

7:00 p.m. MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX January 24, 2001

MINUTES

The Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex met for a special meeting on January 24, 2001

THOSE PRESENT WERE: MAYOR CHUCK HALL
DEPUTY MAYOR IAN BREBNER
COUNCILLOR WARD 1 – MARYSIA COUTTS
COUNCILLOR WARD 2 – KEN JOHNSTON
COUNCILLOR WARD 3 – MIKE CONLIN
COUNCILLOR WARD 4 – LAWRENCE MCLACHLAN
COUNCILLOR WARD 5 – LUCY HENDRIKX
ADMINISTRATOR – SHIRLEY SCOTT
PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTEDENT – JOE ADAMS
RECREATION MANAGER – SCOTT NICKLES
PARKHILL GAZETTE – GORD WHITEHEAD
BANNER – ANITA MACGREGOR

Mayor Hall called the meeting to order.

No pecuniary interest was declared.

ROMA REPRESENTATION

Correspondence from Roma, requesting representation on the Roma Executive for Zone 1, was read. Councillor Marysia Coutts advised that she would consider. She will advise of her intentions after further consideration.

OSTAR GRANT

Public Works Superintendent, Joe Adams presented a flow chart, which reviewed previous application for the OSTAR grant. The five projects were blended into two, one for waterworks (blending of four previous projects) and one for sewage works. Correspondence received only this day, indicated that all projects for North Middlesex were filed under application number 6428. MP Bert Johnston supported a plan to apply for the water initiatives to upgrade, clean and extend the water lines in Round 1. He suggested it could be justified on the merit to meet the political scoring system. All they could do is recommend that the water be applied for in Round 1; and the sewage project be applied for later. A draft business plan has been developed for both projects. The Engineer will rework upon Councils direction to proceed. The deadline for the application is January 31, 2001. When asked if the projects could be listed in priority of need, it was indicated that only one application could be made and no sewage was being considered in Round 1. It was suggested that when sewage is considered, the Ailsa Craig project would be top on the list due to the early start date. Another reason the Ailsa Craig project is on hold is because it is now in compliance. The reason we have a certificate of approval is because we do not chlorinate; Ontario Clean Water does this for our system.

When the applications are being accepted for the sewage works, KMK has the study in place, and the paperwork is in place. Nairn is undecided regarding sewers. The ratepayers are resisting installation of sewer due to the cost. Without grant, the cost is approximately \$12,000 per lot, and with government aid, it is hoped the cost could be reduced to \$7,500 per lot. The school has a need. \$150,000 has already been put into studies. Approvals for go ahead can be obtained from Minister of Health, ABCA, and Ministry of Environment. The support of Queens Park is required. Information and previous letters should be

on file with East Williams. When an indication of deadline is announced, the application will be submitted for sewage works.

After careful consideration, the following motions were made.

BREBNER-MCLACHLAN:

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex has received and considered the Ontario Small Town and Rural Development (OSTAR) Infrastructure Program Application Guidebook;

AND WHEREAS Council has assessed the capital priorities of the municipality against the requirements, as set out in the OSTAR Infrastructure Program Application Guidebook;

AND WHEREAS Council considers the “Water” project, described in the application, dated January 24, 2001, for Round 1 of OSTAR to be its highest public health and safety priority;

AND WHEREAS Council has reviewed and considers the application to be complete and accurate;

NOW THEREFORE, Council endorses and directs staff to submit the application to the Ontario SuperBuild Corporation by January 31, 2001.

CARRIED

JOHNSTON-MCLACHLAN:

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex has agreed to assume financial responsibility for compliance with the Ministry of the Environment Drinking Water Protection Regulation (DWPR);

AND WHEREAS the Council has formulated a plan to implement any action necessary to comply with the DWPR;

AND WHEREAS Council has acknowledged its responsibility for compliance with DWPR, It considers the “Water” project described in the application, dated January 24, 2001, its highest public health and safety priority and therefore submits this application for Round 1 of the Ontario Small Town and Rural Development Infrastructure initiative;

NOW THEREFORE, Council endorses and directs staff to submit the application to the Ontario Superbuild Corporation by January 31, 2001.

CARRIED

SUPERBUILD GRANT

Recreation Manager Scott Nickles presented information indicating that a the roof and a chiller required replacement, to promote public health and safety. The expansion and renovations were discussed with the managers of the grant program, as well as the installation of the tennis courts, but these projects are not eligible as proposed. An engineers report with a description and design of the roof project has been obtained, with the chiller included in the project. The service clubs are supporting the project, and indications are that the more funds that can be raised, the more monies will be given. Should the chiller completely break down, it will cost the arena \$40,000 per month, in lost revenue. The roof was a capital project to be considered in the next three years. If replaced, it will save the arena \$5-6,000 yearly in lost heat. A letter is required to certify that the water quality is testing good. After careful consideration, the following motion was made.

HENDRIKX-COUTTS: That Scott send a letter of intent for the roof/chiller project to apply for the SuperBuild Grant by January 30, 2001.

CARRIED

The Recreation Committee advised that they have placed an ad in the paper for a public meeting for those interested in recreation. The meeting is set for February 1, 2001.

Councillor Johnston advised that there will be a request from the Lions to present movies at the Ailsa Craig Rec Centre, during March break. The Ventures assist by monitoring the hall during the movies. It was suggested that any previous agreements would be honoured. Charlene McNair will also be conducting her gymnastic classes, as done previously.

Scott Nickles advised that the Recreation Committee would be applying for a separate GST number in order to apply for 100% GST refund.

Councillor Johnston announced that the Palliative Care dance is scheduled for March 3, 2001, and volunteers were required.

SOMA PRESENTATION

Mayor Hall then reviewed a letter he had presented to each Council previous to the election, which explained SOMA – South Western Ontario Marketing Alliance. At that time the Town of Parkhill submitted \$2000 to encourage the area to pursue support further. SOMA will have three objectives – information analysis (target sectors with automotive, machinery, plastics and food processing. –Partnership development : will identify and promote a number of important public and private sector partnerships with the aim of facilitating the implementation of initiatives - Effective implementation : will be based on a realistic and sustainable cooperative strategy, which promotes community and business awareness, involvement and commitment in its preparation and on going development. The end result is an action plan. The potential benefits are gain exposure, establish contacts, attract new industry, and compliment existing businesses.. It was noted that Strathroy and Middlesex County are pending memberships at this time. We would be expected to attend one trade show per year, and it would be one within driving distance, such as Toronto or Detroit. Estimated expenses would be \$2,000. These trade shows attract businesses that may be interested in establishing in the area. It provides global attraction. It provides the opportunity to have the right people, in the right place, at the right time. Membership would place us in a circuit of economic growth and development. Employment opportunities need to be developed to maintain our youth base and to provide more than housing to our middle aged citizens. SOMA participates in the YAP program which is available at North Middlesex. This attracts students from London and area, and strengthens our school system. SOMA is an investment, not a cost.

Deputy Mayor Brebner advised that the County is involved in economic development through a Community Futures Program, which promotes small businesses. The difference in the two was explained as the County exploring needs, and SOMA prospecting leads. They can work together, not as separate entities.

Councillor Johnston voiced concern in that it promoted big plants. Mayor Hall advised that there was no criteria on limits, or size. There are a variety of promotions, both big and small. Mr. Johnston questioned the ability to provide growth through the present sewage development. There are alternatives regarding the sewage growth. It was suggested that a profile would be developed on what the area could handle. Another need suggested was infrastructure upgrade and update. These matters could be determined through the future strategic plan. A pamphlet would have to be developed to make

available at the trade shows. Mayor Hall concluded that SOMA was ideal, cost effective and a prospecting component.

Public Works Superintendent Joe Adams suggested that the infrastructure required depended on the Industry. Parkhill has hydro, water, and sewage to encourage industry of a certain size. Some areas of transportation need improvement – such as Main Street. Total costs for pamphlets, attendance at trade shows, membership, developing a website, etc were discussed. After thorough consideration, the following motion was made.

COUTTS-BREBNER: Recommend that we pay 2001 Membership to SOMA and instruct staff to begin research plan as discussed with a present (2001) annual budget of \$18,000.00

CARRIED

INSURANCE –EXTRA ITEMS

Council reviewed the options suggested by Jardine OME Division, and the following motion was made.

JOHNSTON-BREBNER: That the following options for insurance be approved:

- a) Councillors Accident
 - to change to 24 hr coverage \$385.00
- b) Computer/EDP
 - policy includes if values are small and includes in property limit. For specific quote, at a lower deductible provide value. \$200.00

CARRIED

CITY OF LONDON-COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER WATER

BREBNER-HENDRIKX: Lawrence McLachlan will be our primary representative to LHPWSS Joint Management Board and Mike Conlin shall be the alternate rep.

CARRIED

It was suggested that should neither member be able to attend, a member of the works department would be present at the meeting.

COUTTS-BREBER: That this Committee proceed in camera in order to address a matter pertaining to an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;

CARRIED

LAWRENCE-BREBNER: Motion to return to regular meeting.

CARRIED

COUNCIL RENUMERATION

As a result of the In Camera session the following motion was recommended, and passed.

MCLACHLAN-BREBNER: That the remuneration and expenses for Councillors be set as follows:

| | Monthly | Per Meeting |
|-------------------|----------|-------------|
| Mayor/Chairperson | \$500.00 | \$100.00 |
| Deputy Mayor | \$450.00 | \$ 80.00 |
| Councillor/Member | \$400.00 | \$ 80.00 |
| | | CARRIED |

JOHNSTON-BREBNER: That Council reject Kirk Bice’s application for an exit package be rejected again.

CARRIED

OTHER ITEMS

Deputy Reeve Brebner then indicated that the Warden was prepared to lobby due to the extra costs for water testing.

Councillor Johnston advised that the stickers for the fire trucks were too small to cover the existing signs. Mr. Adams suggested that if someone would give him the proper measurements, replacement signs could be made.

Councillor MacLachlan advised that there were beaver dams housing in Swamp Drain.

Council were asked for events to list in the SOTO information sheet.

MCLACHLAN-BREBER: That we do now adjourn to meet again at the next regular meeting.

CARRIED

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR CLERK