

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS
CIP EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**ROOM 204
CITY HALL**

May 6, 2016

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Councilor Linda Stevenson
Beth Burns, Chair, DDB
Russell Schnurr, Heritage Committee

Officials

Wendell Graves, City Manager
Matt Smale, Corporate Administrative Clerk

Regrets

Councilor Joan Rymal
Tino Clark, Heritage Committee

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on March 18, 2016 were confirmed as circulated.

Disclosures of Interest

Nil

Project Applications

492 Talbot Street - Mugford Shoes

The members were in receipt of the project application and a depiction of the proposed front façade for Mugford Shoes at 429 Talbot Street.

The members discussed the fact that the façade work coincided with an expansion of the original store into a neighbouring unit. It would be preferable to have the same brick and windows contiguous along both lower storefronts. They requested that the City Manager forward this suggestion to the applicant.

The members expressed appreciation to the applicants for expanding their business and investing in the downtown area.

Moved by: Coun. Stevenson - R. Schnurr:

THAT: The CIP Evaluation Committee recommend approval of the application for 492 Talbot Street - Mugford Shoes.

Carried.

New Business

Heritage Conservation District

The Municipal Heritage Committee continued to work towards establishing a heritage conservation district on Talbot Street. An RFP would be developed to engage a consultant to complete the process. It was anticipated that the RFP would be ready in June.

As part of the preparation of the plan, a consultant would undertake public consultation and district boundary delineation.

A heritage conservation district would protect the streetscape and facades. Specific properties could still receive additional protection through individual heritage designations.

230 Talbot Street - Proposed Ontario Works Location

The City Manager advised that an RFP for architectural services for the proposed Ontario Works hub at 230 Talbot Street in the west end would close within the next week with a report to be before Council soon after to award the contract.

A process was also underway to complete some analysis of the Curtis block area containing City Hall, Library, Justice Building, parking lots and the L&PS Corridor.

Mr. Schnurr stated that Fanshawe college would be hosting a design competition with prize money being awarded to winning projects. The Curtis block may be selected as area to be evaluated as part of that competition.

Unfinished Business

633 Talbot Street - Vector Holdings

Mr. Martin had begun work on his building at 633 Talbot Street. Workers were on site cleaning and repairing bricks along John Street.

Kettle Creek Properties - Ross and Centre

Site cleanup and preparation was underway for this project. The Committee would be asked to meet once finalized site plans were received.

Other Business

Sutherland Press Building

The City Manager advised that the court process continues regarding the Sutherland Press building. The next hearing was scheduled for May 17, 2016.

CIP Program Promotion

The City Manager advised that sandwich boards had been delivered. The boards could be displayed at CIP funding recipient properties.

BIA Conference

The Chair stated that she had recently attended a conference of BIA representatives from around the Province. One of the trends being seen was that many communities were establishing or increasing CIP type incentives.

The members discussed the possibility of encouraging CIP work in conjunction with construction projects so that businesses could complete work when traffic flows were slower anyways.

Municipal Heritage Projects

Mr. Schnurr advised that a student would begin work for the Municipal Heritage Committee for the summer in the near future. Part of that student's role may be to work on some walking maps.

The Heritage Committee continues to receive some questions from property owners interested in heritage tax incentives. This may be an issue that the Committee discusses in detail with Council in future.

Next Meeting

To be determined.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m