



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 9, 2001
7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
Meeting Number G.C. 2001 - 12

Members present: Mayor Cindy Forster

Councillors:

R. Alakas	D. Fortier
D. Beaudoin	J. Irvine
M. Belcastro	S. O'Dell
M. Dzugan	J. Spadafora
T. Eybel	

Members of the Staff and Others Present:

City Clerk C.A. Stirtzinger
City Solicitor G. Banks
Acting C.A.O. and Director of Development Services T. Fitzpatrick
Assistant Clerk D. Vettori
Recording Secretary M. Hughes

Others Present: Ms. Paula Berketo, Landscape Architect
Mr. Simpson
Mr. Petrochenko
Mr. John Oakes, Smith Street

Mayor Forster called the General Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF September 25, 2001

Moved by Councillor Dzugan that the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting of September 25, 2001 be and the same are hereby and adopted as circulated.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Nil

5. PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING:

The Public Information meeting commenced at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Forster called Landscape Architect Paul Berketo to the podium. Ms. Berketo informed Council that the final location of the area in question (Aqueduct to Woodlawn) of the Welland Canal Lands trail has been determined. In her opinion, the best possible solution is that the trail should go down the bank at McCormick Street.



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The following are other comments brought to the attention of Council by the public.

- Mr. Simpson expressed concerns about user safety, motorized vehicles on the trail and vandalism along the trail.
- Mr. Petrechenko expressed appreciation in the planning and the execution of the trail. He was informed by Mr. Fitzpatrick that the trail will also include Merritt Island but due to some technical difficulties, it may take a little longer to accomplish this part of the trail.
- Mr. John Oakes stated his concerns as being vandalism as well as policing/enforcement along the trail.

Councillors expressed concern at the Canal Bank Street portion of the trail. At this point, the trail comes onto a very busy street. Some solutions suggested were to increase signage warning trail users of the busy street, a bicycle lane on the street, barriers, and limit parking to the opposite side of the street. Mr. Fitzpatrick will bring back a report for Council to review.

Ms. Berketo informed Council that handrails have been used at very steep areas of the trail by other municipalities with success. The asphalt installed last year has some cracks. The work is under warranty and will be repaired. Tests were done to determine the cause of cracking in the asphalt and the conclusion is that a thicker granular depth would prevent this happening on any future asphalt work. The trail would not hamper any future use of the Old Seaway Haulage Road. It was suggested that barriers should be quite high and painted a bright color so that they could be easily seen in winter.

The Public Information portion of the General Committee concluded at 7:35 p.m.

6 STAFF REPORTS:

(A) COMMUNITY SERVICES

Development Services Department

Planning Division

01-44Z – Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment – Welland River Estates Subdivision (File 2000-15) – 1372708 Ontario Inc. – South Side of Colbeck Drive, East of Webber Road (DSD 01-82)

Council was informed that lot sizes were approximately 60 feet wide by 140 feet deep. Once the frontage (for boulevards) and the Environmentally Protected (EP) areas (water's edge to 50 feet inland) are measured, that would leave a yard of about 65 feet in depth. Some Councillors expressed considerable concern that some lots would be too small and homeowners would be tempted to extend their yards into this EP area by removing the existing vegetation to install/build a garden, fence, dock, gazebo, etc.



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Moved by Councillor Eyebel

That the City of Welland Zoning By-law 2667 be amended for Part of Lots 255, 256, 256 Broken Front and part of the road allowance between Lots 255 and 256 and between Lots 256 and Lot 256 Broken Front, part of Blocks A and B, Plan 648, former Township of Thorold, now in the City of Welland, south side of Colbeck Drive, east of Webber Road from the existing RA to R1 and EP.

CARRIED

Councillors Spadafora and Alakas asked to be recorded as opposed.

Direction was given to staff (Messrs. Fitzpatrick and Banks) to include disclosure information in the subdividers agreements so that all present and future purchasers are aware of restrictions on the property.

DIRECTION

(B) OPERATIONAL SERVICES

Transit Services Division

01-13 – Out of the Cold Program- (TRANS-2001-15)

Councillor Eyebel informed Council that this is important and vital to the community.

Moved by Councillor O'Dell

That Council approve the request from Reverend Robert Bond, Out of the Cold Committee Chair, to provide Transit bus passes valid from November 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002 at no additional cost to the Corporation.

CARRIED

Addendum to General Committee Agenda – Letter from Gary Atamanyk – President, Takecare Companions

Moved by Mayor Forster

That Niagara Police Services Chair, Regional Councillor, Bob Muir, be asked to explain the decision of the Police Services Board Licensing Committee to deny the application of Takecare Companions for an “organizational specialty license” to provide takecare companion services for seniors, socially isolated, sick, disadvantaged and others.



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CARRIED

The General Committee Meeting recessed at 8:20 p.m. to meet in Committee-of-the-Whole to consider security of property matters.

The General Committee arose from Committee-of-the-Whole at 9:35 p.m without report.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.