

PROPERTY AND COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, September 1, 2005 10 a.m. Council Chambers

Present: Colin Wasacase, Len Compton, Rory McMillan, Bill Preisentanz, Jeff Port, Ted Szajewski, Art Mior, Mayor Canfield (arrived at 10:30 am)

Regrets: Ingrid Parkes, Anneli Rosteski, Tara Rickaby

Guest: Murray Affleck, Manager, Anicinabe Park

Councillor Wasacase opened the meeting at 10:04 a.m. and welcomed Mr. Affleck and members of the press.

1) Adoption of Minutes – August 5, 2005

Moved by: Ted Szajewski Seconded by: Len Compton

THAT the minutes of the August 5, 2005 minutes be adopted as amended. Councillor Compton requested that Item 4 – Official Plan be amended to indicate that the final modifications and the draft modifications, which were approved by Council, be reviewed to ensure that they were identical. Councillor Compton also volunteered to compare the two.

CARRIED

Councillor Wasacase welcomed Murray Affleck to the meeting and asked him to comment on – Overnight RV Parking in commercial lots.

Mr. Affleck acknowledged the importance of tourism in the community, particularly with respect to the situation at Abitibi. He went on to brief the Committee on the economic impact of the effects of Walmart permitting overnight parking of RV's. He noted that, from May 1 to the end of July, 204 RV's stayed at Walmart, and only 9 since the signs went up; of those 9, most were after the park closed for the night.

Mr. Affleck's comments included the fact that Anicinabe Park also functions as a tourist information desk to orient visitors to the area. He cited several examples.

He went on to note that the park is very suitable for "big rigs", and that the zoning by-law is not "anti Walmart", simply a document to regulate land use. Mr. Affleck indicated that the park has improved dramatically over the past several years, and RV's staying at Walmart invest very little in the community in tourist dollars. He urged Council to continue to enforce the by-law.

Councillor Wasacase thanked Mr. Affleck for his comments.

2) Additions to the Agenda - None

3) Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - None

4) Official Plan

The City Planner reported, that there has been final approval of the Official Plan, and a resolution is required for exception from Official Plan approvals.

Action required: Resolution required for exemption provision.

5) Private Roads Assumption Policy

The policy was forwarded to both solicitors.

Action required: Pending comments from solicitors.

6) Overnight RV parking in commercial parking lots

The City will continue to monitor the situation.

Action required: Remove from agenda.

7) LOWBIC – Delivery of Economic Development Services

Bill Preisentanz reviewed his report to Council with respect to the roll out of Economic Development services by the City (see attached report). Councillor Compton enquired as to why this issue was not directed to the Finance and Administration Committee. Mr. Preisentanz replied that LOWBIC matters fall under the mandate of this Committee per the terms of reference.

Mayor Canfield supports the report and Councillor McMillan has volunteered to sit on the hiring committee. The recommendation will go forward to Committee of the Whole.

Action required: Forward recommendation to Committee of the Whole.

8) LOWBIC Quarterly Report

Bill Preisentanz reported that he has not yet received the financial statements required from LOWBIC. It is recommended that the last three quarters of the Economic Development funding be withheld for the new Economic Development program to be provided by the City.

Action required: Report and recommendation to go forward to Committee of the Whole.

9) Performing Arts and Conference Centre

Councillor McMillan reported that the PAC will be preparing a terms of reference to hire a consulting firm to explore the business case/feasibility analysis.

Action required: Ongoing.

10) Strategic Plan – Status Report

Action required: Ongoing

11) Subdivision Agreement – Northwest Development (2004) Ltd.

The draft agreement has been circulated to the Developer's solicitor as well as the Municipal Solicitor; the Municipal Solicitor has provided the planning department with comments/changes for three sections of the draft subdivision agreement.

Councillor Compton pointed out that the road building has already commenced and the agreement should address this issue. Operations will send a letter to the developer indicating that they must prove that the road is up to the municipal standard.

Action required: Letter to go from Operations to Developer respecting municipal standards.

12) Naming and Assumption of Mineault Drive (Transferred to the City as a condition of consent)

Jeff Port explained that the road was created as a condition of consent no. B18/04.

Action required: Send to Committee of the Whole.

13) Application to purchase portion of municipal property – Dufresne Island

The application to purchase approximately 30 feet of property, north of the Applicant's property was circulated internally, with no objections. The abutting neighbour may also be interested in a similar amount of property.

Action required: Survey by proponent and declaration, by Council, of property as surplus to City's needs.

14) Doug Bishop – Letter re. Downtown traffic flows

This matter has been passed along to the Operations Department and LOWBIC for follow up.

Motion required adjourning to Closed Meeting (11:50)

Moved by: Seconded by:

THAT this meeting now be declared closed; and further

THAT this Committee adjourns to a Closed Meeting to discuss the following: matters of security of municipal property and acquisition of land

Moved by: Len Compton Seconded by: Rory McMillan

THAT the closed meeting be adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Action from closed meeting:

243 Rabbit Lake Road – The Property and Planning Committee recommends that the office facility at 243 Rabbit Lake Road be offered to the William Creighton Youth Centre and that a portion of the garage be offered to Sunset Country Trailriders.

Action required: Recommendation to Committee of the Whole to proceed in principle and authorize the CAO to negotiate the terms of a lease.

15) Rat Portage Tour –

This has been set for September 8th at a time and location to be determined. There will also be a press release, and media will be in attendance for a ceremony.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Next meeting, Thursday, September 15 , 2005, 10 a.m., Council Chambers