

# Southwold Economic Development Committee

## Southwold Economic Development Committee

### MINUTES

Wednesday September 15, 2016  
8:30 a.m., Council Chambers, Fingal

**PRESENT:**

Chair:	Deputy Mayor, Ian Chard
Voting Members:	Councillor Peter North Valerie Cron Chris Meyer Ernst Hoffsuemmer
Non-Voting Members: Resource:	Jeff Sheridan, Elgin Business Resource Centre Kim Grogan, Treasurer

**ABSENT:**

Voting Members:	Jack VanderKooy
Non-voting members:	Katherine Thompson, Elgin County Kate Burns Gallagher, Elgin County

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**1. Call to order**

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**2. Confirmation of Agenda**

**3. Approval of notes from July 26, 2016 meeting**

Moved by Peter – Seconded by Chris: *Notes from the meeting of July 26, 2016 were reviewed and approved.*

**CARRIED.**

**4. Business arising from those minutes.**

- a) **Confirmation of 2017 budget request** – discussed 2017 proposed budget including:

St Thomas Home Builders Membership	\$ 950.00
St Thomas Home Show	650.00
Farm Business and General seminar/info session	350.00
Summer Student	1,500.00
Welcome to Southwold package and info brochure	625.00
Booth at Rosy Rhubarb or promotional items for distribution at event	100.00
London Home Show participation	1,250.00
Promotional Items	<u>4,575.00</u>

Total requested budget \$10,000.00

Moved Ernst - Seconded Valerie: *That the Committee request the Township of Southwold consider an Economic Development budget of \$10,000 for the 2017 year during 2017 budget deliberations.*

**CARRIED.**

The committee discussed the possibility of hosting a “Business After 5” event. Discussions regarding promotional items including smaller bags for car rally and measuring tapes “It’s a short distance to Southwold” for home shows.

## 5. New Business

- a) **New Residential Housing Update** – Ian provided the committee with details on the new wastewater treatment plant. Ian discussed upcoming developments including the DHP Development in Talbotville, future development in Talbotville, development in Ferndale area (including commercial and residential) and development at Wellington and McBain Line. The township is anticipating 450 new residential units in these areas over the next few years.
- b) **Teetzel Farm Purchase** – Ken provided details surrounding the township’s purchase of the Teetzel property in Shedden and the future expansion of the complex grounds with a south entrance. The municipality is also intending to keep additional land for the future location of a wastewater treatment plant for Shedden/Fingal. Surplus portions will be sold. The committee discussed the need to revitalize the downtown intersection properties in Shedden and Fingal. Chris was tasked with compiling information and ideas for the revitalization of Shedden including municipally owned property for the next meeting. The committee also discussed Shedden agricultural fair and the poor event attendance numbers.
- c) **Southwold Business Listing** – Ian distributed a copy of the Southwold business listing for inclusion on our website and Elgin County’s business directory. Committee members will review the listing and provide Ian with any updates. Ian will contact business owners to request their permission to include the County and Southwold’s website.
- d) **Canadian Museum of History Update** – Ian shared information on the upcoming Canadian Museum of History exhibit and discussed a Southwold 150 years later awareness campaign. The Township will be applying for a grant under the Cnada150 Celebrate program and will be enlisting professionals for the design and development of a brochure and video, subject to funding approval. The Cnadaian history exhibit is expected to draw 1.2 million visitors who will all be reading and learning about Southwold at this National exhibit.

## 6. Other Business

- **Meeting times and frequency** – The committee discussed meeting times and frequency of meetings and determined that regular meetings will be held bi-monthly in the morning.
- next meeting is yet to be scheduled

Moved Chris- Seconded Cathy: Meeting adjournment at 4:30 p.m.

**CARRIED.**