

MINUTES

On Wednesday October 24, 2001, at 8:00 p.m. a special meeting was called to discuss OSTAR grant provisions, and other matters.

Those present were: MAYOR CHUCK HALL
DEPUTY MAYOR IAN BREBNER
COUNCILLOR WARD 1 – Marysia Coutts
COUNCILLOR WARD 2 – Ken Johnston
COUNCILLOR WARD 3 – Micheal Conlin
COUNCILLOR WARD 4 – Lawrence McLachlan
COUNCILLOR WARD 5 – Lucy Hendrikx
ADMINISTRATOR CLERK – Shirley Scott
PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINT. – Joe Adams

PEDERSON FOLLENS DRAIN

A preliminary meeting was held just previous to this meeting, with Councillor McLachlan, Joe Adams and Spriet Engineers attending. Drainage Superintendent, Joe Adams reported that an appeal from Rodney and Charlene Phillips was submitted, against the culvert and laneway access. Spriet advised that 100% of the cost of the laneway and culvert were being assessed against the property owner. The shared portion is assessed against the maintenance portion of the costs only. Total estimated schedule of assessment is \$21,000.

OSTAR GRANT

Joe Adams reported that Norm Kato, with the awards branch for OSTAR was reviewing all five, original grant applications. When discussing previous option to go with the water project, he indicated that our advice to go with this for Round One because water projects were being favoured, was misleading information. Part of the work in relation to the water project submitted, has been completed, and paid for, therefore making this portion of the project ineligible. Upon reviewing, Mr. Kato advised that the application was only eligible for 20% funding – at two thirds grant – creating low dollars. Sewage projects are being considered for round one. It is being recommended by municipal staff, that Council consider resubmitting with the sewage project being priority. Mr. Kato agrees with this option, and will be informing the secretariat. The engineering has been done, but not submitted (saving for round two, according to earlier information). The ESR for the plant, and the EA for Nairn is in the hands of the KMK Engineers, due to approval given in May for engineering costs. Mr. Kato is requesting that this information be forwarded as soon as possible. He will review and advise as to what else is required. Mr. Adams updated Council on the Ailsa Craig plant status. He assured Council that the Certificate of Approval issued for the Ailsa Craig plant allows for right to spill and allows for storm water hookups. Considering the above information, the following motion was made.

BREBNER-MCLACHLAN: BE IT RESOLVED THAT 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 has reconsidered their prior decision by amending and restating their priority, as follows;

And whereas Council considers the Ailsa Craig/Nairn Sewer Project, described in the application, dated December 20, 2000, 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.

CARRIED

McLEAN ROAD

Joe Adams reported that there has been ongoing discussion with Gooding Trailers regarding using his equipment for the shouldering of the McLean Road. The tender was let to Jennison Construction. Jennison would have worked with Gooding, but the cost proposed did not meet the economics required. They were advised that the principal was good, but they have to work with the contractors not the municipality.

LEAF PROGRAM FOR URBAN AREA

Several calls are being received regarding leaves in the urban area. Past programs were reviewed, and it was suggested that the landfill be open to receive leaves on a date that co-ordinates with a Saturday landfill day. Flyers are to be made up at the Satellite Office, and distributed, as soon as possible.

FARM REASSESSMENT

There was then a discussion on the reassessment of the farms, based on the information published in various newspapers. Council felt that the issue is County driven. County Council members advised that regardless what was published, the information forwarded to Council was stamped "discussion paper" and unless the County made an initiative to review, the Province was going to revise the tax classes with no local input. They requested a clearer look at what is being done. Mayor Hall agreed that a definition of "factory farm" was required. After discussion, the following motion was made.

CONLIN-MCLACHLAN: BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council is aware that the taxation system in the Province of Ontario is under review, but we feel the answer of taxing the farming community in new ways must be discussed at the farm level in rural Ontario, pass through the municipal council, through the county council and on to the province. Not the other way around.

CARRIED

It was suggested that the deadline for response should be January rather than November due to the busy fall season for farmers. Council agreed that a public meeting should be set for the week of November 22, with County Council representatives present.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR