

# THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

## Regular Council Meeting

Meeting No. 12-2011

Date of Meeting: Monday, April 4, 2011

Members Present: Mayor Bill Weber  
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Davis-Dagg  
Councillor Dave Maguire  
Councillor Doug Bonesteel  
Councillor Lorie Scott  
Councillor Ruth Illman  
Councillor Martin Underwood  
Councillor Doug Cook  
Councillor John Russell

Staff Present: C.A.O. John Byrne  
Clerk Carol McKenzie  
Treasurer Janet Ferguson  
Director of Community Services Peggy Van Mierlo-West  
Planner Patti Richardson

Media Present: Gord Whitehead – Various publications  
Lynda Hillman- Rapley – Lakeshore Advance

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. to further discuss the 2011 budget.

### Budget Discussions

#### Municipal Parks

The municipal responsibilities with respect to the maintenance of the various community parks and landscaped areas were discussed, and it was noted that volunteers undertake a significant amount of the maintenance of the various public lands along with staff, and that assistance from professional landscapers is obtained when necessary.

The changes in the administration allocations for the budget unit were discussed, and Treasurer Janet Ferguson advised that this was a relatively new business unit, and that previously, these costs had been part of the general operating budget. Also, there have been several significant green areas added to the Municipality, such as the Village Green and the landscaping associated with the Main Street enhancements.

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

The two options available to developers to meet the parkland requirement when developing, those being providing actual land for a park, and providing cash in lieu of parkland were reviewed, and the various impacts on the Municipality of each option.

Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg calculated that the portion of the budget devoted to the various recreation components was 25% which is a significant amount of budget. The necessity of these facilities and services to provide recreation opportunities for the youth was discussed.

At the conclusion of the discussions, there were no changes to the draft budget allocations.

### **Beach**

Discussions included the need for a beach strategy and the fact that the costs of operating the beach are offset from the parking revenues. Any additional revenues from the beach parking lots are rolled into the overall operating budget.

At the conclusion of the discussions, there were no changes to the draft budget allocations.

### **Community Services**

Councillor Scott advised that the roof at the Port Franks Hall is leaking, as shingles are missing from the roof. The repairs were approved in the budget and it was recommended that the tender for the work proceed immediately so as to lessen any further problems.

The municipal recreation centre at the Grand Bend School was discussed, and it was noted the debt repayment for the facility would be completed in 2014. The issues and changes that have taken place since the centre was constructed, such as the Safe School Act, and the various school contracts was explained, and the consensus was that it would be appropriate to meet with the School Board and discuss the current and future partnerships.

At the conclusion of the discussions, there were no changes to the draft budget allocations.

### **Municipal Drainage**

The increased costs for the Drainage Superintendent were identified and it was discussed that role had change. Previously, this role was left to the three area managers, however, when the number of managers was reduced to 2, it was necessary to appoint a drainage superintendent/construction supervisor to assist with the workload. A staff person in this position allows the municipality to reduce costs on consultants.

An update on the drains and the drainage plans for 2011 from the Drainage Superintendent were requested, as this is a significant issue in the community.

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

In response to the question regarding the reduction in tile drainage charges, Treasurer Janet Ferguson explained that the loans were “flow throughs” to the farmers.

### **Emergency Plan and Response**

Council discussed the Lambton Shores’ emergency response, community reception centres and JEPP funding for the generators.

At the conclusion of the discussions, there were no changes to the draft budget allocations.

### **Economic Development**

A discussion ensued on the fact that \$20,000.00 had previously been allocated for Economic Development and details were provided on the industrial lands in Forest and the repayment schedule for the acquisition.

At the conclusion of the discussions, there were no changes to the draft budget allocations.

### **Recreation and Leisure**

Councillor Bonesteel had previously sent questions to the C.A.O. on the Y.M.C.A. and a discussion on the issues was referred to the meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

It was also discussed that there are funds in the budget to complete the beach component of the Recreation and Leisure Master plan, and that the administration allocation for the business unit had increased significantly, which was reflective of the amount of time spent on these issues by staff.

Chief Administrative Officer John Byrne advised Council that one of the earlier decisions of Lambton Shores respecting recreation was to be a “provider of facilities” and allow the user groups to be responsible for programming. The groups raised concerns that there was a growing disconnect between the community and the Municipality, and that the groups needed assistance and a forum to help them market their program, and access grants and help with volunteer recruitment. The position of a Facilitator of Recreation and Leisure Services was created to meet these needs.

A discussion on the business unit method of budgeting, and the administration allocations was undertaken, and whether this was the clearest method of reporting. Councillor Underwood did note that the budget is a best estimation of the programs costs, and with the administration hours and costs being allocated, there is a better knowledge of the true costs to provide services.

At the conclusion of the discussions, there were no changes to the draft budget allocations.

## **Fire Departments**

The replacement vehicle for the Forest Fire Department was discussed, and Chief Administrative Officer John Byrne will be meeting with the Chief to review the priorities and options. The Lambton Shores' Fire Board has identified the need to allocate more funds to the reserves in order to meet the future equipment needs, and it may be necessary to commence the increase this year.

With respect to the capital budget summary, under the Grand Bend Sewage Treatment Plant, the cost was asked to be shown as 26 million.

## **Water – Distribution System**

Director of Community Services Peggy Van Mierlo-West explained that the duties of OMI had been reviewed and the allocation was not reflective of the division of duties, so there was a reallocation of costs.

It is anticipated that the new water mains in Forest will reduce the amount of waterline breaks and water loss, however, there is still a significant amount of older pipe in the ground.

At the conclusion of the discussions Treasurer Janet Ferguson provided an overview of the recent changes made to the budget, including the increase of \$20,000. for economic development, a policing cost increase of \$50,000, and the \$1,400.00 reduction in the A.B.C.A. levy. At this time, there is a .84% increase in the tax rate. A report will be provided on the impacts of staying with a 0 percent increase in the tax rate, and the impacts of proceeding with the proposed changes. Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg asked staff to review the budget again and determine further reductions, and would like to keep the budget to the cost of living.

Councillor Underwood noted that the people in the community understand that all costs are increasing, and that we can cut all kinds of costs, but we will not have the community that people want to come to and not proceeding now with the needed programs and acquisitions will negatively impact the future tax rates.

With respect to the capital items that were moved from the community grants to the capital budget, these have not been reviewed yet, and Treasurer Janet Ferguson advised there are reserves that could be used for these smaller items.

**11-0404-01 Moved by: Councillor Scott**  
**Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg**

That staff are directed to proceed with the tender for the roof repairs at the Port Franks Community Centre. Carried

**11-0404-02 Moved by: Councillor Illman**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

That a report be prepared to show the impact of increasing the contributions to reserves for Fire Services by \$125,000.00 and the increase to the Road reserve recommended in the Road Needs Study. Carried

The budget deliberations will continue at the next regular Council meeting, which will be held the 12th of April.

**11-0404-03 Moved by: Councillor Scott**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That the meeting adjourn at 6:10 p.m. to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. Carried

Additional Media Present - Kim Powell- McConaghy – The Standard

### **2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Mayor Weber asked members to declare any pecuniary or conflict of interest that they may have with respect to the business itemized on the agenda and none were declared, however, Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg noted that with respect to item 5.3, her husband is involved with Wind Turbine projects and would recuse herself from any discussions on the issue.

### **3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

#### **3.1 Regular Council Meeting – March 21, 2011**

The minutes from the regular meeting of Council held the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2011 were reviewed.

**11-0404-04 Moved by: Councillor Russell**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Scott**

That the minutes of the March 21, 2011 Council meeting be accepted as presented. Carried

Councillor Illman stated that staff have been given conflicting directions with respect to the amendments to the Zone 4 Environmental Assessment, and there needs to be clarification as to where we are in the process, and what needs to be done to comply with Council's directions. Councillor Illman asked that representatives from the Ministry of the Environment be invited to attend a meeting to help clarify issues, and determine how to move forward with the issues..

### **4 DELEGATIONS, PUBLIC MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS**

#### **4.1 Sharon Weitzel – Lambton Shores Community Association – Re: 2011 Not So Pro Volleyball**

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

Mrs. Weitzel addressed Council on behalf of the Lambton Shores Community Association to provide information on the Association's position on the use of the Grand Bend North Beach and the concerns of the residents in Plan 24.

Of primary concern was the use of the Beach by the Not So Pro Beach Volleyball organization, and similar events, and the issues from the 2010 Not So Pro event were detailed. Information was provided on the "Eccleston covenant" in the beach deed that was a condition of the land transfer to the Municipality that restricted the use of the property for any purpose other than a public beach.

Mayor Weber noted that there are currently no approvals for beach volleyball on the north beach.

**11-0404-05 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Scott**

That correspondence from the Lambton Shores Community Association be received and referred to the Beach Master Plan consultants, and for a legal opinion on the use of the North Beach.

Carried

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS**

Correspondence – Receive and File

#### **5.1 Correspondence from Peter Vrankovic, President – Grand Bend Community Corporation – Re: Sewage Treatment Plant**

Correspondence received from Peter Vrankovic, President of the Grand Bend Community Corporation Development expressed support for the expansion of the Grand Bend Sewage Treatment Plant, as the expansion is required to service the proposed development.

The subdivision was first proposed in 1987, and has been revised several times; however; the subdivision agreement for the first phase of the development has been signed, and plans are to commence work this summer.

When asked about the developer's contribution to the sewage treatment facility, Planner Patti Richardson advised that the contributions would come through the development charges paid when each home is constructed.

#### **5.2 Correspondence from Roger Howard – Rice Development Company Inc. – Re: Grand Bend Sewage Treatment Plant Expansion**

Roger Howard, of the Rice Development Corporation Inc. echoed the need for the sewage treatment plant expansion, as available capacity is paramount for future development.

**11-0404-06 Moved by: Councillor Bonesteel  
Seconded by: Councillor Scott**

That correspondence from the South Bend Estates and Grand Bend Community Corporation in support of the expansion of the Grand Bend Sewage Treatment plant be received and filed.

Carried

### **5.3 Correspondence from Area Residents – Re: Concerns with Large Scale Industrial Wind Projects**

The concerns of Lambton Shores' residents with the large scale industrial wind projects, the possible mass industrialization of the rural area, and the impacts not only on the rural life, but the natural environment as well were detailed in correspondence from area residents.

The restrictions on local governments' authority as a result of the Green Energy Act were discussed, as was the fact that the community's issues need to be sent to the level of government that can enact change.

**11-0404-07 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That the correspondence regarding the concerns with the industrial wind turbine be received.

Carried

**11-0404-08 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That motion 11-0404-07 be amended with the addition that correspondence on the issue of wind turbines in the community be forwarded to the local MPP, the Minister of Energy and the Premier so that the concerns can be addressed at the appropriate government level, and the municipal concern that the local municipalities need to have control over the number and location of units be included.

Carried

### **5.4 Correspondence from Jim Archibald, Archies – Re: Importance of Events on the Grand Bend Beach**

Mr. Jim Archibald provided information on the importance of the Grand Bend beach and events on the beach to the community and area businesses and outlined the benefits of relocating events to the main beach area.

### **5.5 Correspondence from the Grand Bend Optimist Club – Re: Grand Bend Beach Use**

The Grand Bend Optimist Club provided information on the Club's involvement with the community since its inception in 1998, and as a community organization, wanted to provide information to Council on its stance regarding the use of the Grand Bend public beach. The Club is of the opinion that the recent enhancements in the Village, being the

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

Main Street and the Beach enhancements, to not capitalize on these investments, would have a negative impact on the community. It was noted that other lakeshore communities use their beaches for public events to bring more visitors to the area, to help stimulate the economy, and the Club was supportive of this use.

11-0404-09 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood

That the correspondence received from Mr. Jim Archibald and the Grand Bend Optimist Club regarding the use of the Grand Bend Beach be received and referred to the consultants for consideration during the preparation of the Beach Management Plan.

Carried

Correspondence – Refer to staff

### **5.6 Correspondence from Bob Sharen- Re: A Number of Issues Arising from the Previous Council Meeting**

In his correspondence, Mr. Bob Sharen provided a list of questions asked at a prior Council meeting, and was advised that staff was in the process of providing responses to the issues raised.

**11-0404-10 Moved by: Councillor Underwood  
Seconded by: Councillor Maguire**

That the correspondence from Mr. Bob Sharen be received and referred to staff for response.

Carried

Correspondence – For Council Direction

### **5.7 Correspondence from Ernest Lewis – Re: Amendment to Zone 4 EA**

Correspondence from Mr. Ernest Lewis was reviewed which outlined his concerns with the lack of response on the Council resolution regarding the amendment to the Zone 4 environment assessment process.

### **5.8 Correspondence from John Ennis, CAA South Central Ontario & Scott R. Butler, Ontario Good Roads Association – Re: Proposal to have H.S.T. Gas Tax Revenue Dedicated to Transportation Infrastructure and Maintenance**

The letter reviewed from the CAA and Ontario Good Roads Association requested support for a government initiative that would direct a portion of the revenue collected from the HST on the sale of gasoline to be dedicated to transportation infrastructure and maintenance.

**11-0404-12 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Cook**

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

That Lambton Shores sends a motion of support for the initiatives of the CAA and OGRA to have a portion of the HST revenue directed to transportation infrastructure and maintenance.

Carried

### **6. CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS**

#### **6.1 Minutes of the Grand Bend Area Sewage Treatment Board Meeting held February 18, 2011**

The minutes from the Council Orientation Session on the Grand Bend Area Sewage Treatment Plant were provided by the Municipality of South Huron.

**11-0404-13 Moved by: Councillor Bonesteel  
Seconded by: Councillor Maguire**

That the minutes of the Grand Bend Area Sewage Treatment Board Council Orientation Meeting held the 18<sup>th</sup> of February, 2011 be received and filed.

Carried

#### **6.2 Minutes of the Forest B.I.A. Board Meeting held February 15, 2011**

The minutes from the February 15, 2011 Forest B.I.A. Meeting were reviewed.

**11-0404-14 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That the minutes of the Forest B.I.A. Board Meeting held the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011 be received and filed.

Carried

### Planning

#### **6.3 PL Report No. 16-2011 – Re: Sewage Flows/Capacity Grand Bend Sewage Treatment Facility**

Planner Patti Richardson provided information on the sewage flows and capacity at the Grand Bend Sewage Treatment facility, which was taken from the MOE annual reporting form. The report provided the upper limit of Lambton Shores' available capacity taking into consideration all the flows.

**11-0404-15 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Cook**

That PL Report No. 16-2011 be received and referred as a resource to the Sewage Advisory Ad Hoc committee for information.

Carried

**6.4 PL Report No. 18-2011 – Re: Grand Bend Shores Development Formerly Wintru Developments Inc. (Murray Troup) Proposed Grand Bend Development**

At the last meeting of Council, the plans for developing property on Main Street East in Grand Bend were detailed by the developer, and Council requested a report from the Planner on the proposal, including serving implications, and how the proposal differed from the normal review practices. Mayor Weber advised that the developer's solicitor had requested that a discussion on the matter be deferred to allow them an opportunity to review the report.

Ramifications of piecemeal development by consent were reviewed, and the precedent that would be set, as were the benefits of comprehensive planning for the long term protection of the residents.

The benefits of the development to the community including increasing the commercial tax base were discussed, and the Planner was asked to prepare a full report on how the development of one commercial parcel could proceed, with the servicing tied back to the development of the balance of the property.

**11-0404-16 Moved by: Councillor Russell  
Seconded by: Councillor Scott**

That the Planner be instructed to prepare a further report on Option 1 from PL Report No. 18-2011 and detail how the development could proceed in a manner in which the commercial development would be tied into the future development on the property and that the report include possible impacts and ramifications of proceeding with this option. Carried

Administration & Finance

**6.5 TR Report No. 21-2011 – Re: Annual Tax Policy Decisions**

In TR. Report No 21-2011, Treasurer Janet Ferguson provided background information on the methodology used to set the annual tax ratios.

**11-0404-17 Moved by: Councillor Russell  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That TR Report No. 21-2011 regarding annual tax policy decisions be received and filed. Carried

**6.6 TR Report No. 22-2011 – Re: Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)**

Details on the Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding reconciliation for 2009 were provided in TR Report No. 22-2011, and Treasurer Janet Ferguson advised that in the past, the funds were allocated to reserves, as the budget is usually set before the allocations are announced. In view of the fact that the budget has not been finalized,

there is the option of incorporating these funds into the 2011 budget to help offset the policing cost increase in 2011.

**11-0404-18 Moved by: Councillor Underwood  
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg**

That the 2009 Ontario Municipal Partnership funding reconciliation in the amount of \$23,300.00 be used to offset the 2011 policing costs. Carried

**6.7 TR Report No. 23-2011 – Re: Forest Watermain Replacement Project**

Funding components of the Forest Watermain Replacement project were outlined in TR Report No. 23-2011, and it was noted that the amount actually required from the reserve fund is \$22,977.81 less than originally budgeted to complete this project. In order to allocate the funds from the reserve fund, and incorporate the funds in the 2010 year end will require a resolution of council.

**11-0404-19 Moved by: Councillor Russell  
Seconded by: Councillor Illman**

That the funds originally allocated in the 2011 Budget for the completion of the Forest water Main Project be allocated to the project and incorporated in to the 2010 year end as outlined in Treasurer's Report No. 23-2011. Carried

**6.8 CL Report No. 12-2011 – Re: Lambton Shores' Notice Policy**

Information on the current methods used by staff to provide notice of municipal initiatives and events was provided in CL Report No. 12-2011. As this is an important part of the municipal communication strategy, it was decided that notice policies should be part of the overall communications discussions.

**6.10 CL Report No. 20-2011 – Re: Policies Pertaining to Communications**

Clerk Carol McKenzie provided information on the current policies that are in place that deal with communications, and it was recommended that the policies be reviewed and updated.

**11-0404-20 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Scott**

That CL Report No. 12-2001 providing information on the current municipal policy for providing notice and CL Report No. 20-2011 pertaining to existing Municipal communication policies be received and that a time and date be designated for Council to meet to discuss, review, update and consolidate the communication policies. Carried

In the interim, Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg asked if Council would consider a motion to make agendas available to the public at 9:00 a.m. on Council day.

**11-0404-21 Moved by: Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That Council meeting agendas be made available to the public on the Lambton Shores' website at 9:00 a.m., the day of the meeting, and that issue of the appropriate time to provide the public agendas be discussed during the communication policy review. Carried

**6.9 CL Report No. 17-2011 – Re: Boat Launch Areas – Centre Ipperwash Road**

An update on the use of the Centre Ipperwash Road allowance for boat launching was reviewed in CL Report No. 17-2011, and the report included suggested solutions that evolved from the September 10, 2010 "on site" meeting. In addition to the recommendations from the boating community, information on the legalities of the use of the road as a boat launch area and comments from the By-law Enforcement Officer and O.P.P. were included, as were other issues that had been raised by the community.

A public meeting had been planned for May 7, 2010, however Councillor Scott asked if the meeting could be delayed as some residents may not be available that early.

**11-0404-22 Moved by: Councillor Illman  
Seconded by: Councillor Russell**

That CL Report No. 13-2011 be received, and that the options to be presented at the public meeting tentatively scheduled for May 7, 2011 be reviewed further. Carried

**6.11 CL Report No. 23-2011 – Re: Applications heard by the Committee of Adjustment on March 24, 2011**

Details on the applications heard by the Committee of Adjustment at the meeting held the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March and the decisions rendered were provided in CL Report No. 23-2011.

**11-0404-23 Moved by: Councillor Russell  
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg**

That CL Report No. 23-2011 regarding the applications heard by the Committee of Adjustment at the March 24, 2011 meeting be received and filed. Carried

**6.12 CL Report No. 24-2011 – Re: Communities in Bloom – Discussion on Becoming a "Standing Committee" of Council**

Previously, Council had asked the "Communities in Bloom" committee to consider becoming a standing committee of Council. The group considered the options, and

while honoured by the opportunity, the committee's decision was to continue on a more informal basis, and would prefer the funds that would go to committee remuneration be made available for further promotional opportunities.

**11-0404-24 Moved by: Councillor Russell  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That CL Report No. 24-2011 regarding the Communities in Bloom committee status be received with thanks to the committee for their continued assistance. Carried

### **6.13 CL Report No. 25-2011 – Re: Fee Adjustments – Building Services**

In CL Report No. 25-2011, Clerk Carol McKenzie detailed a situation that recently arose with respect to a building permit for an extremely large manure tank, whereby, if the regular fees for "agriculture" construction were applied, the permit fee would be excess of \$9,000.00. As there are limited inspections to be completed, and the project requires an engineer to verify construction, it was recommended that a fee be established that more closely reflects the amount of inspections required.

**11-0404-25 Moved by: Councillor Cook  
Seconded by: Councillor Underwood**

That the building permit fee for manure pits be amended in accordance with the recommendations in CL Report No. 25-2011. Carried

## **7. BY-LAWS & RESOLUTIONS**

### **7.1 By-law 29-2011 – Confirming Resolutions to Date**

**11-0404-26 Moved by: Councillor Scott  
Seconded by Councillor Russell**

That the following by-law be read a first, second and third time, passed and numbered appropriately, signed by the Mayor and Clerk and engrossed in the by-law book:

- By-law 29-2011 – Confirming Resolutions to Date. Carried

## **8. ACCOUNTS**

There were no accounts for Council to review.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **10.1 Notice of Motion – Councillor Bonesteel**

Councillor Bonesteel asked Council to consider having a representative from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing attend a meeting to provide an orientation information session.

**11-04040-27 Moved by: Councillor Bonesteel  
Seconded by: Councillor Scott**

That Council direct staff to arrange an orientation session, delivered by the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, as part of a Tuesday afternoon Council meeting, as soon as possible."

Carried

**10.2 Request for Discussion from Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg – Re: Sending Staff Emails on Evenings & Weekends**

Concerns had been raised earlier regarding the practice of Councillors sending email requests to staff in the evenings and on weekends. Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg advised that as some of the Councillors have demanding day jobs, sending emails after work hours is a method of getting things done.

Options were discussed, such as staff turning off the data portion of the blackberry in the evenings, or Councillors drafting the emails, but reserve sending them until the start of the regular work day.

Chief Administrative Officer John Byrne noted that it is a question of degree, and the staff tends to be overly diligent, and when a message is received, staff will assess the urgency and the scope of the issue. Councillor Underwood stated that if there is an emergency, members should call the Mayor and if he not available, call the Deputy Mayor and he/she will call the Chief Administrative Officer. It was noted that this is a communication issue that will be added to the agenda of the communication review.

Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg noted that Lambton Shores was in an ideal position to consider offering resources to those persons recently affected by the tsunami in Japan. Lambton Shores offers skilled labour and land possibilities and part of the strategic plan discussions could be the opportunity to establish a committee to discuss options of partnering with Japan.

**9. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Councillor Underwood apprised Council on the Economic Development workshop recently attended in Chatham and reported that one of the messages from the meeting was if there is no community involvement there is no development. Issues included coordinating efforts to join together all local businesses, and developing a "brand" and tag line.

Councillor Russell thanked everyone for attending the "meet and greet" last week at the museum, and would like to host a similar event again, with better advertising.

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

Councillor Illman thanked the Lambton Shores delegates at the sewage meeting for working together, and reported on the successes of several local sports teams at recent tournaments. Also highlighted was the success of the "Chase the Ace" event at the Forest Legion, and that there would be another event this Friday night at 6:00 p.m. with a possible pay out of \$38,000.

Councillor Illman noted that the presenter at the recent Economic Development session was Jeff Consella formerly with SLEP and he stressed taking advantage of the partnership and the services that are available to assist municipalities, such as the Rural Economic Development program through OMAFRA.

Councillor Bonesteel reported on the Tri-Municipal Board meeting, and South Huron was respectful of Lambton Shores' position, and will be sending a letter to the Municipality of Bluewater asking them to have members at table at the next meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Weber noted that Bluewater was asked to send a letter in support of the project, if they can't send appointed representatives, which would allow the committee to move forward.

Councillor Scott advised that the Armstrong East Committee had met and received the background information on the issues. There have been recent incidents of signage being erected in support of the use of vehicle on the "roads".

Councillor Scott had been asked on the status of the "Dirty dogs" and was advised that staff is still waiting to receive their business plan.

Deputy Mayor Davis-Dagg reported on new aspects of the Safe Water legislation and the higher duty of care on Councillors, which will be detailed in a booklet for Councillors, to be presented at the next meeting.

### **11. DISCUSSION PERIOD**

Mr. Lee McCutcheon noted that residents were now getting information on the meetings from the internet, and asked the time line for minutes to be posted once they have been approved by Council and was advised they were posted as soon as possible after the approvals.

Mr. John McPherson noted that the 2007 Supreme Court case in London pertaining to—in camera sessions required that Council needs to supply more information on the agenda as to what is to be discussed. This will be taken under advisement for future meetings.

Mrs. Sharon Weitzel asked for clarification as to when Council would be discussing the Not So Pro issue and was advised it would be discussed when the beach report is received. Notice of the Council review will be provided to residents.

Mr. Ernie Lewis asked if the Municipality of Lambton Shores was in a legal position to lease or rent portions of the Grand Bend beach for commercial uses, and Mayor Weber noted it depended on which portion of the beach would be used, and noted that a response would be provided on this issue.

## Minutes of the April 4, 2011 Council Meeting

Mr. Bob Sharen questioned the operational contract for the Grand Bend Sewage Treatment Plant and if it had been let without a tender. Chief Administrative Officer John Byrne advised that OMI has been selected as the interim operator of the plant, as it was deemed necessary to have an operator provide feedback and work on the design with the engineers. This is an interim operator position and all 3 parties agreed to the appointment.

Mr. Sharen also asked if the Mayor knew the difference between impartial and impartiality.

Mr. Dick Matzkas stated that when the budget was discussed earlier and Council was considering a 0 increase in the tax rate, he noted that his assessment had increase 37% in the past 3 years.

### **12. CONFIDENTIAL**

**11-0404-28 Moved by: Councillor Scott  
Seconded by: Councillor Cook**

That the meeting goes into a Closed Session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss legal matters. Carried

Council rose and reported progress on a legal matter.

### **13. ADJOURN**

**11-0404-29 Moved by: Councillor Cook  
Seconded by: Councillor Russell**

That the April 4, 2011 Council meeting adjourns at 10:50 p.m. Carried