



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

Meeting Number G.C. 2001 - 11

Members present: Mayor Cindy Forster

Councillors:

R. Alakas	D. Fortier
D. Beaudoin	D. Grenier (7:10 p.m.)
N. Dmytrow-Dilboe (7:10 p.m.)	J. Irvine
M. Dzugan	S. O'Dell
T. Eybel	J. Spadafora

Members of the Staff and Others Present:

City Clerk C.A. Stirtzinger
City Solicitor G. Banks
Director of Development Services T. Fitzpatrick
Fire Chief P. Olah
Director of Operational Services G. Marcello
Community Services Director I. Smith
Acting City Treasurer B. Silvestri
Assistant Clerk D. Vettori
Recording Secretary M. Hughes

Others Present: Mr. Scott Camden
Mr. Samuel
Mr. John and Mrs. Ann E S. Chattmann, Owners, Weed Man
Mrs. L. Harju

Mayor Forster called the General Committee meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF
September 11, 2001**

Moved by Councillor Dzugan that the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting of September 11, 2001 be and the same are hereby approved and adopted as circulated.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: NIL



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(A) **Community Services**

97-77/01-10 - Stadium Committee and Mandate - (CSD 01-24)

Council was informed that the April – May start dates were dependent on the weather, so there is flexibility on starting dates. Councillor Alakas indicated that he could not support private ownership (Option B). Councillor O'Dell offered to be on the Stadium Committee as well. Mayor Forster stated that committees usually determine the mandate. After some discussion it was decided that the Committee would set the criteria and mandate (such as, management, use, fees, etc) and then return to Council with their results. Mr. Smith, Community Services Director, will provide background information that the Committee may need.

(DIRECTION)

Moved by Councillor Spadafora

1. That Councillors R. Alakas, M. Belcastro, D. Grenier, J. Mastroianni, and S. O'Dell; and Ron Anderson, Don Romano, Don Burns, Mike Simpson and R.A. McClelland be appointed to the Ad Hoc Stadium Committee; and
2. That Community Services staff act as staff resource to the committee; and
3. That the City's Economic Development Officer and T.O.W.N. staff be invited to participate in the meetings of the Committee; and
4. To review such other matters that may come before it.

CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS: Nil**

6. **DELEGATIONS:**

01-122 - Mr. Scott Camden, 100 Maureen Avenue, regarding Pleasure Lease at 92 Maureen Avenue.

Mr. Camden stated that the property in question is vacant City-owned land about 33 feet wide and 117 feet deep. He is requesting a Pleasure Lease of 10 feet. He advised Council that he would not be building a fence or other structure on the land. Mr. Samuel made a brief presentation. He explained that he has taken care of the above property for 25 years, he currently has a garden on the property. In the course of discussions, it was discovered that a portion of the City sewer line cuts across Mr. Samuel's property. Councillor Spadafora requested that the Committee meet in camera to discuss this issue.

The General Committee recessed at 7:55 p.m. to meet in Committee-of-the-Whole in camera to discuss the above-referenced matter.



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The General Committee arose from Committee-of-the-whole at 8:10 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Dzugan

That the matter of a Pleasure Lease with Mr. Norm Samuel for property at 92 Maureen Avenue be referred back to staff for further review with the property owner.

CARRIED

01-31 – Mr. John and Mrs. Ann E. Schattmann, Owners, Weed Man, Council regarding the matter of pesticide use on parks and home lawns.

A presentation was given by Mr. And Mrs. Schattmann on the vigorous government pesticide testing and licensing as well as random MOE checks for proper application, etc. Before a pesticide is approved for use, it undergoes 10 to 20 years of testing. The Weed Man owners have taken a proactive approach on pesticide bans. They have made similar presentations to other Niagara municipalities.

01-31 - Mrs. L. Harju, video presentation regarding the use of pesticides.

A video presentation was made by Mrs. Harju about the ill effects of pesticide use, such as increases in cancer and respiratory ailments. St. Catharines and Pelham are considering a pesticide ban.

Councillor Spadafora questioned that if there was a pesticide ban would the pesticides also be removed from store shelves. If not, he commented, then pesticides could still be applied by homeowners and possibly, incorrectly. In that event, it's much safer, in his opinion, to have same applied by professionals.

Moved by Councillor O'Dell

That the presentations by the owner/operators of Weedman and Ms. Lisa Harju regarding the use of pesticides, be received for information.

CARRIED

7. STAFF REPORTS:

(A) COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services Department

01-31 St. George's Park - Vandalism Repair - (CSD 01-25)

Moved by Councillor Dzugan

1. That staff be directed to remove the vandalized areas of the play equipment in St. George Park immediately.



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2. That staff be directed to plan the replacement of the damaged play equipment in this park and provide necessary funding (\$13,010) in the 2002 Capital Budget of the Community Services Department.

CARRIED

01-32 - Arena Survey Results. - (CSD 01-28)

Mr. Smith, Community Services Director, stated that he waited for input on the survey from Councillors but received no information, therefore the survey was sent late. The survey was sent to current users. Mr. Smith informed Council that every effort was taken to ensure the public had as much skating time as possible. Councillor Spadafora stated that the City could not afford to undertake building a new arena, but if a developer were to decide to build one then it would be up to the developer to carry out an in-depth study. It was suggested that the Arena Committee meet with arena users to discuss survey results.

Moved by Mayor Forster

That the results of the Internal Arena Survey be received for information and referred to the Arena Committee.

CARRIED

Development Services Department

92-141/01-4 - Reallocation of Funds - Welland Soccer Club. - (CSD 01-29)

A \$10,000 allotment to the Welland Soccer Club was inadvertently omitted during the 2001 budget planning phase. During discussions, it was noted that in the term of last Council (1999), the City became the Welland Soccer Club's landlord. The City has since installed an irrigation system, upgraded the facility, and gives the Club \$10,000 per year for maintenance. Mr. Smith, Community Services Director, informed Council that the scheduled remedial park work was completed under budget (\$6,700) and that there are sufficient funds in the Chippawa Park Project (\$25,000) to reallocate \$10,000 to the Club. Mr. Smith and Mr. Marcello (Direction of Operational Services) were directed by Council to report on costs given to the Welland Soccer Club. Mayor Forster informed Council that a history of the Welland Soccer club report is to be received from Mr. Smith and will be discussed at a future meeting.

(DIRECTION)

Moved by Mayor Forster

That the matter of reallocation of funds within the Community Services Department Capital Budget from the Chippawa Park Project to the commitment to the Welland Soccer Club be referred back to staff for report to Council on October 2nd, 2001.

CARRIED

Building Division



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01-152 - Standard Limited Easement Agreement - (DSD 01-84)

Moved by Councillor Dzugan

1. That Council approve the attached Standard Limited Easement Agreement and authorize the Director of Development Services to execute the Agreement in instances where City Staff concur such an Agreement is appropriate; and
2. That Council approve a By-law to authorize a Standard Limited Easement Agreement and to pre-authorize the Director of Development Services to execute the Agreement on behalf of The Corporation of the City of Welland.

CARRIED

(B) CORPORATE SERVICES

Treasury Department

01-04 - Temporary Borrowing - (TR 01-21)

Mr. Silvestri, Acting City Treasurer, informed Council that taxes for businesses and industries totaling \$12 million would be mailed out by mid-October and that the due date is mid-November.

Moved by Mayor Forster

- 1) That Council authorize the Acting Treasurer to borrow up to \$6,000,000.00 to meet current expenditures until taxes are collected and capital payments pending long-term financing arrangements for the year 2001.
- 2) That the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary By-law.

CARRIED

(C) OPERATIONAL SERVICES

Engineering Division

2000-134 - Afton Avenue - Watermain replacement - (ENG 01- 54)

Mr. Marcello, Director of Operational Services, informed Council that all work is high priority and that work would proceed even without the OSTAR grant. The Afton Avenue watermain replacement is expected to be complete by the end of the year. Councillor Fortier suggested setting priorities and criteria for work to be done. Councillor Beaudoin suggested that priorities be set during deliberations of the 5-year Capital Budget so that a clearer picture of work to be done is in place.

Moved by Councillor Dzugan

That the Director of Operational Services be authorized to proceed with the preparation of plans, specifications and calling of tenders for the replacement of watermains, on Afton Avenue, between Lewis Street and Sutherland Avenue, as outlined in Report ENG-2001-54;
That the construction cost of this project be funded from the 2001 Waterworks Capital Budget, Capital from Revenue (Operating Budget);



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That the 2001 Waterworks Capital Budget be revised as proposed in Report ENG-2001-54;
That the City Solicitor be directed to prepare all necessary and appropriate by-laws to execute same.

CARRIED

Parking & Traffic Division

01-06/01-22 - Request from Ross School Parent Advisory Council - Installation of sidewalks - Greenwood Avenue and Connaught Street - Parking Restrictions on Connaught Street. (TRAF 01-24)

It was suggested that for safety reasons all schools should be contacted through principals and Parent Advisory Councils to get input from other schools as well and address problems before an accident happens instead of correcting one school at a time.

Moved by Councillor Spadafora

That the requests for the installation of sidewalks on the south side of Greenwood Avenue between Connaught Street and Aqueduct Street, and on the east side of Connaught Street between Greenwood Avenue and the rear entrance of Ross Street School and the imposition of parking restrictions on Connaught Street between Greenwood Avenue and the rear entrance to Ross Street School as outlined in correspondence dated April 2000, and February 2001, be received and filed.

CARRIED

Transit Division

01-13 - Transit cost comparison for unit #129 - (TRANS - 01-14)

Moved by Mayor Forster

That Report TRANS 2001-14 Transit Cost Comparison for Unit #129, be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS

Councillor O'Dell requested a review of the status of the POA report. Where is the money the City was expecting to receive from the Region?

Mayor Forster informed Council that Cogeco videotaped speakers regarding the Smoking By-law. Mr. Stirtzinger was directed to get copies of the videos for circulation. The videotapes would eliminate the need for people to duplicate their comments in person to Council. Councillor



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Spadafora suggested that people could submit presentations for information. Council would receive new speakers and/or new information from speakers already videotaped.

The Committee requested input from the City's Regional Councillors George Marshall and Bob Muir on three outstanding issues - Provincial Offences Act (POA) fund allocation; Smoke-Free By-law and the ongoing operations of the Region's Waste Water Treatment Plants. Mayor Forster indicated she would relay this direction to the Councillors.

- 9.** The General Committee Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.