

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE RECREATION OFFICE ON

MARCH 21, 2005

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Reeve Beverley Hine, John Warren, Joe Bisson, Andrew George

STAFF PRESENT: Denise Dube, Clerk Treasurer,

PUBLIC: Garfield Pinkerton, Jeannette Redner, Bob McCollam, Anne-Commando Dube, Gary Larkman, Marty Taman,, Bea Roy, Sylvie Roy, Marcella Secord, Basil Secord, Robert Batisse, Stan Secord, Dorothy Larkman, Jeanette Landry, Claude Gilbert, Pat Hopkins, Lucille Eno, Raymond Landry, Guy Landry, Marilyn Stickels, Don Stickels, Francoice Gauthier, Diane Gauthier, Kim Gauthier

**MOTIONS:**

05-030

Moved by: Andrew George

Seconded by: Joe Bisson

That the March 21, 2005 regular meeting be called to order at 6:10 p.m...

Carried

***Occurrence: Garfield Pinkerton handed a letter to the Clerk, letter was given to the Reeve, Reeve read content of the letter to the public. This is a letter rescinding my previous letter of resignation. The reason being d would like to see straightening of the land deal with Steve Wuerch and also the Curling Club. No one should have to be brought into a mess like this. Signed: Garfield Pinkerton. Garfield Pinkerton then came forward and joined Council members and the meeting proceeded.***

05-031

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Council agrees to declare Garfield Pinkerton's seat as vacant seat.

Cancelled

05-032

Moved by: John Warren Seconded

by: Garfield Pinkerton

That the minutes of the February 21, 2005 Regular meeting be circulated and approved and accept that parts of the discussions are missing and will be brought forward to the April 18, 2005 meeting for approval.

Carried

05-033

Moved by: Joe Bisson

Seconded by: Garfield Pinkerton

That the February 2005 Pay Vouchers 2772 to 2807 and 3174 to 3180 in the amount of \$40,856.33 be circulated and approved.

Carried

05-035

Moved by: Joe Bisson

Seconded by: Garfield Pinkerton

Council agrees to remove the 17.49 acres from the Surplus Listing.

Carried

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Motions

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05-036

Moved by: John Warren

Seconded by: Garfield  
Pinkerton

That Council agrees to support the County of Dufferin with the request to develop a new formula for the gasoline Tax Rebate to Municipalities based on a per Lane Kilometer of roadway. Carried

05-037

Moved by: John Warren

Seconded by: Garfield Pinkerton

That the March 21, 2005 Regular Meeting be adjourned at 7:50 PM and that the next regular meeting be held on April 18, 2005, or at the call of the Reeve.

Carried

**DISCUSSION:**

1. Reeve reported with regret that we have a resignation from Council, Garfield Pinkerton has resigned, and we hope he will take it back. Garfield handed a letter to the Clerk, and retracted his resignation. Garfield was asked to join Council at the table. (Audience applauded Garfield for

his decision to retract his resignation)

2. Pay Vouchers: Councilor Andrew George questioned cheques # 2776 / 2798 Clerk explained that these were repairs done to the snow blower for the skating rink, Councilor John Warren questioned cheque 2778, Clerk explained cheque was made out to MMM and it has to do with the water issue for Steve Wuerch, every time we call Pete Sladen we are invoiced accordingly.

1 3. Curling rink update: As for the curling rink project, we got a grant from the Government for the project as it was first laid out, the project was changed to a lot of different and added things, it started out as a renovation project and it did not stay as such, we had to get an engineer to tell us that the underneath part of the curling rink was rotten which we already knew, but we still had to pay them to tell us that, we also had to get someone in to design the inside as what we were going to put in there. Harvey (Grenfell Contracting) came here to look at the site, he went around the sides of the building and said that he could not build on that building, he would not reconstruct the curling rink as it was, the east side of the building was completely rotten, and there was a tree growing into it, Harvey stated at that time that if we were going to continue with the renovations we would be endangering the lives of many people, I then took this information back to the Lions, John then decided that we were going to demolish the building. With the demolishing of the building the Government was contacted and told that we had demolished the building, and that a number of people had salvaged some of the materials out of there, if you went and looked at any of the materials that came down and whether it be at the curling rink or in front of Nychuck's Company, I believe it's still sitting there because it's rotten, Rick Nychuck was suppose to use it as fire wood, but a lot of people thought he was going to use it for rebuilding but it wasn't good for that. Once the curling rink was demolished and everybody had gotten into it, my heart went out of it and I'll be truthful about it. I applied to Trillium, they sent me a letter, stating that they couldn't give me any money because I had to renew the application, I am working on renewing it but I think that the Curling Rink project is a dead issue. Reeve stated that this morning I spent over two hours on the phone with Richard Leclair from Ministry of Housing and Development. Richard informed me that any Service Club should not and I repeat should not go into any deals with the Town, if you are going to do something do it on your own, then you do not have the taxpayers saying that you are doing stuff with their money, and I have to say that I totally agree with him. Robert Batisse stated to the Reeve, I think it's very wrong of you to say that the Town should not go into an agreement with any Service Club, there is nothing wrong with that, just because The Lions Club is in a bad situation with the Town and has a failed project, that doesn't mean that another Club would do the same thing. The one thing I can comment on being wrong as far as the Curling Rink Project is that you have members of the Lions Club who are also Council members, and that would justify being a

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Discussions

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Discussions

conflict of interest. Reeve replied I think that any Service Club should first go out on their own without the Town's funding, and I'm speaking of the Curling Rink. John Warren stated that Doug Clark told the Lions Club that the only way they could get funding through a grant was by going through the Town, Garfield stated that the Service Club being the Lions Club couldn't raise the money needed to renovate the Curling Club therefore had to apply for funding, and that was one of

the reasons why the Town became involved in the Lions Club Curling Rink Project, Garfield Pinkerton stated, I have been on Council in different places and we have gone through the Masonic Lodges and made deals and got buildings built and renovated, and we've done it with other pieces of equipment and this works in a lot of Towns, and we will do that here if people just pull themselves together and work together instead of back door meetings, discussing things without anyone else knowing what's going on. This Curling Club started three years ago, and all that was done after two years is the building was torn down, after spending \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 into a septic system, Reeve stated that she was going to take a certain amount of the blame but I'm not going to take all of the blame. John stated that the Lions Club paid for the septic system and that came long before the project was ever started, Garfield asked, what about the \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 that Doug Clark already paid into this project, Reeve replied, that money was for engineering costs, Garfield stated that the money will have to be repaid to Doug Clark. Reeve replied yes it will. Garfield stated that we have to work together and people have to know what one another are doing, because you cannot have meetings not tell people about them and expect everybody to work together, when you don't know what the hell is going on, that is one of the reasons why I was so mad last week. John Warren stated if anyone would be interested in speaking with Harvey (Greenfell Contracting) he has the contract to do something with the Curling rink, he will tell you that there was nothing at that end of the building he could use, Harvey told us that if we were to take that end down we could save between \$5,000.00 to \$7,000.00, Garfield stated John he couldn't do anything without first contacting Doug Clark. Councilor Andrew George stated that when Doug Clark was here in August /04, Doug gave us another chance to continue with the Curling Rink Project, pending funding; we had to prove to the Government that we had enough funding to carry on with this project as well as the cost of a new roof. Councilor John Warren stated that our Trillium Foundation application was transferred from the Thunder Bay Trillium office to the North Bay office, Donna from the North Bay Trillium office informed us that our application for Trillium funding was denied as of November /04, Reeve stated that she was going to resubmit another application under the Lions Club, Clerk asked John Warren so there is no way that you are going to be able to prove to Doug Clark that you have funding available before the deadline of March 31, 2005. Public asked when was the last time you spoke with Doug Clark, Council answered on February 24/05 and we had till March 07/05 to get back to him with a reply, at the last meeting in the minutes there was a discussion about a letter that Bev gave to John and not to the rest of Council, was that a letter from Doug Clark Council answered yes it was. Public asked Council does this mean that both the Trillium Funding and Super Build funding are lost, Reeve answered I spoke to Doug Clark on Friday and told him about the situation and he said that there is a lot of communities that cannot come up with this kind of money because of being a small Municipality, and he said that there will be other funding coming up, Reeve stated I feel really bad that this deal has gone down, I will shoulder a lot of the blame but I'm only one person too. There is a lot of things I didn't tell Council thinking that this was a Lions deal, and the Lions should be doing it, and then Council got involved, and when we all got involved it was too late. Councilor Garfield Pinkerton stated that Council had to be involved from the beginning because it was the Municipality that was going to get the \$168,000.00 that was coming through the Town, that's correct Garfield, Reeve replied, but Council was not involved till after you and Joe come aboard. Councilor Joe Bisson asked the Reeve why did you only applying for \$48,000.00, from Trillium when you needed more to cover your share of the costs, Reeve replied that they were hoping to be able to do some fundraising for the rest of the money, this is a Lions Club Project, and basically I think the Lions should put in their share as well, you can't ask everybody for funding if you are not going to put in any funding yourself, but the way things are going the more we try to raise money the further in the hole we go. Clerk stated to Council the \$5,000.00 that you mentioned earlier that was paid out for engineering costs for the Curling Rink Project, that invoice has been submitted to Doug Clark and the Town received that money from Superbuild, the last time we spoke to Doug Clark he stated that the money

will have to be returned to the Government, who will be responsible for that bill, will it be the Town or the Lions Club, Reeve replied it will have to be the Lions Club, John Warren replied who got the money?

4. Coleman Township (Building Inspector) Clerk reported at the last meeting that Claire Bigelow from Coleman Township contacted us to see if we would be interested in teaming up with other Municipalities in the sharing of the costs associated with a Building Inspector for our region, Council agreed to set up a meeting with other Municipalities to discuss these costs, Claire Bigelow reported that they have someone interested in this position and she will get back to us

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Discussions

Discussions

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5. Lions Club (\$500.00 per lot from Steve Wuerch)

Councilor John Warren reported that Steve Wuerch apparently sold three lots, and donated \$500.00 per lot to the Lions Club, we were told that it went to the Lions Club, Steve wanted a written receipt and he couldn't get it from the Town, and now apparently the \$1,500.00 has to go back, the Lions Club is going to take the \$1,500.00 and give it back to Steve Wuerch and he can do what he figures he wants with it, if that's 'OK' with the public. Councilor Garfield Pinkerton asked why couldn't the Town issue Steve Wuerch a receipt, that's what I don't understand; Councilor Joe Bisson asked was there a receipt issued to Steve? Reeve replied yes the Lions Club did issue a receipt. Councilor Andrew George stated that Steve gave the Town the \$1,500.00 to do what they wanted with it, but in order to get a receipt he had to put the money through the Lions Club, but Council decided to put the \$1,500.00 towards the Fire Works, and Council approved it, public asked was that voted on, Councilor John Warren answered yes it was, and Council decided what to do with it.

Robert Batisse stated, again I need to address this situation that's really confusing me, one minute we are talking about the Lions Club, and three members of Council are Lions Club members, and when we are talking about Council three Lions members are Council members, so it looks like to me that whatever is in your best favor is what you are going to go by, I can read between the lines and Steve Wuerch is going to give the money to the Lions Club, John Warren stated NO, he won't because the Lions club will not accept it, how about that?. Public stated that when Steve Wuerch was here at a meeting he said that he gave the \$1,500.00 through the Lions Club for the Town, and at the same meeting the Lions Club stated that they were going to give the \$1,500.00 to the Town, now why would the Lions Club give the \$1,500.00 back to Steve Wuerch to give to the Town, John answered because Steve gave it to the Lions Club and we will give it back to Steve and he can do what he wants with it. Reeve replied the \$1,500.00 did go to the Town, everybody enjoyed the fireworks right, council agreed to give \$1,500.00 to the Lions Club for fireworks, public asked which council members agreed to this, John Warren replied the majority agreed to it, but because three of the council members are Lions members that could justify a conflict of interest, so therefore we will sent the money back and get it straightened out.

6. Steve Wuerch (update with Murray Ellies and Butch Windsor). The Zoning has been publicized through an ad in the newspaper, and there is also a public meeting scheduled for discussion on the rezoning. We have not yet settled on the water and hydro issues on Steve Wuerch's properties. Robert Batisse asked about the properties that were switched with Steve Wuerch, was Steve's property a power line lot, Reeve replied yes it was, we did switch Block "C" for Block "B", what

Steve wants to do with that Block "C" is put in a boat launch and an area that everyone could have access to the river from there, and Steve also stated that if the Town people are in a real uproar about this he will give it back. Public stated why couldn't this have been done properly that's what we don't understand. Reeve stated you know that this property has been sitting there for forty years, Anne Commando Dube replied don't care if it's been sitting there for 100 years I don't think just one person can take it upon themselves to give it away, without anyone else knowing about it, Reeve replied there wasn't just one person Anne, it was Council, Anne replied but there was no motion that says it was Council, what advise did Murray Ellies give to the Council with respect to the property, Councilor Garfield Pinkerton stated that Mr. Ellies said that there was no motion for the land in question and that a motion would have to be passed if it was going to be done, he also said the developing of the land would be a good thing to get the Town moving, but he also said it would have to be done properly, by following the ByLaws that are in place, and have to adhere to what is in the Municipal Act. Reeve stated a lot of thing have been done in this Town without proper procedure, but I can guarantee from now on there will be nothing done without proper procedures.

7. Access to a computer- Anne Commando Dube asked if there would be a possibility that we ( the Recreation Committee) could have access to a computer at the office, when the office staff would be to busy to do stuff for us, we could go into the office and do it ourselves, Reeve stated I don't see any reason why you couldn't use my computer we do not have an extra one in the office but if you give me a time I'm willing to come up and let you use my computer, Clerk asked who would be using this computer because in the office we have a lot of confidential stuff and we cannot have just anybody around the office, Clerk also stated that to date the Recreation Committee has been getting all of their stuff photocopied and printed, and getting emails, here at the office. Maybe the Rec Committee could ask the Fire Chief if they could use their computer for that purpose.
8. Recreation Committee - Clerk reported that we had problems at the Rec Hall this weekend, first of all, was our coffee pot returned, did we find our coffee pot, Reeve answered No I haven't found it, we the Lions Club used it on Tuesday night for the sliding party, and I know I brought it

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back and I'm sure I put it on the counter, and I don't know where it went from there, but I do know that the centre part of the coffee pot is at the Hotel, John stated I didn't take it, it was dropped off. Reeve stated that both the coffee maker and the deep fryer belongs to the Lion Club, Andrew George asked where is the coffee that I donated to the Rec Hall, public asked John did you take the deep fryer that was here and traded it with the one you had at the Hotel, John said yes I did because both deep fryers belong to the Lions Club, the deep fryer was left here for everyone to use. Clerk went on to say that speaking as a Rec Committee member I would like to say that the sooner we can get together with council to discuss the Rec Hall the better we will be, because right now it's a perfect example the coffee pot is gone, where is it, we don't know, we went to use and it wasn't there, John Warren asked did we use it, yes John the Lions Club did use it and said that they brought it back, and we come in on Saturday and it's not there, well where is it, so the keys is a big problem, we need to get total control of the keys for the Rec Hall. Reeve suggested that everything in the Hall should be engraved. Garfield Pinkerton suggested that we get new

locks and keys where no one can get a duplicate key made without the Clerk's signature. Clerk suggested that Council meet with the Rec Committee at their regular meeting on April 04, 2005 at 7:00PM, to further discuss the policies and procedures of the Recreation Hall. Reeve stated that she got into a lot of trouble this week because the carnival was on, in the past it was always assumed that when carnival is on, everybody agrees that we are not going to have our cards or bingo or whatever, at the Hall that week because it's carnival week, I didn't book the Hall for Sunday, but neither did the Rec Committee, they came in to play Volley ball , Crown and Anchor, and to sell their 50/50 tickets, and we the Lions Club were here for the kids. I was told that there was a number of people who called the office because they couldn't play cards on Monday, I came here today and I apologized to the card players, that we had used the Hall, and they said that there was no problem, and yet I am getting the feedback that I am in big trouble because they couldn't play their cards, Clerk replied when the Rec Committee decided to hold a carnival week, they sent out a letter to every club in Town to come and attend their meeting so that everyone could get together and plan activities for the carnival week, where everyone would benefit from these activities and not interfere with each others activities, and there was no Club that came forward.

9. Letter of support Re: Funding for Community Based Networks, Anne Commando Dube asked if Council would agree to send a letter of support to Stephan Gallant ICT Project Manager, Council agreed.
10. Clerk asked Council to please look over the package from Linda Markowsky in regards to the advanced ground water pilot projects, and get back to me with your input on this matter.
11. Bear Wise Funding: Clerk reported that a proposal was submitted to the MNR for funding on Awareness / Education and Hazard Assessment.
12. Fitness Center- Councilor Andrew George asked why wasn't Council made aware of the Grant that was awarded to the Fitness Club and the equipment that was ordered, Robert Batisse answered that the Fitness Club has had discussions with Garfield Pinkerton and he's on Council, Garfield replied that the news of the Grant was just received a couple of weeks ago and the equipment was just ordered, I was waiting for this Council meeting to further discuss this issue, and the Fitness Club was trying to keep the news from being publicized because David Ramsay is coming here for the grand opening and they didn't want it to go to the media till David Ramsay was here to make the announcement. Reeve stated that the news was in the today's paper, and I think this is a great thing and I'm sure a lot of people in this community who are going to benefit from it. Garfield stated that there is one thing I would like to say to all the people who are on that committee "Thanks a lot" for the effort and the work that you have put into it to get the funding, it was well worth it and I commend you for doing it.
13. Reeve stated since there is so many members of the Town here at the meeting tonight, I would like to bring to your attention that I'm working on starting an emergency management group, we would be working with Elk Lake, and hopefully the First Nation. There are two things that we could have an emergency on, one is fire and the other one is a flood, if the dam should let go at High Falls, we would have exactly one hour before the bridge at camp Matachewan would be washed out, and we have about five hours before the other bridge on Highway 65 would be washed out. Matachewan would become an island. What I would like to see is that every household have an emergency package put away (such as your medication etc..) so that if ever

you would have to leave then you would be ready. We also need a few people in an emergency to come forward and help out, if anyone would be interested and willing to be on this committee please leave your name at the office

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14. Robert Batisse brought forward an expense report from the Matachewan Reunion, Robert stated that on that reports it shows payment of \$1,900.00 for a Band, Reeve replies that \$1,900.00 was for the three days and tapes the Band make up. Robert also questioned the expense in the amount of \$4,080.00 for supper and room and board, Reeve replied that supper was for all of the people that were here on the Sunday, and John and Andrew catered this meal.
  
15. Anne Commando Dube asked is there was any decisions made in regards to the 17.49 acres, Reeve replied any questions you may have about the 17.49 acres, you will have to call the Ministry of Housing and Development and ask to speak to Justin or Heather, per Richard Leclair request, there is so many controversies when it come to the 17.49 acres and any property that is sold in Town or is going to be sold or going to be developed, I spent two hours on the phone with Richard Leclair this morning and I told him that I don't know anymore where I'm going or what I'm doing, Richard replied to me Bev,! you tell them to call Justin or Heather as they are the ones who are looking after this right now, so therefore give the Ministry of Housing and Development a call, as this is what we pay them for. I realize that people want to purchase property at the back of their houses within the 17.49 acres of land, but that 17.49 acres has to be sold as a packaged lot, and also has to be developed. If anyone has any question about this, please call Richard Leclair, Clerk replied I don't understand why we would have to deal with Richard Leclair on this 17.49 acres because the Town owns this 17.49 acres and not the Ministry of Housing and Development, Reeve stated that Richard Leclair will be here, at our next Council meeting, on April 18, 2005. Clerk stated when we had the meeting with Murray Ellies, and Butch Windsor did we not say at that time that we were going to remove the 17.49 Acres from the Surplus List, especially if there was going to be mining activities, Councilor Garfield Pinkerton replied, yes! at that meeting we did say that we were going to leave the 17.49 Acres to the Town and would remove it from the Surplus List, Clerk stated that if Council agrees to remove the 17.49 Acres from the Surplus List, Council will have to pass a motion.
  
- (6. Stan Secord asked Council if they made any kind of decision on the water issue, on December 20, 2004 when I was here I presented Council with some documentation in regards to the water issue, Clerk explained that in December 04 when you came forward we were to late to apply for any funding as we had just missed the first round of funding application, I spoke to the Government office in charge of the infrastructure funding in January 05, and they informed us that we would not qualify for any funding where studies would need to be done, for an example any water issues need to have an environment studies done prior to applying for funding. Councilor Joe Bisson will be contacting Brian Jibb, from ACWA, to find out if it would be possible to have your water tested. Joe stated that he will look into this matter and will get back to you

Signed Acting-Reeve, J Bisson

Clerk-Treasurer, Denise Dube