

Meeting No. 6

Date: February 8th, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Sydenham

Present: **Deputy Mayor** **Mark Tinlin**
 Councillors, **John McDougall**
 Allan McPhail
 Cam Naish
 Bill Robinson
 Del Stowe
 Ron Vandewal
 Larry York

Absent: **Mayor Gary Davison**

Staff: **Wayne Orr, Chief Administrative Officer**
 Rick Chesebrough, Fire Chief
 Mark Segsworth, Public Works Manager
 Lindsay Mills, Planning Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Deputy 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

(i) Steve Knechtel, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, re: CRCA Programs and Budget

Steve Knechtel from CRCA walked Council through a PowerPoint presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the conservation authority. He also reviewed at a high level the pressures on the authority and their levy requirements for 2011.

In response to questions, it was clarified that 40% of the budget comes from municipalities, 25% from grants and the rest from fees and other partnerships.

There is no opportunity to increase provincial or federal money on the basis of the municipal amount raised. Within the budget, \$40,000.00 of the \$4 million dollar budget is allocated for facility costs. The portion of funding from upper levels of government has remained fixed since 1997 at \$109,000.00. It was initially 50% and now it is approximately 40% of the authority budget. There is an opportunity for Council to lobby through AMO for a special program for the maintenance of dams. This will be brought forward to Council for their consideration.

Concerns were expressed with regard to the escalating costs and the accumulative impact over 5 years.

In response to these concerns, Steve Knechtel pointed out that the budget is in response to their multi year work plan. The new board will be establishing the next multi year program.

Records indicate that usage of the conservation area properties and services have been increasing and it was pointed out that if uses are increasing then there is no alternative other than to fund the programs or cut the opportunities that are available.

It was pointed out that in dealing with a particular barn on one of their properties; the Conservation Authority has only been able to address it at a bare minimum as opposed to an ideal solution in terms of remediation.

Councillor McPhail pointed out that after four years on the board he believes that the budgets brought forward by the conservation authority have not been excessive. They have been challenged to keep up with programs and demands and they have been able to keep their budgets and services at a relative minimum.

It was asked whether the conservation authority has any opportunity to raise more revenue through rates or fundraising initiatives.

In thanking Steven Kettle for his presentation, Deputy Mayor Tinlin commented that the general undertone of the conversations and questions had been the need to control costs.

(ii) Brett Dark, re: Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Stewardship Plan

Gird Rodgers, a representative from the Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Association presented details with regard to the stewardship plan that was completed in August 2010. A complete copy is available on their website at www.fimla.org. Mr. Rodgers extended appreciation to the Planning Department for their support in preparing this document.

Within South Frontenac, there are two dams within this lake plan that need to be assessed and once costs are identified, the association may be back to Council to speak to that issue.

Concerns were expressed that the Septic Re-inspection program that was conducted last year did not result in open tank inspections. It was pointed out that we have no authority to require this as part of the program.

It was pointed out that pending changes to the Building Code will provide enhanced authority for septic re-inspection. There was a request to reference the stewardship plan in the Official Plan.

With respect to the dams, there were questions raised as to whether they fell within the authority of the Quintet Conservation Authority. It was pointed out that the Conservation Authority engineers will be assisting in the assessment. As for the request from the Lake Association to be advised of all planning matters, it was suggested that this might be accomplished through an enhanced website.

Mr. Rodgers was thanked for his presentation and for the efforts of the Lake Association.

(iii) Jim Hill, re: Unopened Road Allowance, Concession 3 and 4, Part Lot 13, District of Bedford

Jim Hill presented to Council and reiterated his request for both the closing of the road allowance and for the land to be granted to his family. He referenced the 1965 survey. He stated that he believed that both the surveying and Bedford decisions qualified the request as per the policy.

It was pointed out that the policy makes reference to “may” and it is not a requirement of Council to give consideration, however Councillor Stowe believed that the Hill’s had demonstrated surveying issues. Councillor Stowe asked Council to consider a request for waiver or at least a reduction.

Councillor York pointed out that this situation is similar to one that occurred on Burnt Hills Road where Council made a concession.

Councillor Vandewal pointed out that while looking back, we can always find a situation that may not have been handled correctly, it is not an issue of laying blame and that a reduction may be in order.

Councillor Robinson was supportive of that position as well.

(iv) Barry Campbell, re: Proposed Subdivision

Mr. Campbell brought forward to Council a review of various options that he thought might be brought forward. He indicated that he had two options that he is leaning towards. One is the negotiated agreement with Mr. Peters to transfer the parcel of land to Mr. Peters as a sale. The other option is to consider adding it to Lot 9; however he indicated that this may not result in a quick solution.

Councillor Vandewal pointed out that just because potential owners are aware of agriculture uses in adjacent property does not mean that they will not complain. He suggested that if an agreement has been reached and everyone is okay with it, and it is a win, we should be moving forward with this initiative.

Councillor York reiterated the importance of making people aware and commented that he believed that was the case at this time.

Councillor Naish indicated that if the land was purchased by Mr. Peters, he questioned whose responsibility it was to fence the property.

(v) Jeff Peters, re: Campbell Subdivision

Mr. Peters confirmed to Council that they had all received his previously circulated email. This project has been under discussion for five years and that while he is a strong avid supporter of local family farms, they have compromised and made an agreement. He would like to see the project move forward. He pointed out that the option of adding Block B to Lot 9 was not an option that he would be able to pursue in terms of a purchase. He could not as a businessman justify that price for hayfields. He indicated that he is looking to be a good neighbour and asked council to consider the agreement that has been reached.

4. Business Items

(i) Report from Anne Levac, Planning Assistant, re: Closing of unopened road allowances between Concessions 3 & 4, Lot 13, District of Bedford

Lindsay Mills spoke to this report with regard to the Hill property. The general consensus from Council was to proceed with the closing up of the road allowance and sale of the property to the Hill's. The Hill's will be responsible to cover all costs associated plus a \$1000.00 purchase price.

Staff will be instructed of this information and the process will be initiated.

(ii) Memo from Lindsay Mills, Planning Coordinator, re: Options for Block B; Barry Campbell Proposed Subdivision

Lindsay Mills spoke to this report regarding options for Block B of the Campbell proposed subdivision. He reviewed the various options.

The general consensus from Council was to move forward with the option that Mr. Campbell submits. Mr. Campbell confirmed that his preference was Option 1, to transfer the lands to the adjacent property owner. Mr. Campbell was advised that he will need to provide a written confirmation of his choice so that the process can proceed.

(iii) Report from Rick Chesebrough, Fire Chief, re: Motor Vehicle Collision Billing

Chief Chesebrough reviewed his report and the history of billing for motor vehicle collisions.

The general consensus from Council was to pursue a formal by-law that would address this situation on an ongoing basis with the provision to bill insurance companies and that the intent is not to cause residents who have not filed an insurance claim or whose insurance company rejects the claim to pay personally. The process and the payment should be done at an increased frequency and that any revenue generated should be balanced in the budget and the proceeds or any surplus going to the Wages Reserve Fund for Fire.

It was pointed out that similar plans could be incorporated for Public Works to recover costs for guard rails etc that are damaged in motor vehicle accidents.

Deputy Mayor Tinlin did point out that he felt that his beliefs were out of step with Council and that there should be no charges for this type of service because it is not a service that an individual chooses to receive, like other user charges, rather it is provided and not necessarily initiated by the user.

Mr. Choma's request to speak was deferred to a future meeting. He will be given delegation status when this by-law comes forward for Council's consideration.

5. Other Business - nil

6. In-Camera

7. Adjournment

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.