



GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 23, 2001
7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

Meeting Number G.C. 2001 - 13

Members present: Mayor Cindy Forster

Councillors:

R. Alakas	J. Irvine
D. Beaudoin	J. Mastroianni
M. Belcastro	S. O'Dell
N. Dmytrow-Bilboe	J. Spadafora
T. Eybel (arrived 7:30 pm)	

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
Fire Chief P. Olah
Community Services Director I. Smith
Acting City Treasurer B. Silvestri
Environmental Services Engineer D. Cook
Assistant Clerk D. Vettori
Recording Secretary M. Hughes

Others Present: Ms. Mary-Lou Ambrose-Little, Community Recreation Coordinator
Mr. Thane MacKenzie, City of Welland Auditor

Mayor Forster called the General Committee meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

1. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

Mr. Stirtzinger, City Clerk, announced a correction to the Agenda on page 22 with regards to the recommendation on 01-22 – Municipal Parking Lots (TRAF-01-27) as well as an addition to the Agenda being a presentation by Ms. Mary-Lou Ambrose-Little with regards to the Lighting of the Main Street Bridge.

2. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil**

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF October 9, 2001**

Moved by Councillor Alakas that the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting of October 9, 2001 be and the same are hereby and adopted as circulated.

CARRIED



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4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Nil

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NIL

6. DELEGATIONS:

Ms. Ambrose-Little, Christmas Lights Chair, updated Council with regards to upcoming events and finances. The committee currently has \$47,000 in the bank. The committee has also been investigating different lighting systems that will best suit the lighting of the Main Street bridge. A fiber-optic system was chosen. This system has soft lighting and can be programmed to change colors at timed intervals. It will be installed in two phases: Phase 1 will be implemented this year and includes lighting up the arch of the bridge and the bridge house at a cost of just over \$30,000; Phase 2 will be installed next year and will complete the lighting of the length of the bridge (both sides) at a cost of approximately \$39,000. Fundraising is imperative for the completion of the proposed lighting. The Region will be doing some work on the bridge this year and the lights will need to be removed. This removal will cost \$2000 and has already been included in the budget. The bridge will be lit up year round. A Request For Proposal (RFP) was issued regarding lighting on Merritt Island. The Committee is interested in assisting in the lighting of the blue spruce and the perimeter of the park. Mayor Forster suggested that the tree planted in memorial to the women massacred in Montreal also be lit up.

The General Committee Meeting recessed at 7:50 p.m. to meet in the Committee-of-the-Whole to consider a security of property matter. General Committee arose from Committee-of-the-Whole at 8:05 p.m. without report.

7. STAFF REPORTS:

(A) COMMUNITY SERVICES – Councillor Irvine - Chair

Community Services Department

**01-155 – Update on Niagara Region Communities Action on Use of Pesticides on Private/Public Property
(CSD-01-35)**

Council requested City staff to include in its report provincial, as well as regional, results. Mayor Forster indicated that she received additional information from Ms. L. Harju regarding pesticide use. This information was submitted to City staff and will be incorporated into the report.

Moved by Councillor Beaudoin

That the Report CSD-01-35 concerning Niagara Region Communities Action on Use of Pesticides on Private/Public Property be received for information.

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(B) CORPORATE SERVICES

Clerk's Department

01-3 – Order of the Sons of Italy Use of Bingo Proceeds for Building Fund (CLK 01-18)

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

That the Order of the Sons of Italy, Dante Lodge #19 be granted approval until December 31, 2003 to extend the use of 75% of its gaming proceeds to a maximum of \$45,000.00 derived from all municipally approved bingo lotteries for the purposes of funding and retiring a building project at Casa Dante Lodge, 34 Lincoln Street, to construct a Foyer on the front of the building.

CARRIED

Treasury Department

2000-4 – Auditor's Report – 2000 Consolidated Financial Reports (TR 01-23)

Mr. MacKenzie went through the financial sheets that were distributed to Councillors.

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

That the Auditor's Report covering the Consolidated Balance Sheet and Statement of Operations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2000 be received for information.

CARRIED

(C) OPERATIONAL SERVICES – Councillor Beaudoin – Chair

Parking & Traffic Division

During discussions, it was clarified that pages 5 to 9 and 22 to 30 are to be reviewed and commented on by Council. Any comments, concerns or suggestions from Council should be directed to City staff for incorporation into the report. Pages 10 to 21 are background information only. City staff will issue a report indicating all aspects of the pros and cons to parking meters vs. free parking, revenues from parking meters and parking infractions, cost of maintaining meters, employee cost, cost of new/replacement meters and any other concerns from Council. The parking by-laws report was sent to downtown businesses for their input regarding the parking issue. Business comments will also be included in the detailed report. It was suggested that the parking by-laws report be sent to businesses in the south end and get their feedback, (i.e., The Blue Star Restaurant, etc) as these businesses are not in the downtown area but are affected by the parking



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by-laws. Mr. Cook gave a brief presentation of past, present and future parking meters. This should also be included in the detailed report. Once all information has been received from Councillors and businesses, the report will be prepared and available to the Committee. A separate report concerning parking during snow removal season will also be prepared by Public Works Department and presented to the Committee.

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni

That Operational Services staff be directed to prepare a comprehensive report on all aspects of parking in the City of Welland to include details on revenue from meters and fines, expenses –i.e. new meters, maintenance, staffing and operations and municipal parking lots, for submission to the November 13th General Committee meeting.

CARRIED

8. The General Committee Meeting recessed at 9:40 p.m. to re-convene in Committee-of-the-Whole to consider a matter of Solicitor/Client privilege.
9. The General Committee arose from Committee-of-the-Whole without report at 10:05 p.m.
10. The General Committee adjourned at 10:05 p.m.