THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHWOLD

MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting
Monday February 25th, 2019
7:00 p.m. Council Chambers, Fingal

PRESENT:
Mayor: G. Jones
Deputy Mayor: R. Monteith
Councillors:
S. Emons
P. North
J. Pennings

ALSO PRESENT:
Lisa Higgs, CAO/Clerk
Kim Grogan, Treasurer (7:00 p.m.- 9:54 p.m.)
Brent Clutterbuck, Drainage Superintendent (7:00 p.m.- 9:54 p.m.)
June McLarty, Administrative Assistant (7:00 p.m. – 9:54 p.m.)

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA:

10 (e) By-law 2019-16, being a by-law to in enter into a sewer connections fees agreement.

DISCLOSURES:

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

2019-098 Councillor Emons – Councillor Pennings

Approval of Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 11th, 2019 and the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting of February 19th, 2019 are hereby adopted.

CARRIED

REPORTS:

Investment Report
Treasurer Grogan presented her report to Council. This report provided the status of municipal investments.

2019-099 Councillor Pennings – Councillor North

Investment Report

THAT Council receive report FIN 2019-12 Investment Report as information

CARRIED
DRAINAGE:

Auckland Drain Branch "F" 2019

In attendance: T. Oegema, J. Andrews

2019-100 Councillor Pennings – Councillor North

THAT the Meeting to Consider the Report for the Auckland Drain Branch "F" 2019 forms at 7:05 p.m.

CARRIED

Mike DeVos from Spriet Associates presented his report to Council. The County of Elgin Road Authority filed this petition under Section 78 of the Drainage Act. The tile drain will be repaired and improved. It will involve the replacing of the existing tile and the installation of new sewer pipes and catch basins.

T. Oegma commented that he has no questions and has no objection to this drain project.

No other questions were asked from the public or Council.

2019-101 Deputy Mayor Monteith – Councillor Pennings

THAT the Report on the Auckland Drain Branch "F" 2019 prepared by Spriet Associates pursuant to Section 78 of the Drainage Act, dated January 11, 2019, be accepted by the Council of the Township of Southwold;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to initiate the tender process, if required, for the construction of the Auckland Drain Branch "F" 2019;

AND THAT Council consider the provisional By-law;

AND THAT By-law No. 2019-11, be read a first, second time and provisionally adopted;

AND THAT the Court of Revision be held on March 25, 2019 at 7:05 p.m.

CARRIED

2019-102 Councillor Pennings – Councillor Emmons

THAT the Meeting to the Consider the Report for the Auckland Drain Branch "F" 2019 hereby adjourns at 7:14 p.m.

CARRIED
Mike DeVos from Spriet Associates presented his report to Council. The County of Elgin Road Authority filed this petition under Sections 4 and 78 of the Drainage Act. The petition requested an improvement to the existing drain and an upstream extension. The drain was built in 1911. The County is seeking a proper outlet for the road conditions. This project will involve the use of pipes from 8 inches to 20 inches and have a total length of 1700 meters. This project will all involve the crossing of two gas pipe lines. Union Gas was accessed because of the location of the gas line. The City of St. Thomas was accessed because of the water line. No confirmation has been received from CN on how they want us to do the work on their property. Costs have been allocated for the unknowns. No questions were asked by Council or affected land owners.

THAT the Report on the Henderson Drain 2019 prepared by Spriet Associates pursuant to Sections 4 and 78 of the Drainage Act, dated January 25, 2019, be accepted by the Council of the Township of Southwold;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to initiate the tender process, if required, for the construction of the Henderson Drain 2019;

AND THAT Council consider the provisional By-law;

THAT By-law No. 2019-12, be read a first, second time and provisionally adopted;

AND THAT the Court of Revision be held on March 25, 2019 at 7:05 p.m.

CARRIED

THAT the Meeting to Consider the Report for the Henderson Drain 2019 hereby adjoins at 7:24 p.m.

CARRIED

THAT the Meeting to Consider the Report for the Lindsay Drain 2019 forms at 7:25 p.m.

CARRIED
Mike DeVos from Spriet Associates presented his report to Council. The County of Elgin Road Authority filed this petition under Sections 4 and 78 of the Drainage Act. Construction and improvements will involve the Main Branch, Branch G, Branch M and N and A to F. This project will affect Wonderland Road heading west. A new municipal drain will be construction to replace the tile drain on the west side of Wonderland Road. This drain affects a number of utilities. An adjustment has to be made to go over the water main. This will still be an agriculture drain but is larger than normal. Upon discussion with the County two culverts will be installed. No questions were asked from Council or affected land owners.

2019-107  
Deputy Mayor Monteith – Councillor Pennings  
Lindsay Drain 2019

THAT the Report on the Lindsay Drain 2019 prepared by Spriet Associates pursuant to Sections 4 and 78 of the Drainage Act, dated January 25, 2019, be accepted by the Council of the Township of Southwold;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to initiate the tender process, if required, for the construction of the Lindsay Drain 2019;

AND THAT Council consider the provisional By-law;

THAT By-law No. 2019-13, be read a first, second time and provisionally adopted;

AND THAT the Court of Revision be held on March 25, 2019 at 7:05 p.m.;

AND THAT a request be sent to the City of London to appoint a member to sit on the Court of Revision.

CARRIED

2019-109  
Councillor North – Councillor Emons  
Adjournment Mtg. to Consider Report – Lindsay Drain 2019

THAT the Meeting to the Consider the Report for the Lindsay Drain 2019 hereby adjourns at 7:37 p.m.;

AND THAT the regular meeting of Council reconvenes.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

7:37 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Elizabeth Sebestyen, Director, St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services. Ms. Sebestyen provided an overview of the services that are available through St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services. The income and employment assistance, children’s services and social and affordable housing were the main foci of her presentation.

8:00 p.m. – 8:22 p.m. Mark McDonald, Independent Resolutions. Mr. McDonald outlined the Code of Conduct and the Conflict of Interest as it pertains to the members of Council.
8:22 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. – MaryAnne Van de Gevel
Ms. Van de Gevel outlined her concerns to the protection of the agriculture properties in our community. She is requesting that some of these protection policies be included in the update of the Township’s Official Plan. Ms. Van de Gevel also provided information on alternative accommodations. She would also like this be included in the Township’s Official Plan.

Break 8:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

DRAINAGE:

Lindsay Drain Branch “M” Extension
Drainage Superintendent Brent Clutterbuck presented this report to Council. This petition was brought forward after some discussion with the benefitting land owners on the Lindsay Drain. A report will be brought back soon from Spriet Associates. An on-site meeting will be held on March 7th, 2019. There will a minimum cost to the Township.

2019-110 Deputy Mayor Monteith – Councillor Pennings Lindsay Drain Branch M Extension

THAT Council of the Township of Southwold receives the request to construction the Lindsay Drain Branch “M” Extension, as described in the petition submitted by the C. J. and M. J. Ferguson, under Section 4(1) of the Drainage Act and decides to proceed with the drainage works;

AND THAT Council instructs the Clerk to send the notice required under Section 5(1)(b) of the Drainage Act to the petitioners and OMAFRA and under Section 78(2) of the Drainage Act to Kettle Creek Conservation Authority;

AND THAT Council will now appoint engineer Spriet Associates under Section 8.1 of the Drainage Act.

CARRIED

REPORTS:

Issuance of Drain Debentures
Treasurer Kim Grogan presented this report to Council.

2019-111 Mayor Jones – Councillor Emons Debentures

THAT the Township will continue to allow debentures up to an upper threshold of $10,000.00.

CARRIED

Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund
Treasurer Kim Grogan provided an update to Council with a letter that was received on February 13, 2019. The program and funding will remain the same as in 2018.

2019 Draft Budget Deliberations Summarized to Date
Treasurer Grogan presented this report to Council. This report returned with a budget tax rate increase of 6.2%. She highlighted the County’s tax ratio rate of 23% for agricultural properties relative to residential properties. Staff was seeking direction on the announcement of OMPF funding. Ms. Grogan also provided an update on the status of the park improvements. The accessibility funding has not been announced. The budget can be amended if we receive funding. An update on the drainage for the Teetzel property was also given. The estimated cost of this project is $400,000.00. This will not affect the tax rates as we can use the proceeds

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from the land sales. Deputy Mayor Monteith questioned if we had heard back from MOE. Drainage Superintendent Brent Clutterbuck responded that we should here back from them soon.

2019-112  
**Deputy Mayor Monteith – Councillor Pennings**

**THAT** Council allocate 40% of the $56,715.00 in OMPF funding to the reduction of the tax levy;

**AND THAT** that the remaining 60% be allocated to the tax stabilization reserve  
**CARRIED**

**Bill 68- Modernizing Ontario’s Municipal Legislation Act and Changes to Municipal Policies**
CAO/Clerk Lisa Higgs presented this report to Council. It was brought back to coincide with the delegation from Mark McDonald. Ms. Higgs reported that Council can use the Code of Conduct template provided by Elgin and Middlesex Counties and it can be brought back to the next council meeting for final approval.

**Confirmation of Talbotville Trunk Sewer Phase 2**
CAO/Clerk Lisa Higgs brought back this report from the previous Council meeting. Ms. Higgs reported that we now have an agreement with a developer.

2019-113  
**Deputy Mayor Monteith – Councillor Pennings**  
**Talbotville Trunk Sewer Phase 2**

**THAT** Council receive this report as information and provide direction on the confirmation of the Talbotville Trunk Sewer Phase 2 Tender;

**AND THAT** Council of the Township of Southwold accepts the tender from J-AAR Excavating Limited in the amount of $3,887,509.73 inclusive of contingency and HST for the Talbotville Trunk Sewer Phase 2  
**CARRIED**

**Strategic Plan Update**
CAO/Clerk Lisa Higgs provided the annual update on the Township’s Strategic Plan. This is a requirement. Staff would like the annual review done as we progress through the budget.

**BY-LAWS:**

2019-114  
**Deputy Mayor Monteith – Councillor Emons**  
**By-laws**

**THAT** By-law Nos. 2019-14 and 2019-16 read a first and second time.  
**CARRIED**

2019-115  
**Councillor North – Councillor Emons**  
**By-laws**

**THAT** By-law Nos. 2019-14 and 2019-16 be read a third time and finally passed.  
**CARRIED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Council reviewed the items under Other Business.
ADJOURNMENT:

2019-116  Councillor Pennings – Deputy Mayor Monteith  Adjournment

THAT Council for the Township of Southwold adjourns this Regular meeting of Council at 9:53 p.m.

Clerk
Lisa Higgs

Mayor  Deputy mayor
Grant Jones

Robert Monteith