



The Corporation of the Municipality of

Central Elgin

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Following Matters were Dealt with at the Regular Meeting of Central Elgin Council dated Monday, January 25th, 2010

NEW PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

Public Meeting Held for Municipal Wide Study

Economist Gary Scandlan of Watson & Associates Economists presented the Development Charges Background Study at a public meeting before the regular Council meeting. Development charges are collected from new development, such as new homes, and are the primary source of funding growth related services such as wastewater and water system upgrades. Mr. Scandlan presented an overview of the proposed changes to the public. A copy of the draft study is available on the municipal website, www.centralelgin.org.

Council agreed to consider the by-law at its March 8th, 2010 regular meeting in order to enable the Municipality's steering committee to meet with representatives of the development industry to address any further questions that they may have. The Committee and Mr. Scandlan had met earlier in the day to present the study.

No one in attendance from the public came forward with any questions on the proposed charges.

CENTRAL ELGIN'S POPULATION AND HOUSING PROJECTION UPDATED

Population to Increase by at Least 4,400 Over the Next 20 Years

A report accepted by Council projects that Central Elgin's population will grow to 14,933 by 2021 and 17,101 by 2031. Central Elgin's current population is approximately 12,700. The report, prepared by Lapointe Consulting, updated the projections in a 2007 study to reflect changes in housing and population projections due to the recent recession.

Background planning reports of this nature, once adopted by Council, are used in support of other documents and policies, such as development charges and the Official Plan. The updated report utilized the Strategic Growth Scenario which Council adopted in 2007, meaning that it is Central Elgin's objective to capture a larger share of growth in the London Census Metropolitan Area because of Central Elgin's strategic location, as well as, the availability of additional lands and new services in Belmont.

PORT STANLEY ARENA REGENERATION PROJECT

New Arena Floor Slab to be Installed On Old Slab

Council received a geotechnical engineering report suggesting that the new floor slab for the Port Stanley Arena could be installed on top of the existing floor slab. By being able to install the floor slab on top of the old slab, the Municipality anticipates saving over \$100,000 which will allow the Municipality to carry out additional rehabilitation work, such as refurbishment of the lobby.

User groups will be contacted in writing and asked to remove all memorabilia and/or equipment from the arena as it could be at risk of being damaged during the construction.

FIRE PUMPER/TANKER REPLACEMENT

Proposals Requested for Vehicle for Port Stanley Fire Station

Proposals will be invited from three pre-qualified bidders for a new fire pumper/tanker to replace the 1989 pumper stationed at the Port Stanley station. This vehicle purchase will be funded through the established Fire Equipment Reserve.

JOINT ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Annual Municipal Accessibility Plan Adopted

Since September 2003, Council has reviewed and adopted Annual Municipal Accessibility Plans. This annual plan is developed by the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee and aids in the identification and elimination of accessibility barriers to persons with disabilities. The Committee is presently seeking interested persons to fill an existing vacancy. Anyone wishing more information is welcome to contact Dianne Wilson, Co-Secretary, Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee @ 519-631-4860 ext. 286.

END OF YEAR BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

Number of Housing Starts Decrease but More Building Permits Issued

The report indicated that the construction of new homes dropped significantly in 2009 while permits for renovations increased throughout the year. A total of 218 building permits were issued in 2009, six more than in 2008.

2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Building Inspection

As per requirements of the Building Code Act, the annual 2008-2009 report from the Building Department has been received by Council, will be posted to the municipal website and available upon request at the municipal administration office.

BY-LAWS

The following by-laws were given first, second and third reading:

By-law 1213 - Zoning By-law Amendment – 420 Edith Cavell Blvd.

By-law 1214- Being a By-law to Execute an Agreement with Kettle Creek Landscaping Ltd. for Contract PW 10-007 – 2010 Fine Grass Cutting

By-law 1215 - Being a By-law to cancel, reduce and refund taxes for the year 2009

By-law 1216 - Being a By-law to Establish 2010 Interim Tax Rates – Capped Classes

By-law 1217 - Being a By-law to Establish 2010 Interim Tax Rates – Non-Capped Classes

By-law 1218 - Being a By-law to Amend By-law 253 and By-law 988 to Provide for New Fees and to Change Fees for Applications Under the Building Code Act

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 2010

Monday, February 8th, 2010

Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 16th, 2010

Planning Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

