

**THE TENTH MEETING OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH
COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL**

MARCH 28TH, 2006

6:00 p.m. The meeting convened with His Worship, Mayor Jeff Kohler, presiding.

Special Meeting

This special meeting was called to deal with the 2006 Budget.

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
I. Andersen, Manager of Operations & Compliance
D. Arndt, Airport Superintendent
R. Barber, Fire Chief
R. Beachey, Deputy City Clerk
M. Carroll, Valleyview Administrator
B. Clement, Manager of Engineering
L. Coates, St. Thomas Police Department
G. Dart, Director, Human Resources
W. Day, Director of Finance & City Treasurer
J. Dewancker, Director, Environmental Services
C. Fiddy, Water & Waste Water Supervisor
O. Jensen, Deputy Fire Chief
T. Johnson, Accounting Manager
P. Keenan, Director of Planning
C. Kneeshaw, Chief Librarian
F. Lattanzio, Community Centres & Property Manager
W. Lynch, Police Chief
D. Morgan, Culture and Recreation Manager
E. Sebestyen, Housing Administrator
R. Tucker, Parks Supervisor
R. Wheeler, Economic Development Manager
D. White, Supervisor of Roads & Transportation

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Alderman Warden declared a conflict of interest relating to the Sunset Drive/Southdale Line Intersection Improvement and Signalization capital project as he is a resident of Sunset Drive. He refrained from all discussion and action relating to this matter.

Alderman Warden declared a conflict of interest relating to funding for the St. Thomas Seniors' Centre within the 2006 budget as he is employed at the Seniors' Centre. He refrained from all discussion and action relating to this matter.

Alderman Shackelton declared a conflict of interest relating to Report TR-14-06 as he is a member of CUPE. He refrained from all discussion and action resulting to this matter.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Council resolved itself into Committee of the Whole

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE - Chairman C. Barwick

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

2006 Budget Overview

Chairman Barwick present his letter of submittal relating to the 2006 Budget stating that this was

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a good news budget and that it reflected financial responsibility and phenomenal growth in the city.

Chairman Barwick stated that the 2006 Budget reflected a 1.9% tax increase.

The Director of Finance & City Treasurer provided a power point presentation, which gave an overview of the City's financial position.

Part 2 Capital Budget Discussion

Memorial Arena Painting

The members discussed the capital project relating to the painting of Memorial Arena including the timing of the work relative to a building assessment that is being undertaken and also the quality of paint that would be used.

The Community Centres and Property Manager stated that the painting project and the building assessment would be parallel processes and further that appropriate quality paints would be used.

East Side Development Area Servicing

The members discussed the timing of the design work for the servicing of the East Side Development Area.

The Director, Environmental Services stated that the design work would take approximately 9 months to one year to complete and that there would be other related activities undertaken at the same time including discussions with the Municipality of Central Elgin regarding cost sharing for the servicing.

Pinafore Park Bandshell

The members discussed the timing of the demolition of the old bandshell at Pinafore Park in relation to the Seniors' Picnic.

The Parks Supervisor stated that parks staff would be working with the Seniors' group to ensure a successful picnic.

Road Resurfacing

The members discussed a desire to have a list of the roads that are included in the road resurfacing program.

The Director, Environmental Services stated that the 2006 budget allocation would fund about 1.8 km. of resurfacing and that there was a total of approximately 50 km. of roads requiring surfacing.

Chairman Barwick asked that the members be provided with a printout of the roads requiring resurfacing.

Part 2 Capital Budget

Motion by Alderman Aarts - Shackelton:

THAT: Council adopt the Part 2 Capital Budget, excluding the Sunset Drive/Southdale Line Intersection Improvements as identified in the 2006 Budget Document.

Prior to considering the main motion, an amendment relating to the following matter was considered.

Dennis Road Project

The members discussed the funding source for the Dennis Road project as coming from the St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation reserves.

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Chairman Barwick stated that this source of funding was a recommendation that would need to be approved by the Board of the St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation.

The members discussed the Paterson Planning Report that had been approved in 2000 identifying an action plan for funding to service industrial land.

A request was made to deal with the motion by recorded vote.

Motion by Mayor Kohler - Alderman Aarts:

THAT: The Part 2 Capital Budget for Item 13.2 relating to the funding of Dennis Road be funded from working reserves rather than from the EDC funding.

Recorded Vote

<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Mayor Kohler	Alderman C. Barwick
Alderman B. Aarts	H. Chapman
M. Turvey	T. Johnston
	T. Shackelton
	D. Warden

Motion Lost.

The main motion was dealt with as follows:

Motion by Alderman Aarts - Shackelton:

THAT: Council adopt the Part 2 Capital Budget, excluding the Sunset Drive/Southdale Line Intersection Improvements as identified in the 2006 Budget Document.

Carried.

Sunset Drive/Southdale Line Intersection Improvement and Signalization

Motion by Alderman Shackelton - Chapman:

THAT: Council include the Sunset Drive/Southdale Line Intersection Improvement and Signalization in the Part 2 Capital Budget at an estimated cost of \$300,000.

Carried.

City Hall Clocktower Brickwork - Appendix "A"

Motion by Alderman Shackelton - Aarts:

THAT: Council receive Report TR-16-06 relating to the costs of repairing the brickwork in the clock tower as information; and further,

THAT: Council award the contract to repair the brickwork to Roof Tile Management at an estimated cost of \$16,500; and further,

THAT: Council approve a budget of \$16,500 in Part Two of the 2006 Capital Budget, it being noted that the funding for project number 10.2 Traffic Signal Display Replacement will be reduced by \$16,500 to accommodate the brickwork repairs.

Carried.

General Budget Matters

Capital Account Closeout - Appendix "B"

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Turvey:

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THAT: Report TR-12-06 be received; and further,

THAT: The capital projects listed in Schedule "A" of Report TR-12-06 be closed where indicated; and further,

THAT: Any funding adjustment indicated in Schedule "A" be made as outlined in Report TR-12-06.

Carried.

Bill 124 - Amendment to the Building Code Act - Appendix "C"

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Warden:

THAT: Pursuant to Report TR 13-06 respecting Bill 124 - Amendment to the Building Code Act:

1. Council authorize the establishment of a Building Permit Fee Stabilization Reserve Fund: it being noted that \$100,000 will be transferred into the Reserve Fund from 2005 deferred revenue; and,

2. Council establish a Building Permit Fee Stabilization Reserve Fund target of one hundred and twenty-five percent of the annual direct and indirect costs for delivering building related services.

Carried.

Tax Ratios

Motion by Alderman Warden - Mayor Kohler:

THAT: Council request the Minister of Finance to prescribe a new set of revenue neutral transition ratios for the City of St. Thomas for 2006 pursuant to Section 308 of the Ontario Municipal Act.

Carried.

2006 Operating Budget Discussion

St. Thomas Seniors' Centre

A request was made to deal with the following motion by recorded vote.

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Chapman:

THAT: Council approve \$30,000 in funding for the Seniors' Centre to be included in the 2006 Budget.

Recorded Vote

Yeas

Nays

Mayor Kohler

Alderman B. Aarts

C. Barwick

H. Chapman

T. Johnston

T. Shackelton

M. Turvey

Pecuniary Interest

Alderman D. Warden

Carried.

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Gross Expenditures and Non-tax Revenues

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Warden:

THAT: Council direct administration to the appropriate resolutions and by-laws be prepared to reflect gross expenditures of \$82,232,842 and gross non-tax revenues of \$49,167,842.

Carried.

Teen Centre Funding

Chairman Barwick stated that he had received an operational budget from the Teen Centre but that time did not allow it to be circulated to all members.

Some members expressed concern because they were not in receipt of the budget information.

Chairman Barwick stated that should this motion pass, the Teen Centre would have to resubmit a request again in 2007.

A request was made to deal with the following motion by recorded vote.

Motion by Alderman Aarts - Mayor Kohler:

THAT: The funding for the Teen Centre be increased to \$25,000 from \$10,000.

Recorded Vote

<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Mayor Kohler	Alderman C. Barwick
Alderman B. Aarts	T. Johnston
H. Chapman	
T. Shackelton	
M. Turvey	
D. Warden	

Carried.

2006 Operating Budget Amount

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Shackelton:

THAT: The operating budget for 2006 be approved, it being noted that the property tax levy will be \$33,065,000.

Carried.

User Fee Adjustment Requests

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Aarts:

THAT: Council approve Schedules "A" and "B" (User Fee Adjustment Requests) of the 2006 Budget letter of submittal.

Carried.

St. Thomas Community Centre Staffing - Appendix "D"

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Turvey:

THAT: Report TR 14-06 relating to Community Centre staffing be received; and further,

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THAT: Council approve the hiring of two six month Temporary Labourers in the Arena Section from mid-September to mid-March.

Carried.

Transit Station

Alderman Warden commented about the Transit Station being closed on Saturdays and the fact that people could not buy tickets on that day.

St. Thomas Community Centre

Alderman Warden requested that the operating budget for the St. Thomas Community Centre be kept under control in future years.

St. Thomas Community Centre Capital Fundraising

Alderman Warden inquired about the amount of funds that had been transferred from the capital campaign to the City.

The Director of Finance & City Treasurer stated that approximately \$850,000 was in the City's bank account to date and that the amount to be raised by the capital campaign was not included in the bridge financing for the project.

2006 Budget in Summary

The members thanked the Chairman of Finance and the staff for the work they had done to prepare the budget.

Mayor Kohler stated that the entire Corporation deserves credit for the budget and that it should promote business in the community.

BUSINESS CONCLUDED

COUNCIL

Council reconvened into regular session.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Finance and Administration Committee - Chairman C. Barwick

Motion by Alderman Turvey - Aarts:

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.

OPEN SESSION

BY-LAWS

Motion by Alderman Chapman - Shackelton:

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

1. A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting held on the 28th day of March, 2006.

Carried.

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First and Second Readings

Motion by Alderman Chapman - Shackelton:

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

Carried.

Alderman C. Barwick 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 Chapman - Shackelton:

THAT: The report of Council in Committee of the Whole on the following by-law 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 28th day of March, 2006. (B/L 30-2006)

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Alderman Johnston - Aarts:

THAT: We do now adjourn. (8:40 p.m.)

Carried.