

**Meeting No. 3**

**Date: January 26th, 2010**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Location: Sydenham**

**Present: Mayor, Gary Davison  
Councillors, Larry York  
Bill Robinson  
David Hahn  
Jim Hicks  
Allan McPhail  
Del Stowe  
Ron Vandewal**

**Regrets: John Fillion**

**Staff: Wayne Orr, Clerk-Administrator, Brian Kirk, Alan Revill, Mark Segsworth**

**1. Call to Order**

**The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.**

**There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.**

**3. Delegations**

**(a) John McDougall – Physician Recruitment**

**John McDougall presented to Council on the need for physician recruitment in Verona. The Verona Area Physician Recruitment Committee is a sub-committee of the Verona Community Association which although an independently incorporated body is a subcommittee of the Township who operates and runs their books through the Township Treasury Department.**

**John spoke to the history of physician recruitment in the Verona area over the last fifty years and the work that has been done by both families and the community towards recruitment and building clinics. The committee has had a program in place for the last three years working towards finding a replacement for Dr. Dempsey who is looking to reduce her practice load and ultimately retire. They offer a Reward of \$1000.00 in gold, to anyone who can suggest a doctor willing to come to Verona. In response to initiatives through the Verona Community Association, there have been 14 good inquiries. Each of these candidates was brought in for lunch, toured the area as well had an opportunity to speak with the doctor. Of those, only one was interested in relocating to this area and willing to consider buying the clinic, four others while interested in the area, had no interest in buying the clinic. The particular challenge with physician recruitment is that spouses often need to gain employment as well. Over the last three years, unfortunately there has been no success.**

**Four years ago through the Economic Development Office of the County an application was submitted to the Province and it was determined that the area is underserved. As a result the area attracted provincial incentives to support the recruitment of physicians. The intent of the provincial underserved designation is to get doctors into small communities however experience has shown that this program is not successful in northern communities. Physicians in Dryden or Verona are expecting to be in close proximity to larger cities with access to specialists and operating in clinics with up to date technology. Under the new model, this area score has dropped to 25 and therefore is no longer eligible for the incentives.**

In South Frontenac there are two physician clinics. In Sydenham 25% of the patient roster is within the town and 40% from the west towards Verona and 20% east to Perth Road. Residents from the Storrington area are known to seek services in Kingston. Verona Clinic patients are distributed; 50% from Verona, 10% from the Sydenham area and 40% from the north east and west of Verona. At the end of the day, patients don't care about political boundaries when it comes to medical care. In Kingston for example, physician recruitment initiatives offers a \$25,000.00 incentive however that still has left them short as well.

The Verona Community Association has determined that they need to purchase the clinic in order to attract physicians. They would then be able to offer space on a turn key operation basis. They believe that they can follow the Sharbot Lake model where the building was bought and leased back to physicians for cost. They have established a budget of \$227,000.00 with \$200,000.00 towards the purchase of the building and \$27,000.00 towards the legal fees, incentives and associated travel. There is a need for a major capital campaign and they have already accomplished some funding with \$14,000.00 from a variety of sources and an additional \$20,000.00 in promissory notes. They are not looking to Council at this point for \$200,000.00 rather they believe that the community needs to contribute strongly towards this initiative. This discussion is seen as a starting point for conversation.

General comments following the delegation were that this is a long process that takes time and whether it would be a benefit to have a letter from council to support this initiative at a provincial level. It was clarified that all funds for this initiative would flow through the township. However there is also a sense that with the Sharbot Lake model there was provincial funding available for the purchase. The concept of family health teams was discussed. Verona had previously applied to be a family health team; it was not accepted at the provincial level. The benefit of family health teams is that they provide coverage and relief for physicians so that they may enjoy work/ life balance.

There was a question from Council as to whether the Verona and the Sydenham clinics should be merging to form one local office. It was pointed out that seniors have concerns with the family health team models because they often see a rotating list of doctors and therefore the continuity of their care is not there.

A letter prepared by John McDougall is to be sent to Wayne Orr and it will be distributed to Council once issued.

**(ii) Mark Segsworth, Public Works Manager – 5 Year Construction Plan**

Mark Segsworth presented to Council the 5 Year Construction Plan. All Council members were provided with a detailed colour coded map outlining the various construction initiatives over the next 5 years. It was noted that the Battersea Road construction was omitted from the map, but is obviously a current project.

Mark clarified for council the approach taken on Sydenham Road. The strategy used was to apply an ultrathin overlay as a way of rehabilitating the existing pavement and preserve the solid base. The immediate benefit has been to reduce skidding and widen the shoulders. The project will not be completed until spring when crack sealing will be done. Had a traditional approach been used a much shorter distance of the roadway would have been repaired.

Mark highlighted to Council clearly that taxation does not fully support our road construction budget and that we have been dependent on road grants and reserves. There is serious concern about the long term viability with this method of funding. If we are unable to sustain the current level of construction, ultimately the arterial roads will deteriorate to a point where a large investment will be needed to bring them back. We are not funding at our current needs and this will lead to a greater deficit ultimately.

The funding currently being received from the City of Kingston was discussed. It is scheduled, under the terms of the Amalgamation Order to end in 2014. There is a rationale to approach the new Council for the City of Kingston to enter discussions and extend that agreement. It was pointed out that in a more regional system there is a sharing process similar to what we have experienced with the City of Kingston.

Comments from council included; we need to think of how we can fund our own needs, it is difficult to expect others to continue to pay for those costs and we know what to expect and it is ours to manage in the future.

In order to manage the budget it is not uncommon to postpone projects or shorten the distance associated with anticipated projects when the tender comes in higher.

Council did indicate a need to look at our reserves on a long term five year basis considering both the amount coming in and the balance associated at year end. Alternative views from Council were that we need to adjust our level of road construction because taxation can not be increased to support these needs. Council was reminded that there are standards to maintain roads and that we have obligation with regards to maintenance of those assets to eliminate and minimize our risk and liability. The decision on whether to continually just surface treat roads or to revert to less expensive surfaces was discussed.

#### 4. Business Items

##### (i) Building Permit Fees

Alan Revill spoke to his memo which referred to a request from a local church that council consider granting or waiving the building fees associated with their major renovations.

Council in considering and discussing this item provided strong direction that there should be no exemptions for church or charitable organizations or for municipal projects. The need to be consistent was stressed. There was a request for a policy and procedure to deal with this issue however corresponding comments were made that the existing policies cover this. The policies referenced are the Building Code Act and the fees by-law. It was felt that there was no need for additional policies. There was a straw vote with regard to the request for waiving fees and it was indicated that of the eight members present, five were not in favour of waiving the fees and only three were.

##### (ii) Council Remuneration

With regard to Council remuneration, discussion took place to clarify what constitutes a meeting. Below is an itemized list from the report with Council comments highlighted in bold.

Resolution no. 2007-04-12

THAT Special Meetings of Council be defined as follows:

1. A meeting of Council other than a regularly scheduled meeting of Council.
2. A meeting of a regular or ad hoc committee of Council
3. A meeting of Councillor's to discuss district or area related issues **The CAO should be aware of these meetings in advance, there should be minutes or as a minimum the items discussed should be reported back to Council, as a example the old Roads Budget meetings**
4. A workshop, seminar or conference designed to provide information on municipal issues to elected officials (usually a one day event)
5. A meeting of an agency (Health Unit, Conservation Authority, etc) where Councillors are specifically invited to attend.
6. A meeting where specific direction to attend is provided by Council or the Mayor
7. Joint County/Township Council meetings

The following shall not constitute a Special Meeting:

1. The meeting of a single Councillor with a single taxpayer
2. A social event such as an anniversary, a dedication or birthday.  
**Unless directed by the Mayor to attend.**

3. A fundraising event
4. A meeting immediately preceding or following a Special Meeting.  
**Two committee meetings such as Library and Water, back to back constitutes 2 meeting charges. A meeting immediately preceding a Council or COW the meeting is not a separate meeting.**

Eligible Mileage Charges:

1. To pick-up Council Packages  
**In advance of either a Council or COW meeting**
2. For Special Meetings (but not regular Council Meetings)  
**Such as COW, water, library etc.**
3. For Committee of Adjustment/Land Division (Site Meetings & Committee Meetings)

Resolution No. 2008-11-05

THAT the Council of the Township of South Frontenac agree that Council members attending conferences where full and part days are involved for attendance at the conference, that they be compensated for full days when even part days are required for attendance at the conference.

**A conference that involves three nights constitutes four days to acknowledge travel time.**

- Presenting anniversary/birthday certificates on behalf of the mayor. **When directed by Mayor, attracts meeting and mileage**
- Tree lighting ceremonies / Santa Clause parades. **No meeting, no mileage**
- Dealing with a beaver dam or roads issue. **Mileage only**
- A site meeting for a land purchase **If all invited to view then yes to meeting charge**
- Inspecting equipment that requires servicing **Mileage only**
- Attending a conference but leaving immediately due to illness, does this attract the full day per diem? **When you leave you stop collecting the per diem**
- A local conference that ends at 1:00 is that a half or full day per diem? **Full day**
- While picking up council packages meeting with Township staff. **No meeting charge**
- Attending to a facility, when emergency repairs are needed. **Depending on circumstance**
- Arriving for a cancelled or rescheduled meeting. **No meeting charge if notice had been sent, may claim mileage**
- Bus tour of facilities. **Meeting charge**
- What constitutes outside the Township. **In the context of the OEMC in Kingston this is still considered local.**

**If a Councillor is requested to attend a meeting of an organized group, such as the Greater Sydenham Advisory group, then this does constitute a meeting provided the Councillor reports back to Council on the items discussed.**

(iii) 2010 Municipal Election – Compliance Audit Committee

Concerning the report on establishing a Compliance Audit Committee, Council provided direction to the CAO to pursue the advertising for three members for this committee. Also for the CAO with the support of the Deputy Clerk to conduct appropriate interviews if necessary and to bring forward to council a recommended list for that committee composition. Compensation would be at the standard level for committee participation which is \$25.00 per meeting.

(iv) Septic Inspection Program

Wayne Orr updated Council on discussions that took place at a meeting called by a public health with the various municipalities impacted by the Part VIII program. While no decision has been made by the Board of Health it is going forward to the January meeting. It was indicated by Dr. Gemmill that he would be looking to move from the program by the end of 2010. It was suggested that regardless of the extension to withdraw, fees would most likely be going up.

Councillor Fillion suggested that we should use this time appropriately for staff training in this area.

(v) Waste Collection/Recycling Tender

Mark Segsworth provided a verbal update from the Sustainability Committee. He identified that lots of views had been discussed the previous evening and that at the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>, he would bring an update to Council. He identified and acknowledged the need to reconfigure the map and compile the additional information to make sure that the tender document was as complete as possible to ensure the best pricing available.

General comments from Council included the need to make small steps and make the right decisions so that we can live with the ultimate outcome. It was clarified by Council that they will make the final decision with respect to the awarding of any contract. The areas defined also need the corresponding dump site identified so that the contractors can plan their mileage and submit accurate bids to the tender request.

## 5. Other Business

(i) David Hahn spoke to his attendance at the OSEA Community Power Conference in November 2009. He highlighted from his report that there were huge economic development opportunities for the township and that the township could also benefit from the implementation of projects such as a MicroFIT photovoltaic cell system. He encouraged membership in OSEA and suggested that it may be appropriate at the county level.

(ii) Wayne Orr provided a verbal report to Council on the library and the prequalification of contractors. It is the suggestion of the architect that given the tight time line associated with the project and the potential complexities of LEED that a prequalification process would be better suited to ensure the right outcome for this project. However, Patrick Thompson speaking on behalf of the county and township suggests that given its relatively low complexity and the concern with regard to the impact on bidding that prequalification may lead to higher costs. Council was clear and there was a consensus that an open tender process was their desire. The county will be instructed of that comment.

(iii) Jim Hicks

Jim Hicks brought forward as a new item a letter of concern that he received from Portland residents with regard to the potential relocation of the Parham Ambulance Station.

Mayor Davison advised Council that while this has been discussed as part of a business plan at the County it is very preliminary and not likely to see any change until 2013. Council has asked that we invite Paul Charbonneau to a future meeting to address this initiative.

6. In-Camera

7. Adjournment

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.