman B. Aarts
 C. Barwick
 H. Chapman
 T. Johnston
 T. Shackelton
 M. Turvey
 D. Warden

Officials

W. Graves, City Clerk
W. Day, Director of Finance & City Treasurer
F. Lattanzio, Community Centres & Property Manager
D. Morgan, Manager of Culture and Recreation
J. Dewancker, Director Environmental Services
R. Lyons, Fire Chief
G. Dart, Director Human Resources
I. Andersen, Manager of Operations
P. Hegler, Manager Engineering
R. Tucker, Parks Manager
M. Sture, Supervisor, Roads and Transportation
D. Arndt, Airport Superintendent
C. Hinatsu, Ontario Works Director
M. Carroll, Valleyview Administrator
R. Barber, Deputy Fire Chief
P. Keenan, Planning Director
R. Beachey, Deputy City Clerk
B. Maciejowski, Accountant
K. Demare, Ontario Works Program Manager

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

NIL.

MINUTES

Motion by Alderman Warden - Turvey:

THAT: The minutes of the meetings held on March 14th 2005 be confirmed.

Carried.

DEPUTATIONS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Council resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Chairman H. Chapman

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Chairman M. Turvey

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CITY CLERK _____ CONFIRMED _____ MAYOR _____

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Wayside Dining Lounge, Talbotville - Request to Dump Wastewater - Appendix "A"

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The request by the Talbotville Wayside Dining Lounge for the disposal of waste water at the City's Water Pollution Control Plant be denied.

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

PERSONNEL AND LABOUR RELATIONS COMMITTEE - Chairman D. Warden

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Ontario Works Intake Screening - Appendix "B"

Motion by Alderman Chapman - Turvey:

THAT: Council approve the hiring of an Intake Clerk within the Ontario Works Department effective immediately; and,

THAT: The Intake Clerk position be added to the current staff complement.

Carried.

Request for Staff - Child Care Supervisor - Appendix "C"

Motion by Alderman Barwick - Johnston:

THAT: Report CR-05-04 be postponed until the 2nd Monday in April so that further cost projections can be prepared and presented.

Carried.

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - Chairman C. Barwick

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

2005 Budget

Alderman Barwick read his letter of submittal relating to the Budget.

The Director of Finance and City Treasurer provided a power point presentation which highlighted the City's financial position in relationship to other like size communities and also provided a forecast relating to the City's finances in future years.

The members commended Alderman Barwick, Mayor Kohler and staff for all of their work in developing the budget.

Alderman Turvey inquired about the effect of the budget on property taxes.

Alderman Barwick stated that the combined municipal and education increase would be 3.1 percent for residential.

CITY CLERK _____ CONFIRMED _____ MAYOR

The 14th meeting of the 125th Council - 3

Alderman Shackelton requested, and Council by consensus concurred, that the Director of Finance and City Treasurer check to see if the City was required by the Province to have a Tax Stabilization Reserve.

Alderman Shackelton inquired about the inclusion of \$60,000 for the decommissioning of Northside Arena.

The Director of Finance and City Treasurer responded that a report would be coming to Council in the near future regarding Northside Arena.

Alderman Barwick stated that it was better to have some funds identified rather than try to find them later.

Alderman Shackelton inquired about the reduction in the transit portion of the budget.

The Supervisor of Roads and Transportation commented that this reduction was a good news story because of increased revenue streams.

Alderman Turvey recommended that in the future a separate list be provided of all grants being provided within the budget.

Alderman Shackelton suggested, and Council concurred, that the Director of Finance and City Treasurer be directed to review the concept of providing funds to the Community Foundation in lieu of direct grants from within the City's budget.

Alderman Shackelton suggested, and Council concurred, that staff be directed to review the existing costs associated with the contracting out work to see if there were any efficiencies to be made by bringing the work in house.

Alderman Aarts inquired about the effect of extending the debt timeline further for the St. Thomas-Elgin Community Centre / Twin Pad Arena.

The Director of Finance and City Treasurer responded that this would increase the interest costs and that he believed that the shorter time frame for this project was fiscally responsible.

Alderman Turvey inquired about the amount of funds allocated for sidewalk work.

Alderman Barwick stated that once Council members understood the level of COMRIF funding they might be able to consider a larger allocation to sidewalks.

Mayor Kohler stated that it would be valuable for Council to have an understanding about the final reserve amounts that the City should have.

Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Reserve

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: A Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Reserve be established.

Carried.

Facilities Reserve

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: A Facilities Reserve be created.

Carried.

Community Centres Major Maintenance Reserve

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

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THAT: A Community Centres Major Maintenance Reserve be created.

Carried.

Tax Stabilization Reserve/Working Reserve

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The current Tax Stabilization Reserve be renamed Working Reserve.

Carried.

Part II Capital

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: Council adopt Part 2 Capital as included in the budget.

Carried.

Capital Project Close Out

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: Council approve Report TR-15-05, Capital Project Close Out.

Carried.

City Grant Program

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The City's grant program, except for exceptional circumstances, not be increased.

Carried.

Development Charges Reserve Funds

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The Treasurer submit a report to Council in the fall of 2005 regarding access to existing Development Charges Reserve Funds based on previous capital expenditures.

Carried.

Paperless Agenda

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The Treasurer report to the Committee on the "paperless agenda" during the next year.

Carried.

2005 Expenditures and Revenues

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The appropriate resolutions and by-laws be prepared to reflect gross expenditures of \$78,226,774 and gross non-tax revenues of \$47,176,774.

Carried.

2005 Operating Budget

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Shackelton:

THAT: The Operating Budget for 2005 be approved that will generate revenue from property taxation of \$31,050,000.

Carried.

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - Chairman B. Aarts

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly Report St. Thomas-Elgin Community Centre/Twin Pad Arena - Appendix "D"

Mr. Lucas Smith, MHPM Project Management, provided the monthly report on the construction of the St. Thomas-Elgin Community Centre/Twin Pad Arena.

In his comments Mr. Smith stated that an evaluation is currently underway to determine if there may be a potential claim as a result of weather. Mr. Smith also stated that the contract documents between the City and Norlon Builders were almost finalized and that their effect would be retroactive to the date of the Letter of Intent.

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Johnston:

THAT: The February 2005 Monthly Report for the St. Thomas-Elgin Community Centre/Twin Pad Arena be received.

Carried.

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

PROTECTIVE SERVICES & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - Chairman T. Shackelton

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Police Services Report

Constable Glenn Hodgson was in attendance and presented the monthly Police Services Report.

Bridge Repair - Appendix "E"

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Aarts:

THAT: Report ES-27-05, Bridge Repair, be received for information.

Carried.

Mr. Mark Sture, Supervisor, Roads and Transportation

Alderman Shackelton, on behalf of Council, commended Mr. Sture for his service to the City and wished him well as he moves on to a new position.

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

REPORTS PENDING

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAW 44-2000(REGULATION OF WATER SUPPLY IN THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS) - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. THOMAS ENERGY INC. (PROVISION OF WATER METER READING/BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICES) - J. Dewancker

ESDA SERVICING MASTER PLAN AND CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - J. Dewancker

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LAND USE – P. Keenan

SAFETY ISSUES AND INTERSECTION CONCERNS – M. Sture

CIVIL MARRIAGES SOLEMNIZATION – W. Graves

DRIVEWAY RECONSTRUCTION – MAPLE STREET - J. Dewancker

REVIEW OF CITY BUS ROUTES – J. Dewancker

PROCLAMATIONS – W. Graves

COUNCIL

Council reconvened into regular session.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Planning and Development Committee - Chairman H. Chapman

Environmental Services Committee - Chairman M. Turvey

Personnel and Labour Relations Committee - Chairman D. Warden

Finance and Administration Committee - Chairman C. Barwick

Community and Social Services Committee - Chairman B. Aarts

Protective Services and Transportation Committee - Chairman T. Shackelton

Motion by Alderman Aarts – Turvey:

THAT: The recommendations, directions and actions of Council in Committee of the Whole as recorded in the minutes of this date be confirmed, ratified and adopted.

Carried.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Elgin's Family Fair

An invitation was received from Christie Bubel, Elgin's Family Fair Planning Committee, to the Elgin's Family Fair being held on Saturday, April 9, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. at the St. Thomas Seniors' Centre.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Position

Report TF-01-05 of the Mayor's Task Force will be considered in March 2005.

NEW BUSINESS

BY-LAWS

Motion by Alderman Shackelton - Chapman:

THAT: Leave be granted to bring in the following by-laws:

1. A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting held on the 21st day of March, 2005.
2. A by-law to amend By-Law 50-88, being the Zoning By-Law for the City of St. Thomas. (Youth Recreation Centre - 15 Hiawatha Street)

Carried.

First and Second Readings

Motion by Alderman Shackelton - Chapman:

THAT: The by-laws be now read a first time, referred to Council in Committee of the Whole and read a second time.

Carried.

Alderman B. Aarts was appointed Chairman of Council in Committee of the Whole and conducted the second reading of the by-laws.

On motion duly moved and seconded, the Chairman was ordered to report on the passing of the by-laws. The Chairman reported as ordered and the Mayor resumed the Chair.

Third Reading

Motion by Alderman Shackelton - Chapman:

THAT: The report of Council in Committee of the Whole on the following by-laws be received and adopted, the same be read a third time, engrossed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed and numbered.

1. A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting held on the 21st day of March, 2005. (B/L 41-2005)
2. A by-law to amend By-Law 50-88, being the Zoning By-Law for the City of St. Thomas. (Youth Recreation Centre - 15 Hiawatha Street) (B/L 42-2005)

Carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE

2005 Budget

Council will deal with the 2005 Budget on March 29, 2005.

NOTICES OF MOTION

City Council Appointments

Alderman Warden put forth the following Notice of Motion.

Motion by Alderman Warden:

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THAT: The current Finance Chairman, Alderman Cliff Barwick, maintain this position for the remainder of this Council's Term.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Turvey:

THAT: We do now rise and adjourn. (9:27 p.m.)

Carried.