

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL
SPENCERVILLE MUNICIPAL OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2007
7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Larry Dishaw, Mayor
Frank Noccey, Deputy Mayor
Hugh Cameron, Councillor
Donna Gladstone, Councillor
Kirk Jones, Councillor
Lawrence Levere, Councillor
Patrick Sayeau, Councillor

GUESTS:

Mel Campbell, Reeve, Township of Augusta
Doug Barton, Deputy Reeve, Township of Augusta
Darlene Banning, Councillor, Township of Augusta
Bill Pakeman, Councillor, Township of Augusta
Lisa Swan, Councillor, Township of Augusta

STAFF PRESENT:

Russell Trivett, CAO/Treasurer
Debra McKinstry, Clerk/Planning Administrator
Richard Bennett, CAO, Township of Augusta

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dishaw called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Interest – None

3. Action/Discussion Items

a) Fire Protection/Response Contracts

It was noted that according to media reports Town of Prescott would be requesting an additional \$5,000 for fire protection agreements. Councils agreed that the service was needed and valued, but a more direct approach from the Town would have been appreciated.

The Office of the Fire Marshall has recommended to both Councils that existing agreements between municipalities are in need of updating.

Mayor Campbell advised that it was his intent to meet with Prescott's Mayor Dodge to discuss the proposed increase and to confirm whether the \$5,000 was to be split between Augusta and E/C or if each municipality was expected to pay that amount.

Concern was expressed with regard to the burden being placed on volunteer firefighters in their role as first response, as well as the use of valuable firefighting equipment as traffic control barriers at accident scenes.

There was a discussion about billing practices for 400-series highway accident responses. E/C Council members had expressed their concerns to the minister about the lack of payment from the Province on some invoices at Good Roads in February of 2007. There may be opportunity for the two fire departments to work together to track invoicing and payment and make a joint presentation to the minister at some point.

The Councils discussed emergency planning and it was noted that both plans were in need of updating and that there may be opportunity to work cooperatively.

b) Sharing of Services

There was a discussion of upcoming requirements to meet new accounting standards. The United Counties has begun working on the tangible capital asset reporting project and staff from member municipalities are involved in ongoing meetings with staff from the Counties.

AMO's leadership role in developing programs was noted.

The Councils discussed the potential outcomes of the new reporting standards with respect to ease of understanding and grant application qualification.

The requirement for annual service delivery "report cards" was discussed and whether it would be beneficial to have a Province-wide, Eastern Ontario-wide or County-wide template to work from.

Councils next discussed the need for a closed meeting investigator under the amended Municipal Act. The United Counties are looking at this, and it was agreed that appointment of a County-wide investigator might be appropriate.

c) By-law Enforcement

Augusta Township has appointed its CBO as By-law Enforcement Officer. Both municipalities enforce by-laws on a complaint-driven basis. There was a brief discussion of property standards by-laws.

The Councils shared information on committee systems and staffing in both municipalities.

d) County Roads – Entranceways and Severances

Mayor Campbell outlined his request to the Counties to ease the restrictions on entranceways along County roads, particularly with respect to County Road 2. He noted that the level of development between Brockville and Cardinal at present was such that permitting new entranceways really represented infilling and that he was of the opinion that unrestricted entranceways would not have a significant negative impact on the road.

There was a discussion with respect to creation of a bike path along County Road 2.

Collection of cash-in-lieu of parkland associated with consent applications was discussed and this led to a discussion of permit fees and lot development fees.

It was noted that there was a variety of means of funding recreation programs and facilities.

e) South Nation Conservation

Councillor Levere provided information from South Nation Conservation on the following subjects:

- Drinking Water Source Protection/Clean Water Act
- Conservation Areas and Trails Map
- Healthy Homes brochure

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- 60th Anniversary Golf Tournament and Dinner August 24
- Proclamation of SNC Week and associated tree planting
- Official opening of MacIntosh Park in Berwick on June 21

Councillor Levere noted that a small amount of discretionary funding is available to support children's groups' activities which are aimed at the environment or conservation. He also noted that he had recently been appointed to the Eastern Ontario Water Resources Committee, whose work included well decommissioning funding and exploring alternative sewage disposal systems.

The Councils discussed ongoing problems with beaver control and the wetlands created by beaver dams. Councillor Levere was requested to approach the SNC to see if there was any assistance available from them.

The Augusta Council members would like to prepare a resolution detailing specific requests to the SNC. E/C Council could then add their support and the requests would be forwarded through Councillor Levere as the area representative.

There was a brief discussion of Species At Risk legislation.

f) Economic Development

The lack of activity of the South Grenville Economic Development Committee was discussed. It was noted that the feeling arising from a recent Regional round table discussion was that there was a lack of common vision among the three South Grenville municipalities. The Councils agreed that this topic would be at the top of the agenda for the next joint meeting.

4. Date of Next Meeting

The Mayor of E/C and Reeve of Augusta will work to set a date for another joint meeting of the two Councils, to be hosted by the Township of Augusta.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

These minutes were adopted by Council this 18th day of June, 2007.

Mayor

Clerk